

Deliberative Democracy

We're in this together

Who We Are: The San Diego Deliberation Network is a nonprofit organization that helps people, governments, and organizations collaboratively work through problems that are unsolvable without civic engagement.

What We Do: We research and frame issues for discussion, convene people, and facilitate deliberation.

How We Do It: We use social, collaborative techniques to bring ordinary people into the conversation with governments, communities, and organizations to solve difficult problems.

The **San Diego Deliberation Network** is a regional collaborative of the area's leading academic institutions and the League of Women Voters, housed at the University of San Diego's Institute of Civil Civic Engagement (ICCE.) SDDN's mission is to promote civil dialogue and deliberation on issues that impact our community by engaging people most affected. In a three-part approach, SDDN will build the capacity of people for dialogue and deliberation; expand the San Diego Deliberation Network to other organizations; and finally, promote interconnections between local government and the people.



Above: **Health Care Forum • San Diego Library • February 6, 2016.**

From Left: Martha Cox, LWV; Dr. Brian Williams, SDSU; Mary Thompson, LWV; Dr. Kimber Quinney, CSUSM; Hank Williams, LWV; Nancy Fredericks, San Diego City College; Dr. Karen Shelby, USD; Dr. Lindsey Lupo, Point Loma Nazarene University

Below: Kettering Foundation, Matthews Center • Centers for Public Life Training Workshops • Dayton, OH • Feb 24-26, 2014

Engage! Empower!
**Use Your Voice To Create the
Change You Want To See!**

We believe community conversations can create real, ongoing opportunities for community residents to work together as active, engaged citizens in meaningful ways, strengthening our communities and improving relationships between public servants and those they serve.

San Diego Deliberation Network



**San Diego
Deliberation
Network**

A Regional Collaboration for Civic Conversation

Contact us at: <http://www.sddn.org/contact.html>

Resources



Relevant Websites

Colorado State University Center for Public Deliberation:

<http://www.cpd.colostate.edu/what.html#1>

Davenport Institute for Public Engagement and Civic Leadership
(at Pepperdine University):

<http://publicpolicy.pepperdine.edu/davenport-institute/>

Institute for Civil Civic Engagement (ICCE):

<http://www.sandiego.edu/cas/institute-for-civil-civic-engagement/initiatives/>

The Kettering Foundation:

<http://kettering.org>

National Coalition for Dialogue & Deliberation:

<http://ncdd.org>

National Institute for Civil Discourse:

<http://nicd.arizona.edu/>

National Issues Forums:

<http://www.nifi.org>

Washington State University Center for Civic Engagement:

<http://cce.wsu.edu/community-partners/>

Relevant books

- ◆ *The Big Sort* – Bill Bishop
- ◆ *The Ecology of Democracy: Finding Ways to Have a Stronger Hand in Shaping Our Future* – David Mathews
- ◆ *The Next Form of Democracy: How Expert Rule is Giving Way to Shared Governance* - Matt Leighninger
- ◆ *The Parties vs. the People: How to Turn Republicans and Democrats into Americans* – Mickey Edwards
- ◆ *The Reunited States of America: How We Can Bridge the Partisan Divide* – Mark Gerzon

*“The goal behind **deliberation** is not merely to draw a crowd and fill a room with opinionated people. The purpose is much bigger and more powerful.*

When citizens deliberate about an issue and when a community has a habit of asking citizens to make choices, the directions that are chosen often are better and they have a legitimacy that simply doesn't exist otherwise.

Citizens take ownership of problems. They talk about what they can do, not what others out to do. They act out of a sense of mission and passion. Communities in a democracy are healthier when citizens are doing the work of citizens.”

~ Kettering Foundation