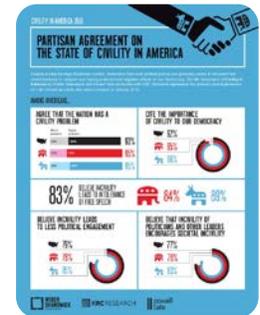


## Reviving Civility

Incivility in America has reached epidemic proportions. In far too many instances rudeness, disrespect and hostility sideline collaboration and compromise. Nearly three quarters of the public agree the problem has gotten worse in recent years. Weber Shandwick released their annual nationwide [Civility in America Survey](#) in March 2018. It found that a record high percentage of Americans believe that the U.S. has a major civility problem, with 83% of the public saying incivility leads to intolerance of free speech.



## Maine Revives Civility



The National Institute for Civil Discourse is spearheading a grassroots initiative to revive civility and respect that gives Mainers solution-oriented actions to do so.

Citizens and policy makers are stepping forward and agreeing to promote civility and respect in their community. They are standing up to declare their commitment to civility through:

**Pledge** to take personal actions that model and promote respect, helping to build your civic discourse skills. <https://www.revivecivility.org/take-revive-civility-pledge>

**Engage** others to lead with civility; providing positive mechanisms to help people face community issues effectively.

**Organize** community conversations that bring together people of diverse viewpoints on social and political issues; giving them tools to reestablish healthy, functioning civic life. <https://www.revivecivility.org/events>

## Maine Revives Civility Conversations

[ReviveCivility.org](https://www.revivecivility.org) has a [Citizen Toolkit](#) that provides educational information about civility and includes conversation guides and actionable steps that citizens can take to help revive civility and respect in our politics and everyday lives. Many of the community conversations will include skill-building exercises for participants to learn how to have a civil conversation across differences.



### Conversation Guides Available

<p><b>One on One ("Unlikely Friendship") Conversations</b>--This 5-minute video shows a model for how individual relationships can form across deep political differences.</p>	<p><b>Small Group Dialogues</b>--These small group (6-12 people) conversations bring together people of different views, who may not have much contact with each other, to talk about increasing civility and respect.</p>
<p><b>Larger Scale Conversation</b>-- These are larger group sessions where communities and populations come together around a community issue or concern.</p>	<p><b>Text, Talk, Revive Civility</b>- NICD's innovative text messaging platform - Text, Talk, Revive Civility enables students and citizens to have a conversation on the importance of civil discourse anywhere they use a cell phone.</p>

## Additional Resources from NICD

<p><b>Setting the Table for Civility</b> - NICD has created a simple "conversation kit" that bundles some of our tools, provides a few ideas for activities and focuses on some basic questions that people can discuss with their family and friends. The goal is to get people of different points of view to talk together about how we can revive civility and work together more effectively.</p> <p><a href="https://www.revivecivility.org/documents/setting-table-civility">https://www.revivecivility.org/documents/setting-table-civility</a></p>	
<p><b>7 Day Civility Challenge</b> - Would you like to become part of a larger network of champions of civility and respect? Then the 7 Day Civility Challenge is for you. To participate, sign up and each day for seven days you will receive an email that shares an easy activity designed to help you learn and practice civil discourse. You can learn more at the Revive Civility website. Start your journey today!</p> <p><a href="https://www.revivecivility.org/7-day-civility-challenge">https://www.revivecivility.org/7-day-civility-challenge</a></p>	
<p><b>NICD Revive Civility PSA</b> - In an effort to increase public awareness of the Revive Civility initiative, the National Institute for Civil Discourse has developed a 30 second public service announcement. The PSA encourages people to talk to each other in order to heal the divisions in our Country. Check out the PSA and then visit the Revive Civility Website (<a href="http://www.revivecivility.org">www.revivecivility.org</a>) to take action.</p> <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Og08Keg-jfY&amp;feature=youtu.be">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Og08Keg-jfY&amp;feature=youtu.be</a></p>	

**Join Us – Promote Civility in your Community** - If you are tired of incivility, join us in reviving civility and respect at <https://www.revivecivility.org/engage>

For more information or to get involved, contact: Mark Hews, Maine State Coordinator