CARDS IN FAVOR OF HUMANITY

THE MANUAL

Created by ©Ioana Spataru for the Youth Peace Ambassadors Network

Welcome to Cards in Favor of Humanity

This game is a positive twist on the infamous *Cards Against Humanity*, created for those who believe that laughter, empathy, and kindness can be just as fun—and a lot more uplifting.

Born during a peace education training called *The Art of Non-Violent Dialogue* by the Youth Peace Ambassadors Network, this game was designed by human rights trainer and peace educator Ioana Spataru. Intended for use in peace education, youth work, or simply a meaningful evening with friends, it honors the spirit of the original while adding a new, heart-centered dimension.

Because life isn't always black and white—and while humanity can be messy, it's also capable of great beauty and in between, there's room for empathy, connection, and the kind of humor that brings us closer.

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How the Game Works

To start the game, each player draws ten white cards.
Each round, one player draws a prompt card (black) and reads it aloud. The other players each choose one of their response cards (white) that they feel best—and most beautifully, hilariously, or meaningfully—completes the prompt. The reader then shuffles and reads all responses aloud before choosing their favorite.
The selected player wins the round and keeps the prompt card as a point. The role of reader rotates each round. There's no "right" answer—just moments of connection, joy, and the occasional unexpected insight. Play to win, play to laugh, or play to remember what's good about being human. Before the next round starts, each player draws a new white card to refill their hand to ten.
Once per round, if you are unhappy with all your white cards, you may choose to exchange them for 10 new ones.

How the Game Works

After all answers are read and a favorite has been chosen, players can use reaction cards (blue), which are placed openly on the table. These allow players to show empathy, relate to one another, or ask thoughtful follow-up questions to the reader. They're an invitation to go a little deeper and connect beyond the game.
At any point during their turn, the player whose turn it is can choose to respond—or use a boundary card (red) to gently set limits.
These cards help express whether they'd prefer to stay on the surface, explore a bit more, or politely draw a boundary. It's all about playing with care, curiosity, and respect for one another's pace.
The aim is to create thoughtful or uplifting card combinations that bring smiles, spark conversation, or warm the heart. The winner is the one whose response speaks to the reader or to the group in the most meaningful way.

How and Where to Use This Game

Cards in Favor of Humanity is a versatile tool designed to spark connection, reflection, and meaningful dialogue. It can be used as a light-hearted icebreaker, a way to get to know each other better, or as an invitation to dive into deeper conversations. Whether you're aiming to foster group bonding, encourage self-reflection, or simply create space for authentic sharing, this game adapts to your needs. Perfect for use in trainings, seminars, workshops, classrooms, youth activities, or even in personal relationships and friend groups, it can be facilitated by trainers, educators, youth workers, or anyone who values connection and dialogue.

CARDS IN FAVOR OF HUMANITY

A game for humans who still believe in humanity.

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What if you became a goat farmer in Portugal?

Writing myself a love letter.

Seeing queer joy in public.

A friend remembering your birthdy.

A hoodie three sizes too big.

Air-frying everything.

Conversations that don't need conclusions.

Love is
Love is
Love is
Love...

Quoting *Fleabag.*

Spice Girls in 1998.

Ted Lasso optimism.

The emotional arc of a Studio Ghibli film.

Watching someone geek out over *Star Wars*.

What if I'm just in my villain era?

Parallel parking on the first try.

Refilling my tea without asking.

Refusing to hate my body.

Saying “I don’t know” with confidence.

Saying “I’m proud of you” in the mirror.

Saying no without apologizing.

Someone laughing at my jokes.

Someone truly listening.

Speaking in my mother tongue.

Still believing in birthday wishes.

Taking three deep breaths before replying.

The smell of fresh bread.

The sound of rain while I’m safe indoors.

The way my dog looks at me.

Turning my phone off for no reason.

Wearing *Crocs* to formal events.

Wearing glitter to serious meetings.

Wearing whatever the hell I want.

What if I just reinvented my entire life?

What if you became a goat farmer in Portugal?

Being brave and taking risks.

Being trusted with someone's story.

Buying stickers as adults.

Choosing rest in a world that rewards burnout.

Crying and laughing at the same time.

Eating dessert before dinner.

Existential crisis, but make it aesthetic.

Finally standing up for myself.

Forgiving myself for not knowing better.

Healing. One day at a time.

I ask “Did you get home safe?” and mean it.

I validate your feelings without fixing them.

Late-night kitchen conversations.

Laughing until you can't breathe.

Leaving toxic people on read.

Lighting a candle before doing hard things.

Mid-sentence realizations.

Morning light through the curtains.

Not having to explain myself.

Parallel parking on the first try.

Assembling IKEA furniture without a manual.

Baking like I am on *The Great British Bake Off*.

Banning unpaid internships.

Bob Ross.

Bombing for peace is like fucking for virginity.

Boycotting Starbucks.

Breakfast in bed.

Being melodramatic.

Being unhinged.

Being on time.

Being vegan.

Birthday cake.

Bitcoin.

Bridgerton, but don't tell anyone.

Building a time machine on the week-ends.

Buy you dinner AND dessert.

Calling out racism at family dinners.

Calvin Klein underwear.

Canceling student debt, for starters.

Turning off notifications.

Roads? Where we're going, we don't need roads.

Roma pride.

Coloring outside the lines on purpose.

Salt and pepper.

Same sex marraige everywhere.

Shopping for antiques.

Smelling flowers.

Smile
when it
rains.

Spaghetti and meatballs.

Starting a conga line!

Still believing in happy endings.

Sweet
sweet
gossip.

Talk about peace.

Tarot cards.

Taxing billionaires like it's Monopoly.

The magic of childhood.

The Roman Empire.

The sound of silence.

Trading Pokémon cards.

My bed and a long nap.

My cousin's *Netflix* account.

My Hard Rock Café T-shirt collection.

My Lo-Fi study playlist.

My loving parents.

No one gets left behind.

No one is
free
until we all
are.

Not today, Satan!

Opre Roma!

Oversize hoodies.

Peace, for real this time.

Pizza.
Awlays and forever.

Playing
UNO with
my friends.

Power to the people.

Putting googly eyes onto everything.

Radical self-care.

Reading until 2 a.m.

Replying to texts in my head but never sending them.

Returning stolen land.

Rewatching the same comfort show 100 times.

Enjoying alone-time.

I've been there.

If it costs your peace its too expensive.

In your heart you already know the answer.

Italian food.

Jack of all trades, master of none.

Joining a choir that sings only *Mamma Mia* songs.

JOMO (Joy Of Missing Out)

Just keep swimming.

Learning ASL.

Leslie Knope
with a
a color-coded
plan.

Live long and prosper.

Do the impossible.

Lorem Ipsum

Louder voices, deeper listening.

Love at first sight

Magic mushroom tea.

Making *her*story.

Mary Poppins, y’all!

Memes that spark revolutions,

Menstruation Goddess.

Endless supply of hugs.

Enjoy Ketamine on occasion.

Free therapy for everyone.

Geopolitics: The Musical

Crystals, that I charged in the moon light.

Dumbledore's army.

Finding vegan food at the airport.

Free art supplies.

Free snacks.

Funky PowerPoint transitions.

Gender equality.

Get her flowers on Valentine's Day.

Growing my own fruit and vegetables.

Having kids.

Helping people feel seen.

Hugs, but only with consent.

I know how you feel.

I love your voice.

I'd rather be watching *The Office* but here we are.

Enjoying alone-time.

Expansion of consciousness.

Expansion of consciousness.

Visiting our elders.

Talking ‘till sunrise.

Talking ‘till sunrise.

Eye gazing.

Sleeping under the stars.

Dancing.

My favorite place in the world.

Where I grew up.

The best ice cream in town.

That I care.

Being honest here and now.

Running away and join the circus.

Following your dream. Seriously.

A different religion. Just for a week.

Chili powder.

Deep talk and chill.

Dismantling systems of oppression.

Eating the rich (metapho-rically, for now).

Cats.
Just Cats.

Elton John singing "Can you feel the love tonight."

See the beauty that is found in all religions.

Confess
my love
to my crush.

Raindrops falling on my head.

Frank Sinatra.
Of course.

My partner's heartbeat.

The Sound of Music Remix.

The Sound of Music Remix.

A friendship bracelet.

My favorite book.

My number.

Forgive and forget.

Forgive and forget.

Just vibin’

Just the two of us.

Don’t forget to eat.

Do you want a drink?

See you later alligator.

To drink more water.

How much I love you.

Share
how much I
struggle
right now.

I feel alone even in big crowds.

I miss
my old self.

Cuddles and kisses.

To have patience with myself.

Meditate.

The need to shake my body.

My face without make-up.

My deepest darkest thoughts.

My political views.

What I really think.

How I am feeling.

My job.

Something I did last summer.

My religious beliefs.

Take acid at a rave.

Take a bubble bath and listen to Michael Bublé.

Do a 1000-piece Star Wars puzzle.

Get a massage.

Tell my mum I love her.

Write a love letter to myself.

Rest
without
feeling guilty
about it.

Face my biggest fear.

Quit my job and follow my passion.

Compliment you for your kind eyes.

Ask someone for help.

Confess
my love
to my crush.

Hold space
for me while
I process
my feelings.

Share a secret.

Be my girlfriend/ boyfriend.

Take a breath together.

Have a good cry.

Get a big hug.

Watch a good movie together.

Slow down.

Free Tibet.

End a war.

Empower other women.

Save an animal.

Every social movement should come with

_____

Let’s replace money with

_____

Hi! Today's TED Talk will be about

_____

Step one:
Protest
Step two:

_____

_____

would fix capitalism over night.

My protest sign says

_____

My Roman Empire is

_____

The UN's new slogan is

_____

When life gets tough, I channel my inner

_____

I always use

_____

as an icebreaker.

My inner child would be proud of

_____

Magic is

_____

_____

makes me feel at home.

_____

makes my
heart sing.

The softest rebellion I've ever joined is

_____

A ritual I didn't know I needed is

_____

My brain at 2AM:

_____

My green flag is

_____

_____

is what I bring to group therapy.

I find sanctuary in

_____

My favorite guilty pleasure is

_____

_____

is the best compliment ever.

Did you hear that? I think it was

_____

For my 50th birthday I want

_____

_____

never fails
to cheer
me up.

Nothing connects people more than

_____

The secret ingredient is

_____

The world needs more people who

_____

Trust me,

_____

As president my first new policy is

_____

Equality means

_____

History will remember

_____

I am here!
Make space
for

_____

I will definitely win the Nobel Prize for

_____

I would dedicate my life to

_____

_____

is an act of resistance.

A peaceful world starts with

_____

To create change in our communities we need

_____

_____

is how we fix injustice.

Dude, where's my

_____

This morning I woke up ready to

_____

If I would be completly honest, I'd

_____

Would you be willing to

_____

What I need the most right now is to

_____

I would never break the law excep to

_____

The elephant in the room is

_____

My morning ritual is

_____

Something I never share on Social Media is

_____

Today,
I feel shy
about

_____

When I die and go to heaven I see

_____

I fall asleep listening to

_____

Please take

_____

as my gift
for you

The theme for this year is

_____

For ultimate leisure I like to

_____

The post-it you left said

_____

Nowadays, nobody has time for

_____

Have you ever tried

_____

at night?

Next time you're in town, I'll show you

_____

I don’t know you, but I think you could try

_____

I am grateful for

_____

I am open for questions.

I just want to share.

I need advice.

I'd like to move on.

I'm not ready to explore that.

Maybe next time.

No questions please.

Thanks for offering!

Can I reflect on what you said?

Can we sit with that one for a second?

I appreciate you.

I can relate.

I see you.

I understand.

Thank you for sharing!

Would you like to say more about that?