

Agree/Disagree

For this discussion starter, give groups of three a list of statements like those below. One person in each group reads a statement from the list. After allowing themselves 30 seconds to consider their response to the statement, they simultaneously indicate by holding up a number of fingers how strongly they agree or disagree with the statement. Ten fingers indicate total agreement, and 1 finger indicates total disagreement.

If the number of fingers are within two of each other, the group doesn't need to discuss the issue (unless they want to). If their numbers are more than two from each other, then they must talk over their opinions with each other. After 30 minutes or so, come back together as a total group and discuss the statements that generated the most

discussion and those that evoked the widest differences of opinion.

Some sample statements:

1. I would leave a party shortly after arriving if I were not having a good time.
2. I would discuss my personal family problems with friends.
3. There are some crimes for which the death penalty should apply.
4. If I were offered a less satisfying job at a 25% increase in salary, I would take it.
5. Parents should stay away from a long-awaited party to attend a sick child.
6. I could forgive and forget if my mate were unfaithful.
7. Doing the laundry is woman's work.
8. Any teenager who wants birth control

should be allowed to get it with no hassle.

9. I would ask a friend to stop smoking around me if the smoke bothered me.

10. A parent should immediately defend a child if the other parent is punishing him unfairly.

11. There should be no secrets between good friends.

12. The housework that women do is usually taken for granted by the males who live in the house.

13. Schools should teach sex education as early as kindergarten.

14. Churches should teach sex education.

15. Children should be spanked for some types of misbehavior.

16. If a man enjoys housework and a woman enjoys a career, they should

pursue these roles.

17. It is a mother's and father's duty to attend school functions in which their child participates.

18. It is important to remember birthdays of family and friends.

19. It's okay for a 13-year-old to see an R-rated movie.

20. Women with small children should not work unless it's a financial necessity.

21. Marijuana should be legalized.

22. Kids should not have to account for their allowance.

23. Parents should regulate how much TV a 10-year-old kid can watch.

24. Schools should quit using grades to evaluate students.

25. I would say something if I saw a friend littering.