

## Brief Hybrid Workshop on Dealing with Sensitive Issues in Online Discussion

### Transcript of Clip

**Pat:** Here is your discussion prompt:

*Should the children of undocumented workers in North Carolina be able to attend its institutions of higher learning at instate rates?*

**Ominotago:** Well I'll jump in. I'm so so excited about this class, you just don't know. I love to talk about these kinds of issues. I always learn so much OMG....it's too much!

**Anthony:** I had a lot of trouble loggin on. This is new to me.. Sorry. I've never done an online discussion. Do you want me to just answer the question?

**Pat:** Yes, Anthony, jump right in.

**George:** I have family who are undocumented and they just want the same things as everyone else. besides this used to be our land in the first place. It's not the childrens fault and so they shouldn't be denied education. Education is a human right and it shouldn't be denied because of some stupid paperwork. We built this country from the ground up.

**Ominotago:** OMG....Cool :-!!!! Tell us about them.

**Pat:** So, how about each of you *think* about your perspective on the question and then you may respond to one another.

**Ominotago:** OK GR8, Ms Ryan.

**Anthony:** I don't know much about illegal aliens or why they are here but I do think that they should not get the same rate as me when we go to school. My parents worked years and years and paid taxes for years to give me the right to go to college at a reduced rate. I am just from little Welcome so I don't know this online stuff. What is G-R-8?

**George:** Welcome? where in the world is that? some backward country town no doubt. It's offensive to say alien... they are undocumented workers.

**Ominotago:** Why don't you look it up on a map....duh!!!

**Anthony:** It's in the Heart Land of North Carolina. We are a small town but we are the working force of the state. I'm sorry that you disagree. I 'm not sure what to say.

**Ominotago:** Well I just don't get it.....I think everybody should have an opportunity for an education. How do you think people are going to survive without it?

**George:** are you kidding me? why are they here? how stupid are you?

**Ominotago:** They are here because they need jobs and they have family and oh they have to take care of their kids....Why shouldn't they be here... You all are immigrants! I think the more the merrier! Did you know there was a great party on our campus the other night and there were people from all over there...what fun!

**Pat:** Please, let us all listen and be respectful of the views of others. Ominotago, can we stay on topic and can we please not use acronyms, but real words instead?

**Ominotago:** I'm on topic, I don't know about the rest of you guys, tho.

**Anthony:** I do want them to get jobs but can't they pay for their education just like everyone else?

**Ominotago:** Cause they don't have money like we do cause they work in fields and are poor and send all their money to Mexico. that's why and I'm not STUPID.

**Anthony:** In our readings, it said that illegal aliens are taking the jobs that most Americans would do if they had the opportunity.

The readings stated: “ As long as they are qualified, these students should not be punished for pursuing an education because of a decision made years ago over which they had no control. Many of these students came at a very young age and have lived in this country nearly their entire lives. They have worked hard. They are smart enough to go to college. We should take advantage of their talents and encourage them.”

I disagree.

**Pat:** Anthony, can you say why you disagree?

**Anthony:** Can't they go back home and get educated there? I don't want to offend y'all but it's how I've been raised. It's American values to work hard and earn your way. It's unAmerican to think the other way, right?

**George:** Anthony, how come you can't get it through u'r head, U-N-D-O-C-U-M-E-N-T-E-D WORKERS, not alien.

**Ominotago:** GET A LIFE...WHAT'S WITH ALL THESE WORDS...AREN'T THEY ALL THE SAME!!!! Point is that all need an education.

**George:** I remember when my uncle Oscar who does construction work came here. people kept saying illegal this, alien that. there are no illegal human beings. he's from the planet earth, so he's not an alien.

**Anthony:** Sorry everyone. I didn't know. Aren't they illegal?

**Pat:** Okay - the issue in the discussion prompt concerns whether the children of undocumented workers should qualify for **in state tuition** - not whether they can attend or not, or whether they should be here. How would each of you respond to this?

**George:** well, my cousins jessica and elizabeth who are my uncle Oscar's daughters should qualify for in state tuition because it has nothing to do with whether or not my uncle is documented.

**Ominotago:** Well they should qualify, I agree. IRL we are all part of one beautiful world! :-))))))

**Anthony:** Thank you Ominotago. Are you from North Carolina?

**Ominotago:** OT ... Hey Anthony, I'm Native American...we are the First Nation People....You sound nice.