

Braver Angels

***Presented to
Nassau County LEA Leadership
January 8, 2026***

Braver School Communities

Who We Are

- A network of BA volunteers serving school board members, administrators, teachers, parents, and students



Vision

- To have a civic impact on teens—the next gen
- To help depolarize conversations for all stakeholders in school communities



What We Are Doing With Teens

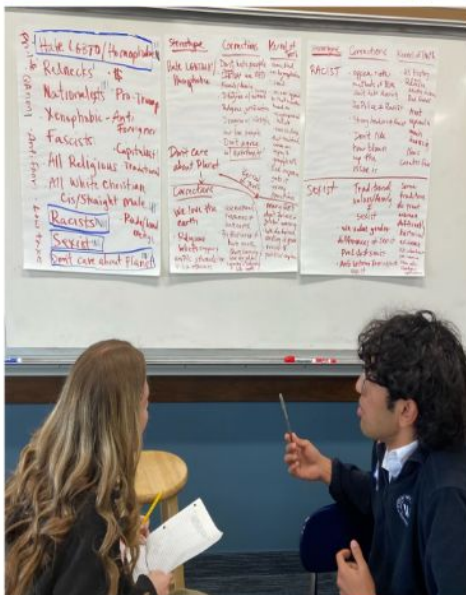


- *"Skills for Challenging Conversations."* 600 high school seniors, Irvine, CA
- *"How to Have Respectful Conversations When We Disagree."* 400 high school seniors, Plainview, NY
- *Common Ground Workshop on Sex Education,* with YouthServe, Birmingham, AL
- *Fishbowls on Dress Code and Learning During Covid.* Irvine, CA
- *Red/Blue Workshops.* Utah high school



Impact to Date

I learned how to avoid arguments
I learned how to make someone's voice heard
I learned to keep lowkey and walk away stage left
I learned how to soften flat-out disagreements
I learned how to value others' opinions
I learned to ask real and honest questions



- Braver Angels methods embedded into a district's 5-yr improvement plan
- Integrated into high school social studies curriculum
- *Sumners Seminar Weekend*, intensive program for students from 17 colleges, TX & OK
- “Shark Tank” Depolarizing Games for Teens
- Requests for replication in neighboring districts
- New “LAPP” skills workshop for middle & high schools

What Students Say

- I learned how to become a better listener in difficult conversations.
- Make the goal of conversation to understand each other instead of proving a point.
- How to validate somebody else's opinions while keeping your own.
- Finding common ground helps keep the conversation going.
- That saying "but" invalidates what the other person says.
- I learned that showing your humanity in conversations can be effective.

Questions?

We look forward to serving you

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