Better Angels Skills Workshop: How to Talk Across the Political Divide

An ABA 2018 Mediation Week Event

What: There's a lot of stress these days among family members and friends who are divided politically, and the current polarized public conversation doesn't help. This year, ABA Mediation Week is focusing on Civil Discourse.

So please join us for this Better Angels Skills Workshop, celebrate Mediation Week, and learn skills for having respectful conversations that clarify differences, search for common ground, and affirm the importance of the relationship.

After a presentation skills for talking across the divide, you will have an opportunity to practice. You will practice in a pair with someone of your same political persuasion—red or blue. “Reds” lean conservative and tend to vote Republican. “Blues” lean liberal and tend to vote Democratic. If you fall somewhere in the middle, you can choose a side for purposes of practicing the skills.

Who can come? Anyone interested in having better conversations with people on the other side of the political aisle. => Space is limited so please let us know you are coming by sending an email to info@buildingdialogue.com. Let us know whether you will practice as “red” or “blue”!

Organizers: Association of Missouri Mediators, Center for Study of Dispute Resolution, University of Missouri School of Law, and The Communications Center, Inc.

When: Monday October 15, 2018; 2 to 5 pm.

Where: Hulston Hall, University of Missouri School of Law – Room will be posted in lobby.

Contact info@buildingdialogue.com to register for the workshop – let us know when registering whether you want to practice as “red” or “blue”.

About Better Angels: www.better-angels.org

Launched in 2016, Better Angels is a bipartisan citizen’s movement to unify our divided nation. By bringing red and blue Americans together into a working alliance, we’re building new ways to talk to one another, participate together in public life, and influence the direction of the nation.

We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory...will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature.

– Abraham Lincoln, 1861