



Beyond the Deliberation: **Resources for Continued Engagement on** ***Gender and Sexuality***

One of the key deliberative dispositions that the Deliberative Citizenship Initiative (DCI) has identified is an “action orientation.” While dialogue and deliberation are themselves important contributors to a healthy democracy, they become even more valuable when they lead to shared agreement on key issues and an intentional commitment to take either individual or collective action on them.

Such action can come in a range of forms and should be broadly understood. It might involve issuing a set of recommendations or deciding to support a particular policy. It might also manifest as developing a better understanding of a topic, connecting with relevant local or national organizations, participating in continued discussions, or generating new approaches to engaging with the issue.

To support such an orientation, the DCI shares a series of “action pathways” for participants to consider after each event or activity it sponsors. Please see the pathways below related to the topic of **“Gender and Sexuality.”** Engaging in these activities is voluntary -- participants are free to choose any of the pathways, or none. But we encourage you to at least consider them as options that can build on the conversation you just had with your fellow deliberative citizens.

Get Informed

- Read different perspectives about the challenges transgender people experience in [this Human Rights Campaign article](#) and this set of [resources from the American Psychological Association](#)
- Explore GLAAD’s [transgender media program](#) and resources
- Learn about the disagreements between some feminist groups and some transgender community activists in this <https://www.vox.com/identities/2019/9/5/20840101/terfs-radical-feminists-gender-critical> Vox article and [this Women’s Liberation Front resource](#)
- Read the NCAA’s [Inclusion of Transgender Student-Athletes Handbook](#) or explore the NCAA’s [LGBTQ resources](#)
- Check out [this review of research and sports policies](#) concerning transgender athletes from the *Sports Medicine* journal
- Learn more about legislation concerning transgender athletes’ participation in sports being introduced across the U.S. in [this New York Times article](#) or [this Wall Street Journal article](#)
- Watch [“Changing the Game,”](#) a documentary about transgender high school athletes

Get Connected

- Connect with the [Center for Diversity and Inclusion](#) at Davidson College and their resources for students and faculty
- Connect with the Davidson College staff LGBTQ Caucus by sending an email to lgbtq_caucus@davidson.edu for updates on news and events
- Join the [Davidson LGBTQ+ Alumni Network](#)
- Watch [“How to Talk \(and Listen\) To Transgender People,”](#) a TED Talk from Jackson Bird
- Get connected with a group that supports the participation of athletes in sports based on gender identity, like the [Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network](#), or a group that supports the participation of athletes in sports based on sex at birth, like the [Alliance Defending Freedom](#)

Get Involved

- Learn more about tips for allies of transgender people from [GLAAD](#)
- Find events in your local community for [Transgender Visibility Day](#) on March 31st, or [National Girls and Women in Sports Day](#) on February 3rd
- Contact your Congressional representatives to voice support or opposition to [S.251](#) or [H.R.426](#), the “Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act of 2021”
- Contact your North Carolina state representatives to voice support or opposition to [House Bill 358](#), the “Save Women’s Sports Act”

About This Guide

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The Deliberative Citizenship Initiative

The Deliberative Citizenship Initiative (DCI) is dedicated to the creation of opportunities for Davidson students, faculty, staff, alumni, and members of the wider community to productively engage with one another on difficult and contentious issues facing our community and society. The DCI regularly hosts facilitated deliberations on a wide range of topics and organizes training workshops for deliberation facilitators. To learn more about these opportunities, visit www.deliberativecitizenship.org.

DCI Deliberation Guides

The DCI has launched this series of Deliberation Guides as a foundation for such conversations. They provide both important background information on the topics in question and a specific framework for engaging with these topics. The Guides are designed to be informative without being overwhelming and structured without being inflexible. They cover a range of topics and come in a variety of formats but share several common elements, including opportunities to commit to a shared set of Conversation Agreements, learn about diverse perspectives, and reflect together on the conversation and its yield. The DCI encourages conversations based on these guides to be moderated by a trained facilitator. After each conversation, the DCI also suggests that its associated Pathways Guide be distributed to the conversation's participants.

DCI Pathways Guides

For every Deliberation Guide, the DCI has also developed an associated Pathways Guide, which outlines opportunities for action that participants can consider that are related to the covered topic. These Pathways Guides reinforce the DCI's commitment to an action orientation, a key deliberative disposition. While dialogue and deliberation are themselves important contributors to a healthy democracy, they become even more valuable when they lead to individual or collective action on the key issues facing society. Such action can come in a range of forms and should be broadly understood. It might involve developing a better understanding of a topic, connecting with relevant local or national organizations, generating new approaches to an issue, or deciding to support a particular policy.

If you make use of this guide in a deliberation, please provide attribution to the Deliberative Citizenship Initiative and email dci@deliberativecitizenship.org to tell us about your event. To access more of our growing library of Deliberation Guides, Pathways Guides and other resources, visit www.deliberativecitizenship.org/readings-and-resources.