

Peter Block's
Six Conversations
in Cohousing

The Future is created one room at a time, one gathering at a time. Each gathering becomes an example of the future we wish to create There is no need to wait for the future. The way we design our gatherings is the only way we can bring into existence the possibility of the community we want to inhabit

1. **Invitation conversation.** Transformation occurs through choice, not mandate. Invitation is the call to create an alternative future. What is the invitation we can make to support people to participate and own the relationships, tasks, and process that lead to success?

2. Ownership conversation. This conversation focuses on whose organization or task is this? It asks: How have I contributed to creating current reality? Confusion, blame and waiting for someone else to change are a defense against ownership and personal power.

2. Possibility conversation.

This focuses on what we want our future to be as opposed to problem solving the past. It frees people to innovate, challenge the status quo, break new ground and create new futures that make a difference.

4. Dissent conversation.

This gives people the space to say no. If you can't say no, your yes has no meaning. Give people a chance to express their doubts and reservations, as a way of clarifying their roles, needs and yearnings within the vision and mission. Genuine commitment begins with doubt, and no is an expression of people finding their space and role in the strategy. .

5. Commitment conversation.

This conversation is about making promises to peers about your contribution to the success. It asks: What promise am I willing to make to this enterprise? And, what price am I willing to pay for success? It is a promise for the sake of a larger purpose, not for personal return.

6. Gifts Conversation.

Rather than focus on deficiencies and weaknesses, we focus on the gifts and assets we bring and capitalize on those to make the best and highest contribution. Confront people with their core gifts that can make the difference and change lives.

Peter Block
Community: The Structure of Belong

Sarah Arthurs
Cohousing Connections
Arthursssarah2020@gmail.com
C. 403 860 3980