

21 Questions to Tackle Tough Issues

1. What is the tough issue you want to address?
2. What specific examples are there of how this issue presents or manifests itself?
3. How do you feel about the issue?
4. What is at stake if the issue is not resolved?
5. What will you lose if it is resolved?
6. What qualities would you have to display to make choosing to give this up acceptable or admirable?
7. How would people view you, if you were to display those personal qualities?
8. In what way(s) are you yourself contributing to the problem? (at least one)
9. What would it take for you to fully commit to resolving this issue?
10. Who else is participating in creating and/or maintaining this as an issue?
11. If you were to accept these other participants' perspectives on the issue as valid, how would they describe it?
12. What can be learned from each of these perspectives?
13. What deeper issues or feelings might these perspectives be anchored to?
14. Where are you now?
15. Has anything been left unsaid or unexplored that needs saying or exploring?
16. What is needed for resolution?
17. How can you move forward from this point, given your new understanding?
18. What can be agreed now?
19. How will each person demonstrate their responsibility for their part in the solution?
20. How can you support each other to deliver?
21. How do you feel now a solution is within reach?

For support

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