Discussion Guide

Questions 1 to 7 of 28

1. Which relationship among the Five Cs is most visible in your experience, and what evidence supports that view?

2. Where do the Five Cs appear to reinforce one another, and where does the framework fail to explain what happens?

3. Which cultural values strengthen public life, and which can be captured for private or political advantage?

4. When does loyalty become complicity?

5. How should public officials balance family and community obligation with equal treatment of citizens?

6. Which forms of corruption are most often overlooked because they do not involve a direct cash payment?

7. How do ordinary citizens participate in corrupt systems even when they disapprove of corruption?

Discussion notes

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8. How do the supporter, client, subject, and citizen relate differently to power? Can one person occupy all four postures?

9. Can strong party loyalty coexist with independent civic judgment?

10. What responsibilities do citizens carry between elections?

11. How do contentment, resilience, and adaptation differ? Under what conditions does coping strengthen rather than weaken public action?

12. How can religious faith strengthen civic responsibility rather than postpone it?

13. What public costs are currently carried privately by households, communities, businesses, or diaspora networks?

14. How can you distinguish complacency from strategic withdrawal, exhaustion, or silence under credible threat?

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15. What would give a disappointed citizen credible evidence that a particular action could matter?

16. Which public failures have become normalised in ways that would once have caused greater alarm?

17. How can private complaint become a specific public question?

18. Who is missing from local civic organisations, and what would make participation affordable, accessible, and safer?

19. What would routine accountability look like in a school, clinic, council, ministry, political party, business, or religious institution?

20. How should institutions distinguish error, lack of capacity, negligence, and deliberate abuse, and match correction to each?

21. What role should records, deadlines, public standards, complaint systems, audits, and explanations play?

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22. What would allow a complaint process or other reform to survive the departure of the person who introduced it?

23. In the school-roof example, what must happen between inspection, funding, authorisation, completed work, and verified closure?

24. When a well-designed campaign fails, what should be preserved, reconsidered, or paused without blaming vulnerable participants?

25. What would a patriotism of standards require from citizens, leaders, parties, families, and professionals?

26. What does the present generation owe the unknown child?

27. Which point in the Five C cycle can you influence directly?

28. What is one public question your community should refuse to let disappear?

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