

# Creating Spaces for Dialogue:

*A guide to having a different conversation about the Voice to Parliament*

## FRAMING THE CONVERSATION

This guide is designed to prompt thinking and help you have discussions about the Voice to Parliament Referendum 2023.

It uses graphics, links to key online information sources and presents a range of ideas and questions.

# What you will be asked in the 2023 Referendum

The Parliament passed the Constitution Alteration Bill on Monday 19 June 2023. The Bill proposes to add a new 'Chapter IX – Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' at the end of the Constitution.

The proposed chapter will hold a new section: **129 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice**

In recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Peoples of Australia:

- there shall be a body, to be called the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice;
- the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice may make representations to the Parliament and the Executive Government of the Commonwealth on matters relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples;
- the Parliament shall, subject to this Constitution, have power to make laws with respect to matters relating to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice, including its composition, functions, powers and procedures.

*If you are enrolled to vote you will be required to vote on an Electoral ballot paper, and write your answer YES or NO.*

## Information Links

- [Official YES/NO Referendum Pamphlet](#), [Yes23](#), [Fair Australia](#), [Blak Sovereign Movement](#), [Labor Party](#), [Liberal Party](#), [The Nationals](#), [One Nation](#), [Uluru Statement From the Heart](#), [The Australian Constitution](#)

3 popular ways to start the conversation

The Constitution

The Politics

The Campaigns

## The 5 Scenarios

Collaboration for Impact has developed a set of scenarios to prompt thinking and discussion on potential outcomes of the Referendum.

1. Stabilising the Base – High NO Vote
2. Changing the Game – High YES Vote
3. Just Over the Line – Marginal YES Vote
4. Narrow Escape – Marginal NO Vote
5. Mixed Message – National YES Vote, but states are locked at 3 YES and 3 NO

### Choose a scenario and discuss the following reflection questions:

1. What would this scenario mean for our national Australian story?
2. Will this scenario have any impact on my (our) work and lifestyle?
3. How can I (are we) prepare for this scenario outcome?



# Use these questions as a guide to discuss the Campaigns and the Constitution

## NO CAMPAIGNS

- Who are the main players in the campaigns against the Voice to Parliament proposal and encouraging Vote NO in the 2023 Referendum?
- What are their main ideas put forward about the 2023 Referendum?
- What are their concerns for our Australian way of life that are related to the 2023 Referendum?

## YES CAMPAIGNS

- Who are the main players in the campaigns for the Voice to Parliament proposal and encouraging Vote YES in the 2023 Referendum?
- What are their main ideas put forward about the 2023 Referendum?
- What are their concerns for our Australian way of life that are related to the 2023 Referendum?

## CONSTITUTION

- What is the Australian Constitution?
- How does it work?
- When was it put together? How and why?
- What is required to change the Australian Constitution?
- When was the last referendum?
- What is being proposed to change in the Australian Constitution in the 2023 Referendum?

## Reflective Questions

*What do I think about their ideas?  
How do I feel about their concerns?*



To learn more about how to work across difference, check out [Deep Collaboration's "Creating the Conditions for Change"](#)