

## Example Host Agenda

We recommend that you dedicate a total of about 2 hours for viewing Rethink Afghanistan and the discussion portion of the gathering. We've developed a sample agenda as a starting point for you to consider. Of course, you can always shift the agenda as needed before or during the gathering to accommodate your group's interest or timing realities.

Welcome – 15 minutes

- Welcome guests and share a few personal thoughts. Ask each person to introduce themselves by sharing:
  - Their name
  - How they heard about the party
  - What they want to learn about the conflict in Afghanistan

Briefly share the agenda for the party - 1 minute

Prepare for the movie viewing - 1 minute

- Hand out index cards and pencil/pen to each person so they can take notes if wanted
- Invite each person to jot down their ideas, reactions, reflections while watching the documentary
- At the very end of the viewing, ask each person to take a few minutes to reflect on the documentary and write down the three issues mentioned in the documentary that are the most important to them

Watch all, or any of, Rethink Afghanistan

Part 1: More Troops + Afghanistan = Catastrophe (11:46 minutes)

Part 2: Pakistan: "The Most Dangerous Country" (10:42 minutes)

Part 3: The Cost of War (13:59 minutes)

Part 4: Civilian Casualties (12:09 minutes)

Part 5: Women of Afghanistan (10:51 minutes)

Introduce the recommended agreements for the discussion - 3 minutes

### **Conversation Agreements - ABCD**

When discussing please keep an open mind and speak sincerely. To guide you, remember your ABCs:

- **A**cceptance – suspend judgment as best you can
  - **B**revity – go for honesty and depth but don't go on and on
  - **C**uriosity – seek to understand rather than to persuade
  - **D**iscovery – question old assumptions, look for new insights
- (These agreements were adapted from Conversation Café:  
<http://www.conversationcafe.org>)

Dialogue in Pairs – 10 minutes

- Reflect upon the corresponding guide questions for Rethink Afghanistan ([www.peace-action.org/houseparty/raquestions.pdf](http://www.peace-action.org/houseparty/raquestions.pdf))
- Taking these questions into consideration, what made the greatest impression on you?

Dialogue in Groups of Four (or eight if a large group) – 15 minutes

- Ask two (three or four) pairs to gather together
- Ask one person from each pair to summarize their previous discussion

Large Group Discussion – 20 minutes

- Reconvene as a large group
- Ask one person from each group to summarize their previous discussion
- Taking these impressions into consideration, as a large group, reflect upon the corresponding guide questions for Rethink Afghanistan ([action.org/houseparty/raquestions.pdf](http://action.org/houseparty/raquestions.pdf))

Take Action – 30 minutes

- Review and discuss the menu of possible action items and identify what actions individuals or the group will act upon

Closing – 10 minutes

- Ask guests to reflect on the gathering.
  - What was most useful
  - What would you have changed
  - Did you 'get' what you came for?
- Take a group picture
- Thank everyone for coming
- Eat & Continue the Conversation