



BLACK CENSUS 2023

HOUSE PARTY STRUCTURE

We created this outline to guide your discussion with your friends and party invitees in having an engaging conversation about what it means to be politically engaged. During the party you will fill out the census and join BFL's movement to build Black political power. Please use the below questions to guide your conversation.

Discussion Question

Welcome and Opening Comments about the House Party (3 minutes)

Share why you are hosting the House Party and what you hope to gain from the conversation.

Icebreaker (15 minutes)

- ➔ What is your Black superpower?
- ➔ What do you love most about being Black?
- ➔ What is the Blackest thing you did this week?
- ➔ Who is your Black superhero?
- ➔ What song by a Black artist gets you hype?

Discussion Question 1 (15 minutes)

Why is it important for Black people to be politically engaged?

Discussion Question 2 (15 minutes)

What is the most pressing community problem facing Black people right now and how does that problem affect you personally?

Explanation of the Census (5 minutes)

Fill out the Census together (play music) (10 minutes)

Closing Comments and take a group selfie and tag BFL. (2 minutes)

Thank everyone for coming and take a group selfie and tag @blackfutureslab on Instagram

Tips for House Meeting

How to invite? (Sample Message)

Hey, [Insert person's name here]

I am a volunteer with Black Futures Lab. We are an organization that builds Black political power so that Black people can win policy changes that makes our lives better and the communities we live in. One way we plan to win policy change is by listening to 200,000 Black people across this country to understand what we want. I would like to invite you to attend a house party I am having next week. At this party, I would love to learn more about what community problems you care about. Can you come?

If someone asks more about what is happening at the event:

- ➔ There will be discussion questions that will allow the group to talk about the community problems they care about.
- ➔ At the event I will also invite you to fill out a survey so your point of view can be added to the 200,000 plus Black people across this country. You will be a part of a historic movement that surveys more Black people than ever in history.
- ➔ The meeting won't last longer than hour and your perspective will help our organization craft policy changes that could benefit Black communities for years to come. Will you join us?

Other tips:

- 💡 You can host these on Zoom or in person
- 💡 Use the outline to guide you, but feel free to put your own spin on it
- 💡 Think through your own story/reason for being involved with BFL. People are more likely to join you in filling out the Census if they can connect with your passion for the work.
- 💡 As people fill out the census, don't share your answers to the survey. It is important that everyone answers the survey from their own point of view.
- 💡 If people have questions about BFL or the Black Census you can't answer, direct them to the organization. They can email holla@blackfutureslab.org
- 💡 During the discussion, it important to listen and not comment on people's opinions. You want participants to feel comfortable and welcome sharing. It is not your job in the meeting to change someone's mind. You are gathering information.

Get Involved

If we're going to reach 200,000 Black people across the country, we need your help. You are connected to our communities, and we would appreciate your support. You can help us by:

- ➔ Use this QR code to share the Black Census with your friends and family
- ➔ Host your own Census House Party
- ➔ [Contribute to this project](#)
- ➔ [Contribute to the Black Futures Lab](#)



Take the Black Census today at www.blackcensus.org

About Black Futures Lab & Black Census Project

For far too long, Black communities have been left out of the conversation – often spoken about, and rarely

listened to. But, that ends now with the launch of Black Futures Lab's [Black Census Project](#).

What is the Black Census Project?

- ➔ A follow-up to the inaugural Black Census Project conducted in 2018, the Black Census Project 2023 is the **largest survey of Black people in America in 157 years**
- ➔ Through a combination of digital outreach and on-the-ground organizing in states across the U.S., we will speak with **200,000 Black people** across the country about their experiences, opinions, and dreams for the future
- ➔ The information gathered from the Black Census Project is anonymous and will be used to identify priority issues for our communities, inform public policy, motivate and activate people to vote, and shape an agenda created for us, by us

Why this project matters:

- ➔ **For our communities to be powerful in politics, we need to make sure all of our voices are heard** – the Black Census Project helps to shine a light on what our communities experience every day and what we want to see done about it
- ➔ **The Black Census Project collects recent and relevant data about who we are, what we go through, and what we want to see done about it.** Right now, there's not enough information about our communities and our needs – the Black Census Project aims to change that
- ➔ **Because we're not all the same, there are a lot of voices that are getting left out – and that means we're getting left behind in politics and policy too.** The Black Census Project aims to reach people in all of our communities – rural and urban, immigrant and US-born, LGBTQ and straight, incarcerated and formerly incarcerated, and more

Our goals:

- ➔ 200,000 responses to the Black Census Project
- ➔ 200 organizers focused in CA, WI, NC, GA, LA, and online responses from all 50 states
- ➔ Responses that reflect the breadth and depth of our communities and will be used to build Black political power, transform our communities, and make sure that Black people in this country have everything they need to thrive

About Black Futures Lab

The [Black Futures Lab](#) (501c3) transforms Black communities into constituencies that change the way power operates - locally, statewide, and nationally. The problems facing our communities are complex -

the solutions require experimentation innovation and political power. We work to make Black people powerful in politics so that we can be powerful in every aspect of our lives.

Take the Black Census today at www.blackcensus.org