

# Interfaith Youth Core

## Facilitator's Guidelines – Setting a Safe Space for Dialogue

### **Introduce the kind of discussion we will be having today:**

- Tell the students, “you will be asked to talk about your faith and your values today with others who don’t necessarily share your beliefs and ways of life.”

### **Brainstorm the guidelines for this unique discussion:**

- What do you need from yourself and others in order to feel safe having this conversation?
- Take notes on your group’s responses, and then read the responses aloud to conclude the discussion.

### **Here’s a list of key safe space guidelines. When your group is done brainstorming, add to the list anything you might have missed:**

- Everyone has the right to pass
- Everything said is confidential
- Seek clarification if you don’t understand something someone else is saying
- Make sure to listen to others without interrupting
- Suspend your judgment
- Use “I” statements
- Remember the importance of the other person’s faith or moral tradition in his or her own life
- Don’t expect others to know everything about your own tradition
- No question is stupid