Top Tips for Facilitating Political Conversations

**Dinner Table Analogy:**

Set the table and play host  
*Do not push your agenda or politics*

Dinner parties are about your guest, not you  
*Demonstrate and model listening*

If certain topics don’t belong in your house, make that known early  
*Accept institutional norms and practices*

Like a book club, stick to the same book!  
*Identify, centralize, standardize facts and sources*

Change the cuisine, guest, or topic to keep it interesting  
*Decentralize conversations/curriculum out of departments*

Don’t let two guests dominate the dialog, bring a spectrum of ideas  
*Avoid the poles, generalizations and emotional anecdotes help no one*

Before your guest’s leave, coffee and treats to calm and relax  
*Provide time for independent reflection*