

Leading Conversations About Current Events

A Special Resource Guide for Volunteers and Troop Leaders



When hostile rhetoric fills the news and people take to the streets in every state to stand up against decisions and speech they see as discriminatory, there's no doubt young people in our country will have questions. The girls in your troop might feel anxious, scared, or simply confused—and at times like these, there's a good chance they will turn to you as a trusted role model and mentor in their lives.

We understand that some adults may feel inclined to shelter children and adolescents from these topics, or to simply tell kids who express concern not to worry, but that's actually not the most productive course of action. "Children are already hearing about these issues on the playground, on TV, and through social networks, and the information they're getting might not always be accurate," says Girl Scouts' developmental psychologist, Dr. Andrea Bastiani Archibald. "That's just one of many reasons it's important that you can discuss these topics at an age-appropriate level, with sensitivity and factual information."

And yes, it's OK to share that you're feeling uncertain as well, or to let girls know that even as a grown-up, you don't necessarily have all the answers. The simple act of taking their concerns seriously and providing whatever space you can for an open and respectful conversation will help the girls in your troop feel less alone in what may feel like unsettling times.

Resource Spotlight

These articles are tailor written for parents, caregivers, and other role models—like you!—who want to help strong, smart girls navigate a sometimes confusing world.

- [What Our Country Needs Right Now Is You](#)
- [When You Don't Want Your Child to Be 'Well-Adjusted'](#)
- [The Conversation You Must Have with Your Kids Today](#)
- [Why Tolerance Isn't Working](#)

Check out even more helpful advice from Girl Scout's developmental psychologist, Dr. Andrea Bastiani Archibald on [Raising Awesome Girls](#).