APS Discussion Group: Is America As Divided As It Seems? Featuring Ryan Bernsten, 50 States of Mind April 17, 2023



Discussion Questions

- 1. How has your upbringing affected your worldview as an American? As it relates to politics?
- 2. Was there something or someone that changed your mind about something while you were growing up? Who or what was it?
- 3. Think of a place you've always wanted to visit in the United States, a place you'd never want to visit, and your favorite place to visit. What do these places have in common?
- 4. What's your favorite big city in America? What's your favorite medium-sized city? What's your favorite small town?
- 5. Do you think social media or the news media is dividing us more? Why?
- 6. Is there someone from a different political persuasion who has changed the way you think about something? Has someone having different political views strained a relationship that is important to you?
- 7. Do you think America is divided? If so, what would it take for us to come together again?
- 8. What makes you hopeful about America today?
- 9. Talk about the last argument you had about politics. Was there something said that helped you have a constructive dialogue? Was there something that inflamed tensions?
- 10. How does travel affect the way we see people who are different from us? Tell a story about a travel experience that changed you.
- 11. When was the last time you remember America being united?
- 12. In one sentence, what does it mean to be American?
- 13. What is the thing that makes you proudest about being an American? What is the thing that makes you least proud?
- 14. What is an issue you will never be able to see the other side on? What is an issue you are open-minded to?
- 15. What is making America so polarized today?
- 16. Talk about a time someone changed your mind. How did they go about it? How did they make you feel? Was there something they said that you remember?