

Reframing Loaded Questions

Please complete the loaded/non-loaded questions exercise PRIOR to doing this exercise.

Directions: Reframe these loaded questions so that they are non-loaded.

1. Did you believe we could enter into this war with Iraq and find allies to support our reactive response to terrorism?

2. What efforts have you made to resolve the conflict?

3. Why did you believe the Democratic Party desperately needed to win this election?

4. What can we do to prevent young people from destroying public property?

5. Could you clarify your statement for us?

6. Can we have any confidence that this administration will support peace in the Middle East?

7. I don't understand what you are saying, it doesn't seem logical; can you explain?

8. Can you think of a few ways this administration could support our ability to have an affordable healthcare system for all citizens?

9. Illegal immigration is a serious issue in the South; how can we prevent this influx?

10. How can individuals and organizations support young people in our communities?

11. It is not democratic to fight; how can we shift this conversation to a more democratic tone?

Take a look at how we attempted to take the blame and assumptions out of these questions.

Reframed Questions

Remember that sometimes questions can be loaded or non-loaded depending on how much information is agreed upon within the context of a conversation. For the purpose of this exercise we will assume these are initial questions in a conversation.

1. Did you believe we could enter into this war with Iraq and find allies to support our reactive response to terrorism?

What did you believe would inspire others to become our allies in Iraq?

2. What efforts have you made to resolve the conflict?

Do you feel it's your role to make an effort to resolve this conflict?

3. Why did you believe the Democratic Party desperately needed to win this election?

Why did you want the Democratic Party to win the election?

4. What can we do to prevent young people from destroying public property?

What can we do to prevent the destruction of public property in our community?

5. Could you clarify your statement for us?

Could you share with us more details about your perspective?

6. Can we have any confidence that this administration will support peace in the Middle East?

What is this administration's position on the Middle East?

7. I don't understand what you are saying, it doesn't seem logical; can you explain?

Could you help me understand how you've come to this conclusion?

8. Can you think of a few ways this administration could support our ability to have an affordable healthcare system for all citizens?

In what ways could the administration improve the healthcare system?

9. Illegal immigration is a serious issue in the South; how can we prevent this influx?

What are some ideas on how we can address the influx of illegal immigration in the South?

10. How can individuals and organizations support young people in our communities?

In what ways can we involve youth in our community?

11. It is not democratic to fight; how can we shift this conversation to a more democratic tone?

How can we discuss this issue without fighting?