What is Your Worldview? (Discussion Questions)

When people arrive at your table

- Ask people to order something so that we can keep up good relations with this restaurant since they are letting us use their space.
- Ask people to place their food and drink orders before the discussion starts so that the discussion won’t be interrupted as much.

Once the food and drinks have been ordered let everyone know...

Our main intention
- is to provide a balanced discussion where everyone has a chance to speak.

We only have two rules
- respect for everyone at the table, and one person talking at a time (during the facilitated portion).

Interjecting
- In order to avoid anyone from dominating the discussion, just raise your hand if you would like to speak. That way, everyone (including the facilitator) knows that you have something to say.

Okay, let’s get started!

Warm Up Questions... (they help to establish humility and respect)

- Which of the Food for Thought videos was the most thought-provoking to you and why? (Go around the table from left to right ending with yourself)
- Are you more often an optimist or a pessimist in terms of your outlook on life? Why do you think this is the case? (After this question, anyone can answer in any order)

What affect does the media have on your level of optimism or outlook on humanity in general?

Worldview (definition): a particular philosophy of life or conception of the world.

- Do you have a specific worldview? i.e. are you an atheist, agnostic, christian, etc.
- If so, how does it help to provide you with meaning, purpose or guidance in your life?
- What specific challenges have you faced when your worldview conflicts another worldview? i.e. with friends, family or in romantic relationships
- What can be done to build more common ground with people who have different worldviews from ours?

If there is time...

- Do you believe that there are universal values that can be supported by all types of worldviews? If so, what are they?
- What types of news sources would you recommend that can help inform you with the least amount of bias?
- Do you have any constructive feedback for the facilitator?

90 min

AFTER 90 MINUTES – Feel free to stick around as long as you like. If there are multiple tables for this event then you are encouraged to move to other tables to mix and mingle.

Conversations are no longer limited to the topic.
MORE INFORMATION

• it is very important that facilitators make every effort to arrive on time

• if you’re not sure how long it takes to get to the event, please aim to arrive a bit early just in case

• when in doubt, trust the format (and the questions) since we have four years of experience coordinating these events in cities around the world

Arrival of Attendees:

• when two or more tables are involved, a designated greeter will guide people to the various tables as they arrive

• each facilitator will have 5-7 people (including themselves) at their specific table at the venue

• introduce yourself and welcome others to the event

Structured Portion of the Evening:

• once 5 or 6 people have arrived at your table then your collective discussion can now begin

• don’t forget to include yourself as a contributor to the group; not just a facilitator

• the official duration for the facilitated portion of the discussion is 90 minutes so people have an excuse to leave at that time if they want or stay, change tables, and mingle

• have fun! 😊

Small Request:

• please make sure to let me know of anyone who is disrespectful to any members of the group, or whom you feel does not belong in the group for whatever reason (life is too short to put up with any bad apples in this group)

Lastly - thank you for taking the time to be a facilitator for this group! It’s people like you that allows for us to manage a room full of strangers who are interested in meaningful discussions within a safe and supportive atmosphere; and of course, the best case is when these strangers turn into friends.

Sincerely,

Glen Brauer
Founder, Facilitator & Event Coordinator

meaningfuldiscussions.org