

Introductory Meeting

Discussion Guide



First, review the discussion framework:

- Be curious and open to listening to all perspectives.
- Be respectful and engaged, encouraging all to participate.
- Be focused and concise, concentrating on the brief and policy, not politics.
- Use the timer to limit comments to two minutes. Pick a person to take notes.

Let's begin

- As each attendee:
 - Introduce yourself, and share what “lens of care” you wore when reviewing this brief (e.g. personal, professional, community, state, nation, global)?

Let's discuss:

- What was your first impression of The Policy Circle and this idea of roundtable discussions?
- What are some assumptions you had coming into this conversation? Did any of them change?
- Are you confident in talking about policy topics when they come up? Why do you feel this way?

Let's act

- Do you currently take an active interest in public policy matters? If yes, what does your current policy involvement look like? If no, why not?
- Do you feel like you can make a difference in your community?
- Do you have any questions about the mission and vision of The Policy Circle?
- Have you ever contacted a lawmaker? Share your experience leading up to now.
- What are the action items from the discussion guide that we can take on this policy issue?

Are you interested in joining The Policy Circle?

Next Steps for Your Circle

- Post a Recap summary on the website.
- Decide your next meeting topic, using this [How to Choose a Brief](#) guide.
 - **The Foundational Series** briefs provide a basis for understanding our system of government. Examples include the [Free Enterprise & Economic Freedom Brief](#) and the [Civic Engagement Brief](#).
 - **The Personal Finance Series** briefs focus on how public policy impacts individuals' and families' wallets and ability to be self-sufficient. Examples include the [Financial Literacy Brief](#) and the [Federal Debt Brief](#).
 - **The Active Citizenship Series** briefs provide a deeper understanding of the U.S. government as a path to active citizenship. Examples include the [Free Speech Brief](#) and the [U.S. Constitution Brief](#).
 - **The Business Series** briefs dive into the economic implications of public policy, and illustrate how economic policies shape the lives of small businesses, entrepreneurs, and private citizens. Examples include the [Taxes Brief](#) and the [Economic Growth Brief](#).
 - **The Community Series** briefs explore the impact of public policy on how local communities thrive and provide opportunities for residents. Examples include the [Stitching the Fabric of Neighborhoods Brief](#) and the [Understanding Law Enforcement Brief](#).
 - **The World View Series** briefs focus on the U.S.'s policies abroad, interconnectivity of nations, and international approaches to policy issues. Examples include the [Immigration Brief](#) and the [Foreign Policy: The Middle East Brief](#).
 - Explore the full **Brief Library** for even more policy topics, ranging from [Data Privacy and Cybersecurity](#) to [Mental Health](#) to [K-12 Education](#).
- Schedule your next meeting on the website and share with new contacts