

# gentHERous<sup>2</sup>

INTERGENERATIONAL  
CONVERSATIONS AMONG  
WOMEN

Saturday, March 5th 2022

11:00am-1:45pm

Meeting Link: <https://zoom.us/j/94345333415>



CENTER FOR  
PUBLIC DELIBERATION  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY





Thank you for joining us for our second genHERous event. We held our first event in Northern Colorado in October 2020, at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. It was a wonderful opportunity for women to get together in a time of deep disconnection and share their stories about life, advice for other generations, and hopes for the future. We are hopeful our second conversation will foster the same thoughtful and supportive conversations. Overall, our goals are to:

- ❖ Build connections between generations of women
- ❖ Create a space for authentic stories about women's lives
- ❖ Share sorrows, triumphs, joys, and failures. And learn from them!
- ❖ Create new possibilities for conversation
- ❖ Enjoy each other's company
- ❖ Create more compassionate perspectives of ourselves and other women

Our first event was modeled directly from the genHERous pilot, which took place in 2015 in Brookline, MA. This conversation was designed by Barbara Simonetti, an amazing civic catalyst and woman who was searching for new and innovative ways to bring women together. We have the great privilege of having Barbara join us for this second conversation. Here is a small paragraph describing the pilot event:

*"I have shared the concept of **genHERous** with dozens of women and every one of them, no matter the age of women in the region, responded with an enthusiastic and unsolicited "Yes, count me in!"*

*On April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015, thirty-six women in their 20s through their 70s came together in a home in Brookline, MA to pilot this idea. They shared their stories through laughter and tears. They learned they were not the only women in their 30s and 40s to feel a severe shortage of time for themselves and were relieved to learn it would not always be liked that. They were delighted that the women in their 70s talked about sex. They said, "I didn't realize how much I needed this" and "This needs to be much longer." They stayed long beyond the formal groups and spontaneously took a group photo. They asked for more opportunities like this and to expand the diversity in the group so they could talk and learn across race and class. It was a soul satisfying afternoon."*



11:05am-11:25am: Greeting and Explanation of the Process

11:25-12:25: Round One Conversation

12:25-12:35: Break

12:35-1:35: Round Two Conversation

1:35-1:45: Closing



Speak from your own experience

Listen with an open heart

Ensure others have the opportunity for equal time—especially the younger ones!

Share honestly

Have fun!



This conversation will take place in two rounds, each round will be one hour long.

During the first round, you will be sent into Zoom breakout rooms with only women similar generations. Each breakout room will have one student facilitator from the Center for Public

Deliberation who will help ask the questions and keep track of time for the group. The facilitator will also help ensure everyone in the group has the chance to participate and that no person dominates the conversation.

When we transition into the second round after our ten-minute break, you will be sent into new breakout rooms with a variety of generations. A student facilitator will also be present in this breakout group. This conversation will begin with the youngest woman in the group and then proceed through to the oldest woman.

#### **Round One Discussion Questions (women from similar generations):**

1. What were your biggest goals and dreams when you were little?
2. How did you feel about growing up as a girl? What things were exciting? Did you experience any barriers?
3. When you think of pop culture during your childhood, what were some of your favorite entertainers, movies, songs?
4. What has happened over the course of your life to change the goals and dreams you once had?
5. What female role models have you had in your life? How did they help shape your journey?

#### **Round Two Discussion Questions (mixed generations):**

1. What were some of the surprising or enlightening things you heard in your first conversation today?
2. What do you think has changed for women over time? What has stayed the same?
3. What knowledge, advice, or simple stories can you share with women from other generations?
4. What are some of the biggest challenges to fostering intergenerational connections between women?
5. What are some ways we can continue these intergenerational connections outside of this event?
6. Any closing thoughts or stories?

Thank you for taking the time to attend this Zoom event! We would appreciate feedback about your experience. Please visit: <https://col.st/IKjP9> or scan the QR code below:



If you'd like to provide your contact information to stay in touch with other women from today's event, please visit: <https://col.st/nGuwM> or scan the QR code below:

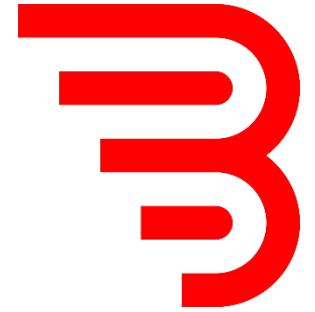
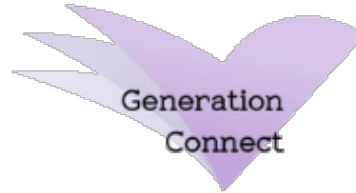


Interested in taking the genHERous conversation to your own networks? Please do so! This guide is an excellent resource to use for smaller scale events held by you. The questions contained in this guide can be recycled again, or you can tweak them and create your own! You can also stick with our event timeline or increase it to give everyone the opportunity to share their stories for a longer amount of time. To keep with the genHERous goal: ***empowering women by connecting them across generations through shared stories***, try your best to gather women from multiple generations (at least one from each if possible).

Facebook groups and e-mail chains are some of the most efficient ways to gather women together. If you would like further information about resources available for holding your own meetings, please reach out to [Sabrina.Slagowski-Tipton@colostate.edu](mailto:Sabrina.Slagowski-Tipton@colostate.edu)



*This event was made possible by the following local sponsors and partners:*



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