Conversation Café Agreements

Open-mindedness: Listen to & respect all points of view.
Acceptance: Suspend judgement as best you can.
Curiosity: Seek to understand rather than persuade.
Discovery: Question assumptions, look for new insights.
Sincerity: Speak from your heart and personal experience.
Brevity: Go for honesty and depth – don’t go on and on.

The Conversation Café Process (60-90 min. session):
Assemble up to 8 people plus host, hearty topic, and a talking object. Host explains process and agreements.
Round 1: Pass around the talking object; each person speaks briefly on the topic, no feedback or response.
Round 2: Again with talking object, each person deepens their own comments or speaks to what has meaning now.
Dialogue: Open, spirited conversation. Use talking object if there is domination, contention, or lack of focus.
Final Round: With talking object, each person says briefly what challenged, touched, or inspired them.

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