Activity: Deliberation Dialogue on Climate Action

Purpose
- The purpose of this activity is to practice deliberative dialogue and reflect on what it looks like to engage in productive dialogue about social action. You will contrast three potential climate actions and consider which might make the most successful climate action to promote on social media.

Preparing for class:
- To prepare for this activity please complete the reading and the discussion pre-activity before class.

    Reading
- Sundheim, D (2020, June 11). How to have productive dialogue on challenging topics. *Forbes.*

    Discussion pre-activity
- Visit Drawdown.org (https://drawdown.org/solutions) and read the summaries for the following climate actions:
    - Bamboo production: https://drawdown.org/solutions/bamboo-production
    - Bioplastics: https://drawdown.org/solutions/bioplastics
    - Recycling: https://drawdown.org/solutions/recycling
- Discussion question: Consider the three climate change mitigation solutions listed above. Which solution is best suited for successfully mobilizing the public on social media? Why?

Instructions for in-class dialogue activity:
- This dialogue will be structured as a fishbowl activity in which a group of students is divided in two groups—an inner circle and an outer circle. The inner circle will engage in the discussion above and the out circle will monitor the discussion, looking for examples of productive dialogue moves (suspending, listening, respecting voicing and inquiring), and debrief the inner circle's discussion afterwards.

- Activity instructions
    - Step 1 (5 min): Divide the group into an inner and outer circle. Instruct the outer circle to listen to the discussion and jot down examples of the productive dialogue moves outlined by Sundheim (2020). During the debrief, they will asked to give examples of productive/unproductive dialogue moves.
    - Step 2 (20 min): Give the inner circle 15-20 minutes to discuss the prompt ("Which solution is best suited for successfully mobilizing the public on social media? Why?")
    - Step 3 (15 min): Give the outer circle 10-15 minutes to discuss examples of productive (or unproductive) dialogue moves. What did the speaker say? What made it productive or unproductive for a successful deliberation?
    - Step 4 (5 min): Invite the inner circle participants to share their perspectives on the productivity of the discussion. Did they feel heard? Did they find their peers points compelling?