









Benefits of Disagreement

1. For you, what is the hardest part of disagreeing with someone?
2. For you, what is the most important part of discussing different opinions successfully?
3. Although disagreement can be difficult, what are the benefits to you when you discuss problems in a civil manner?
4. What are the benefits to our communities when we have people who disagree constructively?
5. How did disagreement play a part in your experience during the simulation?



Benefits of Disagreement – Sample Responses

1. For you, what is the hardest part of disagreeing with someone?

The hardest part of disagreeing with someone for me is when they think I'm wrong and I don't think I am. It makes me feel like I did something wrong.

2. For you, what is the most important part of discussing different opinions successfully?

I think that the most important part of discussing different opinions successfully is controlling what you can control. It made me think when the handout said that I can only control how much I know about the situation, not what someone else thinks. I can ask them why they think something and how they came to think it, but I can only really control my reactions and beliefs.

3. Although disagreement can be difficult, what are the benefits to you when you discuss problems in a civil manner?

I think a benefit to me is that I may learn something. I may even change my mind. And I think being part of making a stronger community is good.

4. What are the benefits to our communities when we have people who disagree constructively?

Having people in our community who think different things but disagree respectfully means that we have more ideas about how to solve problems. It is only by practicing civility that we will be able to evaluate ideas to find the best ones. If people are rude to one another, then some people may not be comfortable sharing their ideas. If people are rude to one another, other people may decide not to participate in the democratic process. Being polite to one another and treating each other with kindness and civility also shows that we are all equal.

5. How did disagreement play a part in your experience during the simulation?

Answers will vary.