Dare to Disagree Checklist

Margaret Heffernan: Dare to disagree Ted talk - YouTube.

Point – counterpoint: Arguments should enlighten, by adding information on information or reason on reason, not by getting stuck on one concept.

Yes and: When you disagree, never say “no”, “I disagree”, “but”, instead say “yes and…”

Show: Construct conflict by showing, not telling. Use multiple points of reason and past historical evidence that are concrete and real.

Process: If you cannot agree that you will work things out, agree on a process to work things out.

Constructive conflict: Finding people that are very different than ourselves and finding ways to engage with them. It requires a lot of patience and a lot of energy and requires a kind of love. You have to be prepared to change your mind.

Root problem: Need to get to the root problem of the issue by asking the right questions.

Right questions: The best way to solve an argument is by learning to ask the right question.

Start with reason: For two people to get to the same conclusion they first need to find a foundational reason or outside source that they first agree with.

Don’t fear conflict: People need to feel safe and comfortable disagreeing with each other.

Trust: No argument can ever be solved if you don’t trust the arguer. Establish trust first, then work on reason and conclusion.

Ruinous empathy: Avoiding conflict can often be more ruinous to a relationship than if you faced conflict head first.