**Promoting Diversity and Inclusion in Your Community through Dialogue**

**Teaching Outline**

**Prepared by:**

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**Introduction to problem:**

Conversations about race and racism (and other issues related to human differences) can be very difficult. Many of us lack positive role models or very many opportunities to engage in discussions focused on complex issues in ways that lead to increased understanding and positive relationship-building across differences. In addition, conversations about race, gender, class and other differences can trigger strong emotions in people including guilt, shame, anger, trauma and despair. Deborah Flick, Ph.D. author of *From Debate to Dialogue: Using the Understanding Process to Transform Our Conversations* suggests that moving from debate to dialogue can increase our understanding of ourselves and others while improving our communication skills and relationships.

**Program objectives:**

After completing this program, participants should understand:

* The power of meaningful dialogue for addressing complex community issues, such as race and racism
* The difference between debate and dialogue
* Key principles and skills needed for effective community dialogue
* How the Coming Together for Racial Understanding dialogue program can help communities make progress on issues related to race and racism

**Program materials:**

* For OHCE leader lesson:
  + Teaching outline
  + Leader lesson PowerPoint
  + Leader Lesson Evaluation

**Preparation and suggested activities:**

* Read the PowerPoint slide and notes section prior to the program**.**

**Contact:**

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**Lesson Evaluation**: **Safety and** **Environment Issue Team**

* Educators: Following the lesson, please gather the completed evaluations and return them to your County OSU Extension Center no less than one week after lesson.