THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE FOR CHANGING MINDS ON MIGRATION

01 ASK THEIR OPINION

Ask them what they think and show no judgement.
Give them your full attention - actually listen, don't just think about what your response will be. Do not discount the other person's feelings and hold back any fact-checking instincts!
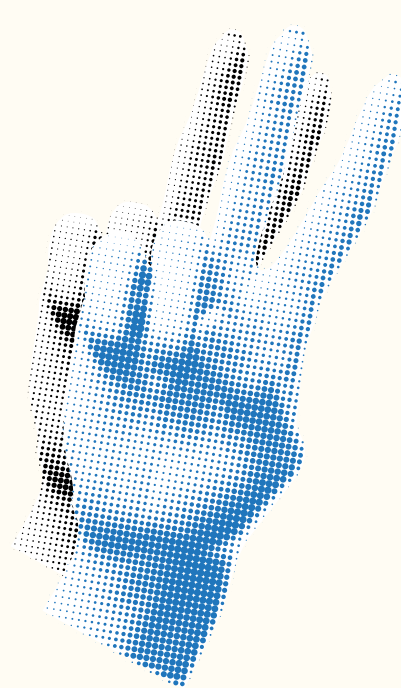
02 SHARE PERSONAL STORIES ABOUT MIGRATION

Ask: "**Do you know anyone who has migrated here?** May I ask what you know about their story?"

If not, you could ask: "Did you grow up here in (insert place name)?". Listen as they share their story.

Then share your story of migration or the story of someone you know (with their consent). Next ask if there is anything within the story that they can relate to.

03 SHARE PERSONAL STORIES ABOUT A HARD TIME

Ask: "**When was a time somebody showed you compassion when you really needed it?** Maybe a time when you were having social, emotional, financial hardship."

Ask follow up questions such as: "What was the situation? What did you do? How did that feel? Did anyone give you the support you needed at that time? How did that feel? How has your experience shaped your empathy with others that are struggling?"

You could also share your own story in order to make the other person feel more comfortable sharing theirs.
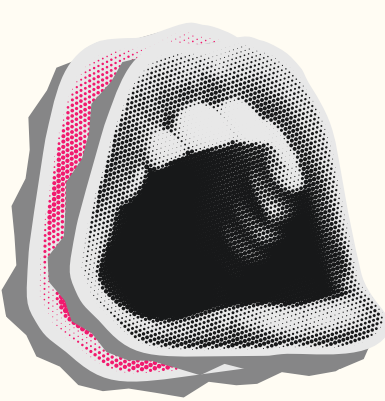
04 MAKE THE CASE FOR MIGRANT RIGHTS

Now is your chance to make the case!
This is probably the step you want to start with but by waiting you've created a level of trust and hopefully (fingers crossed) the person will be more receptive to your arguments.

When you're making your case, try to do the following:

- Frame your argument through a value that they can relate to, for example safety or fairness.
- Then make sure you're clear on the issue and explain the impact on people's lives.
- When you're doing this, state the people or immigration policies that are at fault.
- If relevant to the conversation, call-out the scapegoating of migrants in the public conversation and explain why that's happening.
- Finally, make the case for unity and solidarity. Offer solutions and emphasise collective action to solve problems.
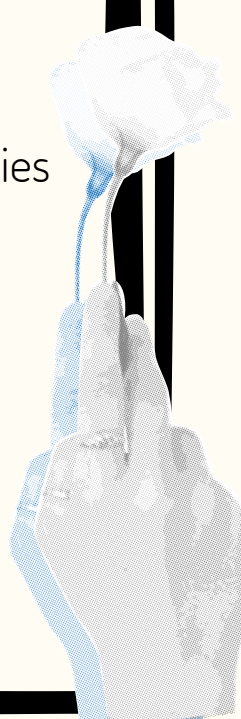
05 TALK THROUGH ISSUES & CONTRADICTIONS

Note any contradictions and talk through them. For example, "It sounds like you think some immigration is good for the country but on the other hand you agree with some strict rules. What's on your mind now?"

06 RESPOND TO CONCERNS WITH FACTS

Only after rapport has been established can you **respond to any concerns and fact check** anything mentioned earlier in the conversation.
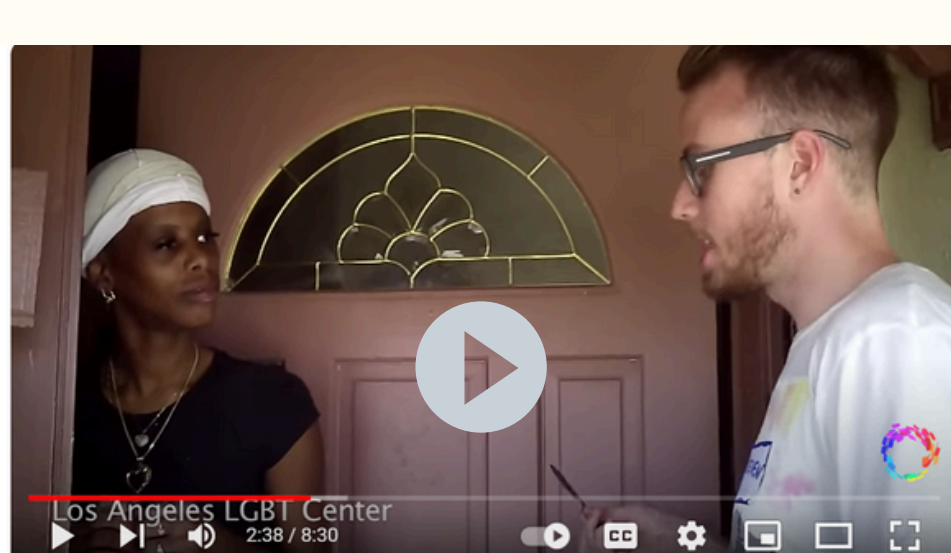
07 ASK OPINION AGAIN

If you want, you could **ask the person to share how they feel about the issue now**. If the conversation has shifted their perspective on migration, ask them why.

Watch these steps in practice

Watch A Voter Change Their Mind About Transgender Discrimination | LGBTO...

Praxis
for migrants and refugees