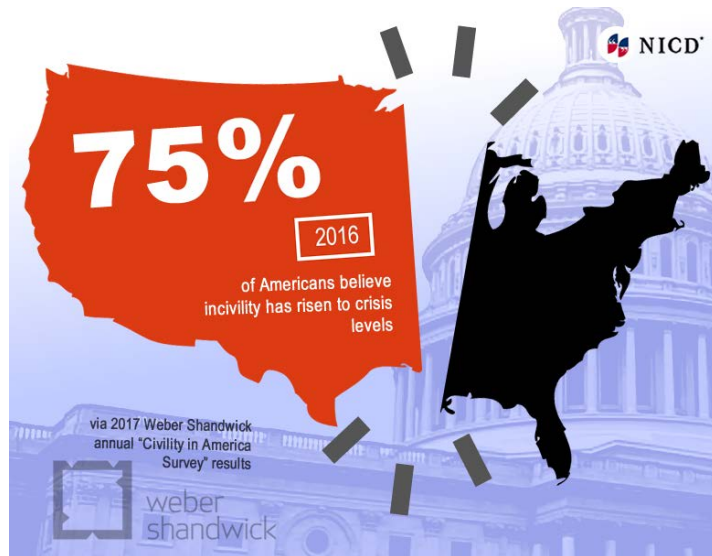


Reviving Civility

Incivility in America has reached epidemic proportions. In far too many instances rudeness, disrespect and hostility sideline collaboration and compromise. Sound bites replace sound journalism; extremes on either end of the political spectrum upend political dialogue, with the public enraged at our leaders' inability to tackle our most pressing problems.

The 2016 campaign brought political incivility into our living rooms and elevated it to new and disturbing levels. In the aftermath of the elections, this has continued and we are seeing citizens demonizing others based on who they voted for.

Weber Shandwick released their annual nationwide [Civility in America Survey](#) results. In the aftermath of the presidential election, the American people are united on one thing: in their belief that our culture is uncivil. A record high percentage of Americans believe that the U.S. has a major civility problem, with 75 percent saying incivility has risen to crisis levels.



The Initiative to Revive Civility

NICD is spearheading a national grassroots initiative to revive civility and respect that gives Americans solution-oriented actions to do so.

Citizens and policy makers nationwide are stepping forward and becoming community connectors who agree to promote civility and respect in their community. They are standing up to declare their commitment to civility through:

- **Pledge to take individual actions** that model and promote civility:
 - Get news from a variety of sources
 - Listen to people with a range of perspectives.
 - Be mindful of civility and respect others
 - Encourage bringing people of different perspectives together for civil conversations
- **Engage Elected Leaders** – to issue proclamations, foster dialogue and lead with civility
 - **Organize Community Conversations** that bring together people of different political views

Revive Civility Conversations



NICD is helping empower citizens to revive civility in their communities. The Citizen Toolkit provides educational information about civility and includes actionable steps that citizens can take to help revive civility and respect in our politics and everyday lives. These and other materials to assist local efforts will be available this summer on our website.

Many of the community conversations will include skill-building exercises for participants to learn how to have a civil conversation across differences. Through active listening, Americans can begin to better understand their fellow citizen's perspectives and develop more tolerance toward those who think very differently than they do.

- **One on One ("Unlikely Friendship") Conversations**--The 5 minute video "Unlikely Friendships" shows a model for how individual relationships can form across deep political differences.. NICD will distribute this video widely and provide information about how individuals can build similar relationships in their communities.
- **Small Group Dialogues**--These small group (6-12 people) conversations bring together people of different views who usually don't have much contact with each other to talk about how to increase civility and respect. They can take place in living rooms, around a dinner table or in a church or community office.
- **Larger Scale Conversation**-- These are larger group sessions where different neighborhoods and populations come together around a community issue or concern. The community conversations include skill-building exercises for participants to learn how to have a civil conversation across differences.
- **Text, Talk, Revive Civility**- NICD's innovative text messaging platform, Text, Talk, Revive Civility, enables citizens to have a conversation on the importance of civility. Participants gather in small groups of 3-5 with one cell phone and text CIVILITY to 89800. Their small group then receives a series of text messages that will lead them through the discussion.



Join Us – Promote Civility in your Community

Individuals and groups within communities are coming together around the desire to change the tone of our democracy. From urban to rural communities, we're seeing policy makers, schools & universities (faculty and students), civic groups, business leaders, faith based communities, media leaders and others joining in this call. If you are tired of incivility, join us in reviving civility and respect <http://nicd.arizona.edu/signup>

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