

House Party Checklist



Below is a checklist and guide for how to host a house party in support of the Unite Against Book Bans campaign. The goal is to help spread the word about this campaign and enlist family, friends, neighbors, and allies to join our efforts.

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- Create an invite list of local friends, family, and neighbors
 - Identify host and speaker (could be the same person)
 - Finalize location and time
 - Update sample flier with:
 - Host Name
 - Location
 - Time
 - Date
 - Send invite and flier out 2 weeks in advance
 - Share details on social media (if necessary)
 - Suggested materials:
 - Yard signs and rally placecards
 - Sign-up sheet
 - Bookmarks
 - Printouts of “How To Talk About Book Bans,” “Contact Elected Officials & Media,” and “Petition Decision Makers” sections from this toolkit
 - Send follow up invite 1 week out
 - Send a reminder 1-2 days before the house party
 - Gather meeting materials
 - Secure refreshments

Post Events:

- Send thank you notes to those that attended
 - Send recap to people who wanted to attend but couldn't
 - Encourage attendees to host their own event or recruit new members to your group
 - Create a communications list (email list, Facebook page, Google group) and continue the conversation
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House Party Conversation Guide

Introductions:

- Host
- Speaker(s)
- Attendees
- Remind everyone to sign the sign-in sheet

Questions to discuss:

- What is the Unite Against Book Bans campaign?
 - What is the mission of the campaign?
 - What are we trying to accomplish?
- What are you hearing in the community?
 - Are any local groups or individuals organizing book bans?
 - What books are being discussed and targeted for removal?
 - Are any elected officials using the topic of book bans on their campaigns?
 - Are you seeing any protests in front of libraries or in school board meetings about what books they have on their shelves?
- Do you think that book bans are a problem in your community?
 - If not, what do you think we need to do to make sure they do not become a problem?
- How is your local [or school] library perceived in the community?
 - What do people use it for?
- Are any elected officials using the topic of book bans in their campaigns?
- Do you think that book bans are a problem in our community?
- How is our local [or school] library perceived in the community?
 - What do people use it for?
 - Has anyone talked with the library staff or trustees?
 - How can our group protect the library's ability to provide access to a variety of reading materials?

How to get involved:

What can you do to help Unite Against Book Bans?

- Visit the UniteAgainstBookBans.org website and sign up to join thousands of advocates across the country and receive occasional updates
- Share info about our campaign on your social media pages
 - Use the sample posts in the toolkit
- Recruit new members who could not attend today to join the campaign
- Host your own house party



- Contact your elected officials (refer to the toolkit)
- Submit a letter to the editor of your local paper (refer to the toolkit)

Wrap Up