

FORD HALL FORUM AT SUFFOLK  
UNIVERSITY PRESENTS

# AMERICA'S DIVIDED MIND: Understanding the Psychology That Drives Us Apart

Join us for a conversation with **Tim Phillips**, Founder and CEO, Beyond Conflict and **Scott Warren**, CEO, Generation Citizen and a Visiting Fellow at the SNF Agora Institute at Johns Hopkins University. The evening's moderator is **Michal Ben-Josef Hirsch, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Political Science & Legal Studies Department, Suffolk University.

**Thursday, September 24, 2020**  
**Live at 7:00 pm**

**THIS EVENT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**

Deepening toxic polarization in the United States is a profound threat to the American people and the very core of American democracy. After 30 years of working around the globe to bring peace and reconciliation to deeply divided societies, Beyond Conflict launched an unprecedented research project in 2018, the Beyond Conflict Polarization Index™, with leading brain and behavioral scientists to assess the psychological factors that fuel polarization. The study found a consistent pattern across measures: Americans incorrectly believe that members of the other party dehumanize, dislike, and disagree with them about twice as much as they actually do. These false perceptions about the other side are correlated with outcomes that are consequential for democracy and represent a new degree of toxic polarization in America.

Using the unique approach of shared experience, Phillips has helped catalyze the peace and reconciliation processes in several nations,

including Northern Ireland, El Salvador, and South Africa. Now leading initiatives in the U.S., Phillips will present the key findings of Beyond Conflict's study. Warren's organization, Generation Citizen, is one of the preeminent civics education organizations in the country, promoting Action Civics across diverse geographies through best-in-class programming and concrete policy change.

#### READ THE FULL REPORT

<https://beyondconflictint.org/americas-divided-mind>

#### LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR PANELISTS

<https://beyondconflictint.org/who-we-are/board-of-directors/#timothy-phillips>

<https://snfagora.jhu.edu/person/scott-warren>

<https://www.suffolk.edu/academics/faculty/b/e/michal-ben-josef-hirsch>



Tim Phillips



Scott Warren



Michal Ben-Josef Hirsch, PhD

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