

List of sampled episodes

The full list of episodes is available here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b09m2bj1>

Ep1 (Series 1), 03/01/2018, *Is it ok to be wary of those from other backgrounds?* Charles Moore and Hugh Muir (with Gabrielle Rifkind): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/b09k822l>

Ep2 (Series 1), 10/01/2018, *Is equality a good thing in itself?* Fraser Nelson and Zoe Williams (with Gabrielle Rifkind): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/b09l0dx7>

Ep3 (Series 1), 17/01/2018, *Should we all be feminists?* Joan Smith and Laura Perrin (with Gabrielle Rifkind): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/b09lylpt>

Ep6 (Series 2), 08/08/2018, *Is 'Victim Culture' an Obstacle to Justice?* Joanna Williams and Sophie Walker (with Gabrielle Rifkind): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/b0bd911z>

Ep8 (Series 2), 22/08/2018, *Is Tax a Burden?* Kerry-Anne Mendoza and Juliet Samuel (with Gabrielle Rifkind): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/b0bfz5k2>

Ep12 (Series 3) 22/05/2019, *Is Individualism a Virtue?* Sarah Ditum and Kate Andrews (with Gabrielle Rifkind): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000571m>

Ep13 (Series 4) 04/09/2019, *Does Profit Corrupt?* Maurice Glasman and Lionel Barber (with Louisa Weinstein): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m00081v0>

Ep15 (Series 4) 18/09/2019, *Does Identity Politics Cause More Problems than it Solves?* Douglas Murray and Nesrine Malik (with Gabrielle Rifkind): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m0008j7m>

Ep16 (Series 5) 14/10/2020 *Should Politicians Stop Worrying About 'Hard-Working Families'?* Rory Stewart and Caroline Flint (with Louisa Weinstein): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000nf2m>

Ep19 (Series 5) 04/11/2020 *Are American Approaches to Combating Racism Worth Trying in Britain?* Kimberly McIntosh and Tom Owolade (with Gabrielle Rifkind): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000p1g4>

Ep20 (Series 6) 01/07/2021 *Has Centrist Dad Had His Day?* Daniel Finkelstein and Mary Harrington (with Gabrielle Rifkind): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000xfgc>

Ep24 (Series 6) 05/08/2021 *Does consumerism Rot the Soul?* Harry Wallop and Cinzia DuBois (with Louisa Weinstein): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000yfk0>

Ep25 (Series 6) 12/08/2021 *Does Society Need Elites?* Aditya Chakraborty and Professor Niall Ferguson (with Louisa Weinstein): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000ymmn>

Ep26 (Series 7) 16/08/2022 *Can Going On Strike Any Longer Be Justified?* Alan Johnson and Andrew Lilico (with Gabrielle Rifkind): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m001b40r>

Ep27 (Series 7) 23/08/2022 *Is Private Education Divisive?* Fiona Millar and Dr David James (with Louisa Weinstein): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m001bbsx>

Ep29 (Series 8) 11/07/2023 *Immigration is Good for British Society* Sunder Katwala and Sherelle Jacobs (with Gabrielle Rifkind): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m001np8h>

Definition of coding nodes

Deliberation between guests

a) civility and respect

Positional and adversarial

- **Hostility and defensiveness:** Any markers of hostility, such as accusations, blame, disapproval, moral judgement and disdain, including accusations of any of the above
- **Interrupting:** Any interjection by the guest not currently speaking when they have clearly not finished speaking (as annotated in transcript from audio), other than affirmatory vocalisations such as uhuh, mhmm).
- **Not listening:** Where a guest's response betrays that they have not properly listened to what the other guest has just said, e.g. giving their own answer to the presenter's question that raises an issue the other guest addressed. *[Example: KM: when you use the phrase 'white privilege', there's often an assumption that it means that people who are on low incomes, who are living in poverty, who are white, are somehow socioeconomically privileged, which isn't what the term is trying to argue, that people who are white don't suffer from socioeconomic inequality, but it's just that being white isn't a contributor to that [...]]* / **TO:** The word privilege itself carries with it that connotation of an advantage. It's not obviously the case when you just look at white working-class people]
- **Questioning the motivation of opponent or opposing 'side':** Attributing a self-interested or bad faith reason behind a view or position, such as prejudice or unwarranted moral disapproval.
- **Uncooperative behaviour:** Resisting, challenging, or (accidentally) breaking the ground rules of the format, such as counterarguing rather than unjudgementally reflecting back in the perspective taking exercise.

Constructive and discursive

- **Open-ended questions:** Questions from guests that are not leading or closing down potential responses, whether following perspective taking rules or spontaneously.
- **Expressions of curiosity:** Questions from guests that may not be open-ended, but do demonstrate or express curiosity about the other's position or experience (e.g. 'I'm interested to know...'). Perhaps checking if they agree with a point that is associated with their side of the debate or is implied in something they've said.
- **Building rapport:** Where a guest gives implicit assurances or expressions of regard (e.g. compliments) that build trust that this is not a hostile encounter, or simply share good natured 'banter' or chit-chat. *[Example: GR: Yeah, Enter into her mind / KA: So sorry / SD: It's very nice in there]*
- **Acknowledging good motivation:** Recognition that opponent is oriented to the public good or some strongly held value that they recognise as legitimate (even if they disagree, have a different notion of the public good or different priorities).
- **Attempt to be conciliatory:** Rowing back from a less constructive point.

b) mutual understanding

Positional and adversarial

- **Caricaturing opponent's position:** Both the act of caricaturing and accusations of caricaturing, straw manning etc.

- **Accusations of rhetoric:** Accusations of other argumentative fallacies or adversarial tactics, whether exercised by the other guest or the 'other side' of the debate in general.

Constructive and discursive

- **Faithful perspective taking:** Successfully reflecting back, without judgement, what the other guest has said (regardless of whether they subsequently appear to have understood it or taken it on board).
- **Understanding opponent's position:** Evidence of understanding of the nuance of the opponent's position, rather than assuming it from a binary stance or rhetorically arguing against a straw man.
- **Attempt to understand position:** Evidence of an attempt to understand, even if somewhat unsuccessful, perhaps involving assumptions about the other but with curiosity to check their understanding.
- **Feeling heard:** Explicit confirmation that they feel the other engaged in faithful perspective taking, even if they add clarifications that further explain their original point.
- **Reflection:** Reflecting on own views, values, priorities or behaviour, perhaps exploring a new thought, but short of expressing doubt or shifting position

c) constructive deliberation

Positional and adversarial

- **Political and ideological positionality:** Characterisation of a position or term as associated with left/right politics or a particular ideology or group. Either identifying with the position as part of their identity or identifying something as wrong because it is associated with the 'other side'
- **Pre-prepared points:** Evidence of a well-rehearsed point, such as reference to it being an argument from their book.
- **Certainty or dismissal:** Presenting their claims and arguments as objective fact or uncontroversially true, or rejecting the other guest's position or points outright
- **Asking a question to make a point:** Asking a question without any curiosity of what the other thinks, but as a pretext for making a point they want to make. [Example: **JW:** *One thing I'm very, very keen to ask Sophie, for example, is whether she's ever actually sat through a rape trial from beginning to end. Because I have...*]
- **Not answering the question:** Including one-word answers and other dismissive responses.
- **Strategic ambiguity:** Answering the question in a vague way to avoid criticisms of specific policy proposals etc.

Constructive and discursive

- **Acknowledging common ground:** Recognition of where an opposing view has a point that they can accept
- **Conceding a point:** Accepting a point that they had not necessarily considered before
- **Doubt at the 'cliff edge' of position:** Account of where they recognise considerations that could moderate their belief or where they need to further reflect on how that affects their overall argument or position.
- **Change in position or mediating proposal:** Express a position that is different to some extent from where they were at the outset, or proposal of a mediating proposal that acknowledges contrary viewpoints and proposes an alternative on which protagonists might agree

Moderation of debate

Process facilitation

- **Explaining relevance of conflict mediation:** The themes and challenges that will be relevant, the techniques that could be applied.
- **Setting ground rules:**
- **Modelling questioning and/or perspective taking:** Conflict mediator directly asking questions of the guests to model the kind of questions, or to model the perspective taking response.
- **Facilitating perspective taking and feeling heard:** Checking whether other person feels they have been heard or misrepresented, enabling them to articulate the point of misrepresentation.
- **Enforcing ground rules:** Intervening when a guest does not follow the instructions, such as counterarguing instead of reflecting back in the perspective taking exercise.
- **Intervention and redirection:** Other intervention, such as specific prompts on what guests should ask.

Content facilitation

- **Clarifying points:** Checking a guest's meaning or asking question to unpack some implications.
- **Challenging questions:** Challenging aspects of their position rather than clarifying what they have already said, closer to traditional devil's advocate interviewing.
- **Prompting more focus on understanding:** Redirecting from debating the points to trying to understand the other's position and the reasons why they think that way.
- **Moving debate on from adversarial or positional politics:** Shutting down return to old debating points in the perspective taking section.
- **Directly challenging a point made from a position of privilege:** Concern with justice over neutrality, in keeping with narrative mediation

Inviting reflection

- **Inviting reflection on process:** Asking what guests made of the process of active listening and perspective taking, or if there is anything they would take from the experience into future debates.
- **Prompting reflection on positionality:** Whether anything in the discussion had made them reconsider anything about their position, whether they had learnt anything new or recognised common ground.

Reflection on process

- **Appreciation of the constructive format:** Expression of enjoyment of the process, or a sense that it made for a more productive debate.
- **Lessons or future debate:** Reflection on what they might do differently in future debates on the issue or in general.
- **Potential that could reach agreement in time:** Reflection on whether, given sufficient time, they could have a constructive discussion that could lead to propositions both could agree to.