

## QUICK HOW TO

## **Conversation Café Agreements**

Open-mindedness: Listen to and respect all points of view.
Acceptance: Suspend judgment 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 but don't go on and on.

## **Conversation Café Process**

**Assemble** up to 8 people plus host, hearty topic, a talking object, and time (60-90 min.). Host explains process and agreements.

**Round 1:** Pass around the talking object; each person speaks briefly to 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.

## **Questions To Go Deeper**

- What happened that led you to this point of view?
- How does this affect you personally?
- I'm curious, can you say more about that...
- Here's what I heard...is that what you mean?

NOTE: Download the **The Complete Hosting Manual** to print out a slightly expanded version of this information. Visit the **Topics** link at **www.conversationcafe.org** for more information about crafting questions.

**Congratulations!** Choosing to host a conversation provides a powerful way to make a difference in our world, to build community, and to enhance collective intelligence. Plus, it offers you a stimulating opportunity for learning and growth.