

# 5.14 Let's Have A Policy Party!

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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

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You're listening to the First Name Basis Podcast, Season Five, Episode 14: "Let's Have a Policy Party!"



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Teaching our children to be inclusive and anti-racist starts with us within the sacred walls of our home. First Name Basis is designed to empower you with the confidence you need to be a leader in your family and a change maker in your community. Together we will wrestle with hard questions and use the answers to create the world we want, a world that reflects our values of inclusion, compassion, and courage. I'm your host, Jasmine Bradshaw, and I am so excited to be on this journey with you.



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Are y'all ready for a partay?



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Oh my goodness, hello, First Name Basis Fam, I am so glad you are here. I'm so excited that you are tuning in for this bonus episode because I have something super exciting to share with you. Here at First Name Basis we are bringing you a brand new resource and it is called Policy Parties. Now let me tell you what in the world I'm talking about, where this idea came from, and how you can be a part of our policy party. So as you know, First Name Basis exists to give parents and caregivers the tools they need to raise anti-racist kiddos, and we feel like it has been an amazing adventure over these past couple of years figuring out what that looks like in our homes and in our classrooms. And I really feel like we are ready to take it to the next level. We're ready to go to that next step in our allyship together, and I was thinking about how can we as a community move forward in our anti-racist journey. And what I came up with were the idea of these Policy Parties.



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So if you've been here for a little while, you know that the issues that we are facing as a society are largely systemic — that means that changing the behavior of one specific person isn't going to solve the problem. The solution to a systemic issue is real, systemic change. And I was thinking about what is one way that our community as a First Name Basis family can come together to try to create systemic change and to be part of the systemic solution. And what I came up with was these Policy Parties. So in an effort to do the work to understand the issues that are facing marginalized communities, one of the things that we need to get familiar with are the policies that are directly affecting the communities that we are trying to be in solidarity with. Now, can I say the word community any more times? But you know what I'm trying to say! We really need to dig in and figure out what do the policies look like, and what changes can we make to make things more equitable and just in our society.



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So what is a Policy Party? Every other month we are going to come together as a First Name Basis family and we're going to get to hang out with, chat with, and learn from a community-based organization who is trying to make change at the policy level. So these parties will be held virtually so that you can attend from anywhere all over the world or all over the country. And we'll come together and we'll learn from an expert. And that expert will help us understand what is the background of the issue? What are marginalized communities really facing? What are the policies that need to be enacted in order to make change? And how can we be part of the change? The biggest thing that we're emphasizing with the organizations that we're partnering with, is that we really want to walk away with actionable steps that you can do with your family, in your community, to help be part of the solution. So I hope you're catching the vision, I hope that you feel good and excited about the work that you're doing in your home, and that you understand the importance of taking that work outside of your home and into your community.



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Our goal through these policy parties are for you to feel excited, energized and empowered to take action with your family. So we want you to go out into your local community, learn about the issues that are really going on and help be part of the change.



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So let me tell you about how you participate in the Policy Party. And then I will give you all the details for the Policy Party that we have coming up next week.



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So first, I want to tell you that Patreon members automatically have access to the policy party. If you're unfamiliar, Patreon is a membership account where you contribute to support First Name Basis. So the parents in our Patreon community connect with one another, ask questions, and get ideas for how they can raise anti-racist kiddos. It's really the people who are in the

trenches doing this work each and every day. And the thing is, we have monthly Q&A sessions. And we've been doing that for over a year now, and we've loved it, we've really gotten to know each other. It is such an amazing feeling to be in community and knowing that there are so many people who are working towards the same goal that we are. So I asked our Patreon community, "Would you guys be interested in doing these Policy Parties? Would you be interested in taking our allyship and our activism to the next level together?" And they were like, "Yes, we're so excited." So if you are already a member of our Patreon community, you will have full access to Policy Parties. And if you're not a member of our Patreon community, there are two ways that you can participate in the Policy Parties, too. The first way is to become a member of our Patreon community. And that you can do just by going to [patreon.com/firstnamebasis](https://patreon.com/firstnamebasis), that's P-A-T-R-E-O-N.com/firstnamebasis. And I will put the link in the show notes, of course.

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And the second way that you can participate is by buying a one-time ticket to the Policy Party. So each time we do these every other month, I will update our website with the information for the upcoming Policy Party. So if you go to [firstnamebasis.org/policyparty](https://firstnamebasis.org/policyparty), you will be able to buy a one-time ticket to attend the Policy Party that's going on for that specific month. If you want access to all of the Policy Parties, forever and ever, then make sure that you sign up for the Patreon community. But if you see one that catches your eye, and you're like, "Oh, this is the one I want to go to," then go to [firstnamebasis.org/policyparty](https://firstnamebasis.org/policyparty) and you can buy a one-time ticket.

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The great thing is, if there is a scheduling conflict, we will definitely send out the replay for all of the parties. So anytime we get to talk to a local expert, someone from a community organization, we will record everything and we will send them out. During the Policy Party, we will learn from the expert and then we will have an opportunity for live Q&A. So you're hearing, you're learning, you're figuring it out and you have a question that pops up "I'm sure this happens to some of you while you're listening to my podcasts. Maybe I say something and you're like, "Wait a minute, what? I'm confused," or "I want to know more about that." And you want to ask me that question right there. That's how I feel when I'm listening to other people's podcasts. So this will be kind of like a live podcast. But where we can see each other, we can celebrate together, we can figure out how to take action together. And you can ask questions to the expert from the organization that is sharing about the issue that we're learning about.

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So just that information one last time, if you want access to this upcoming Policy Party and all of the ones after join our Patreon community at [patreon.com/firstnamebasis](https://patreon.com/firstnamebasis). And if you just want to buy a one-time ticket to attend an upcoming Policy Party, just go to [firstnamebasis.org/policyparty](https://firstnamebasis.org/policyparty). And I will leave both of those links in the show notes.

 08:20

Okay, let me, before I go, tell you about the upcoming Policy Party that we have next week. So next Tuesday on March 22 at 6:30pm Mountain Time, we will be learning from the Florence Project. The Florence Project helps immigrants and asylum seekers understand their rights, obtain access to legal counsel, and receive their fair and humane treatment. So the Florence Project is working on the front lines of the immigration issue.

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As many of you know, my husband Carter is an attorney. And for the last little while he has been learning and volunteering through the Florence Project. And with their guidance and expertise and their help, he was able to represent a migrant who was in detention. And together they were able to get this migrant out of detention so that he can go through the immigration process while also beginning to build his life here in the United States. And this was such a transformational opportunity for my husband. And he has been talking to me so much about the policies that are affecting the migrant community, the asylum seekers. And he was like, "This is something that I had no idea about." We all hear about the border this, the border that, but we really don't know what's going on. So that's what the Florence Project is going to do at our Policy Party. They're going to explain to us what is happening at the border right now, and we're not going to be talking about who's to blame. We're really going to be talking about solutions-based action. So it's not about this administration or that administration, it's about understanding that no one is doing what we need to do for immigrants and asylum seekers right now, and figuring out what it looks like to make real change, and how we can be part of that.

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So I hope that you will join us for our very first Policy Party next Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 6:30 pm Mountain Time. I'm so excited to learn alongside you, because this is something that I've been wondering about, too. Immigration rights is something that I feel like I've definitely heard of, but I don't know enough about. So I can't wait to learn alongside you. I can't wait to ask questions with you, and figure out how we can make change.

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The other thing I wanted to tell you is that I actually surveyed our Patreon community, and they came up with some really exciting topics for Policy Parties in the future, we're going to be talking about everything from environmental justice, to voting rights, health care, and policies that are affecting people experiencing homelessness. So we have almost the rest of the year figured out because we're going to be doing them every other month, like I mentioned. So we're really, really excited to dig into these issues, to figure out what the policies are, and to figure out how we can work together to be part of that solution. So if you're ready to learn alongside us, either join our Patreon community at [patreon.com/firstnamebasis](https://patreon.com/firstnamebasis), or go to [firstnamebasis.org/policyparty](https://firstnamebasis.org/policyparty) to purchase your ticket and be with us in community next Tuesday night.

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Of course, I will leave those links in the show notes. And if you are listening to this episode after the fact and you're like, "Oh, no, I missed it!" You can always go to [firstnamebasis.org/policyparty](http://firstnamebasis.org/policyparty) to see what the upcoming party will be about. I can't wait to dive into this new phase of allyship and activism together. I just hope you'll join us. It's going to be amazing.

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11:56

My friends, thank you for being here. I hope you can feel how much I believe in you, and how deeply I know that when we work together we can make real change in our communities. Any of the books, podcasts or articles that I reference will be linked in the show notes. If you are looking for more detailed notes, be sure to head over to our Patreon community. On our Patreon site I provide all of the outlines that I use to make the episodes and everything is linked there so you don't have to take furious notes while you are listening. And don't forget to join us over on Instagram [@firstname.basis](https://www.instagram.com/firstname.basis). If you're interested in partnering with First Name Basis or doing some kind of collaboration, please email us at [hello@firstnamebasis.org](mailto:hello@firstnamebasis.org). All right, have a great week my friends and I will talk to you again soon.