

## STEP 5: Identify the More Productive, "Positive" Intentions You Sometimes Choose

**Directions:** Below is a list of some of the more productive and "positive" intentions we can choose at Step 5. Check-off any that you commonly think about before you respond in difficult situations. Then star (\*) those you would like to add to your "tool kit."

engage in respectful dialogue
create greater inclusion
facilitate open, honest discussion
do no harm
leave people feeling whole
"go with the flow," trust the process
deepen learning and growth
meet people "where they are" without judgment
use the triggering moment to deepen understanding
relate to the person, connect with them
invite people to learn from the situation
take time to "gather yourself"
create space for the other person to express their feelings, perceptions
deepen understanding across differences

acknowledge they are doing the best they can with the resources and knowledge they have at this moment
create safety for the expression of differing viewpoints
encourage more people to engage in the discussion
support people to disagree with each other in respectful ways
model effective recovery skills when your behavior results in negative impact
re-establish credibility with the person or group
interrupt unproductive, inappropriate behaviors and group dynamics
model the values you espouse: respect, authenticity, empathy, self-reflection, engagement
build a "bridge" and a connection with the other person
create more effective relationships and coalitions

Next, imagine thinking some of these positive intentions. How might you respond out of these intentions?

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