

## SAMPLE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR “The Health Care Debate – Whose Voices?”

1. If your health care plan was taken away, what would the impact be for you and your family? What kind of impact do you think it has for families that earn minimum wage (or less)? Or families that have a member with substantial health issues?
2. What other experiences have shaped your own opinion on health care reform?
3. What populations attend the meetings and forums around health care? How are they making their voice heard?
4. Which populations are conspicuously absent or silent at these gatherings?
5. Why does where or when these meetings are held determine whether low-income, ESL, or certain working populations attend or not?
6. What cultural factors are neglected by the typical structure of the “town hall” meeting?
7. Do you think the organizers of these gatherings are trying to limit the voices of low-income, ESL, and other marginalized populations? Explain.
8. Why is it important to try to bring a more diverse set of voices to the conversation about health care reform, rather than trying to speak for those who need change to happen?
9. What other issues and concerns are creating barriers to a productive conversation around health care? Do you believe that resistance stems from these other concerns or that it is centered on health care itself? Why?
10. How can reducing disparities in health care ultimately have a positive affect for everyone?

*Need support facilitating discussion around equity and cultural competency? Contact ReachOut for more information about our services and resources: [info@reachoutfornewfutures.org](mailto:info@reachoutfornewfutures.org).*

Media Resource: *Health Care Opinions*, Netroots Nation

Web Videos: <http://airamerica.com/blog/2009/aug/21/netroots-nation-health-care-opinions-part-4-video-0>

Web Article: *Too Poor to Make the News*, New York Times

Web address: <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/06/14/opinion/14ehrenreich.html?emc=eta1>