VOIR DIRE

Apologies

- I am never going to remember all of your names. I will use your number.
- We are going to be asking questions that may feel quite personal. We are put in
 the somewhat impossible situation of trying to get to know your true thoughts and
 feelings about important issues in a very short period of time. In order to do that,
 we will need to be somewhat probing in our questions. Please forgive us if it
 feels intrusive.
- We will not be able to spend as much time with each of you as we will want to. So if it feels like we haven't spent enough time with you, please don't think it means we don't want to talk to you.
- Finally, if we haven't heard enough from you, we may pick on you. Again, this is simply because it is vital to the fairness of this process that we be able to hear from each of you.

who just doesn't want to be here?

CAREGIVING

Have any of you ever been a caregiver or been close to a caregiver for an older adult? What was that experience like?

For what purpose did the person need care?

Did you have any assistance or other resources to help you?

How did the caregiving relationship come to an end?

Did you/they ever find yourself getting angry or overwhelmed by your job as a caregiver?

What did you/they do in response to those feelings?

NEGLECT

What if a caregiver for an older adult who is bedbound becomes frustrated or overwhelmed with the person they are caring for?

Is it ever okay for them to simply leave the person for a day or so until they calm down? Why is this not okay? They're not assaulting them after all.

Does anyone think neglecting someone is somehow less malicious a thing to do than assaulting someone? Why or why not?

Anyone heard of a case where a child was neglected? What case did you hear of? What was your reaction to that?

Is it different when an old person who is bedbound is neglected?

Why/why not?

What if they are neglected to the point that they die prematurely?

Anyone think that shouldn't be considered a homicide?

Why/why not?

Does anyone feel that the preventable death of an elderly person is less tragic than that of a younger person? Why/why not?

Anyone here feel that we as a society care value our children than we do our elders?

Why do you think that is?

Anyone here think that elder abuse is a problem in our society? Why/why not? Anyone think it is likely that elder abuse is underreported? Why do you think that is? Do we as a society have a duty to care for our elders? Why or why not?

DEMENTIA

Anyone here been close to someone with dementia?

Caregiver for that person?

What was that experience like?

Difficult, right?

What did you do when you needed help?

Did the dementia affect that person's judgement?

How?

So what do you do when you're caring for someone with dementia whose judgment is impaired. Do you simply let them make decisions for themselves?

What if they no longer want to bathe, or wear clothes or take their medication?

Do we defer to their wishes?

Why/why not?

What if they want to leave the home and wander the streets, do we simply let them?

Why/why not?

DYING AT HOME

Anyone been close to an elder or an adult with a terminal illness who chose to die at home?

Describe

Were there any services coming into the home?

What kind of services?

What did they do for the elder?

How was that experience?

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Anyone had a particularly bad experience with the criminal justice system? Good one?

Make it difficult for you to be fair?

Anyone feel that forgiveness more important than accountability for your actions?

Do you have such a strong opposition to judging others that you couldn't sit on this case?