

# Radical Acts of Civility

**Donna Redwing,**

Executive Director,  
Onelowa

**Heather Schott,**

Assistant Director of Diversity and Inclusion,  
Principal

**#DSMInclusion**





# Radical Acts of Civility

*Building Bridges of Transformational Connection*

# Radical Acts of Civility

- Overview of Civil Dialogue
  - Heather Schott & Donna Red Wing
- The Aha! Moment Video
- Panelists
  - Rosemary Parson & Dr. Rich Salas
- The Hard Conversations
- Q & A
- Closing

## So the issue is to make it civil...

"We believe the best odds for that are if believer and nonbeliever, believer and other-believer, confront each other from the depths of their own convictions in the public sphere. They learn the limits of what the other is after. They learn empathy for why the other is after it, the way the other person is . . .

You cannot have justice without argument - in politics, in commerce, or anywhere. So the issue is to make it civil."

*Martin Marty*

# Donna and Bob: An Unlikely Friendship

<https://youtu.be/4dMMCVfKP9s>

# Discussion

Have you ever struggled to connect with someone who has opposite views from your own? Someone with whom you disagree on profound and important issues?

Do you have meaningful relationships with anyone who holds beliefs radically different from your own?

Can you learn when your beliefs are challenged?

Would you recall a time when you engaged in civil dialogue and actions that were unexpected and that, perhaps, helped you understand, listen to, and hear people who were different than you?

# The Hard Conversations

- Setting the Stage
- Transforming Thinking
- Understanding
- Allow Disagreement

# Create a Civility Contract

## Civility Agreement DRAFT

Our commitment is to learn from from each other. We acknowledge differences in belief, values, politics, culture, interests and experiences. We will assume the best in each other. By sharing our views openly, listening respectfully, and responding critically to ideas, we will all learn about each other and about ourselves.

### *We commit to:*

1. Listening respectfully to each other;
2. Refraining from personal insults and other disrespectful actions;
3. Recognizing and respecting different levels of understanding;
4. Confidentiality
5. Actively seeking Common Ground

# The Hard Conversations

- Assume Good Intent
- Mistakes Will Happen
- Judgment Free Zone
- Comfortable with Uncomfortable

## Closing and Q & A

The reality today is that we are all interdependent and have to co-exist on this small planet. Therefore, the only sensible and intelligent way of resolving differences and clashes of interests, whether between individuals or nations, is through dialogue. - [The Dalai Lama](#)

## Civil Dialogue

Returning hate for hate multiplies hate, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.

*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

If you want to make peace, you don't talk to your friends. You talk to your enemies.

*Moshe Dayan*

# Civility & Cafe



**Civility Café – Nov. 23 at 1:30 pm**

Please email [donna@oneiowa.org](mailto:donna@oneiowa.org) for more information

If you have  
nothing to say,  
say nothing.

*Mark Twain*