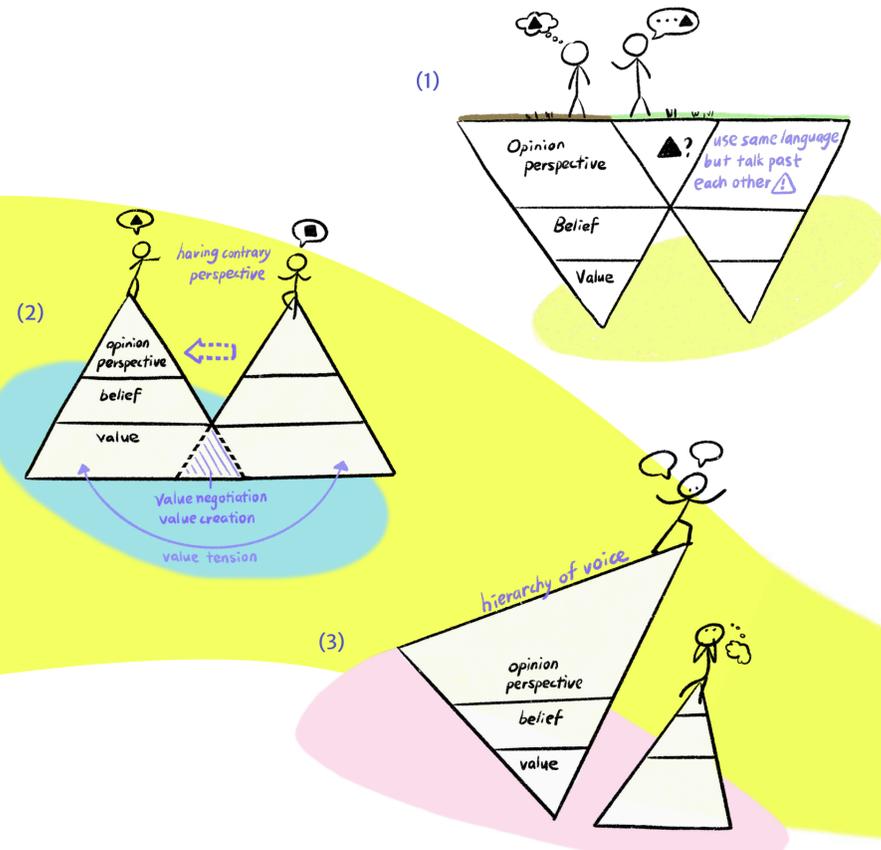


# Embody Brave Space for Value-Centered Discussion

This project explores how Brave Space, where discomfort and respectful disagreement are embraced, can be intentionally designed to support participants in navigating value tensions productively.



## 01 Deep Dive Into Values



## 02 Clash of Perspectives



## 03 Flipping the Tension



## 04 Final Design Deliver

A Field Guide for Embody Brave Space, includes:

1. Portable knowledge that is transferred from research findings (summarized theoretical and empirical insights of this project into an accessible package)
2. Liminality framework as a design compass to support participants in stepping into Brave Space
3. Practical example and facilitator guide for each activity of micro-experiment
4. Facilitation strategies
5. Suggestion for contextual adaptation



## 01 Challenges in Value-Centered Discussion

When diverse stakeholders come together to define project goals and collaborate, challenges frequently arise—

- (1) Agreement stays at high level, people “talk past each other,” having divergent interpretations of what “value” means resulting in a lack of shared understanding.
- (2) Shaped by cultural, institutional, and ideological backgrounds, people may avoid expressing opposing views, stay within limiting beliefs, or hold back to avoid conflict and loss.
- (3) Some participants naturally speak more, while others stay quiet. Power dynamics, social roles, or missing stakeholders outside the room can make the conversation feel one-sided, and important perspectives are left out.

## 02 Project Approach

A design-oriented, iterative process was used, combining principles from **Research through Design** and **Action Research**. I first constructed a liminality-based framework (Safe-Brave-Panic) and then tested it through micro-experiments and evaluate its transferability with a larger, contextual adaptation workshop with Climate Fresk.

Three key modular interventions—**Deep Dive into Values**, **Clash of Perspectives**, and **Flipping the Tension**, were developed to gradually invite and support participants in stepping into Brave Space.

## 03 Results and Key Findings

This project aimed to understand and strategically create Brave Space and design collaborative journeys that support participants in stretching beyond their comfort zones, engaging with unfamiliar perspectives and tensions, and ultimately reaching a deeper connection through difference. The intended impact is progressive, relying on the cultivation of psychological safety and the design of gradual transitions into Brave Space. The findings showed that **embodying Brave Space is not about imposing a dramatic leap on participants, engaging in Brave Space is a gradual process, cultivated through deliberate, well-designed moments of gentle provocations, emotional invitations, and the gradual building of familiarity and trust.** It highlights the significance of “building a sense of security to be brave” and “practicing responsive facilitation” to accommodate the varying levels of mental readiness and psychological safety of different individuals throughout the process. It is important to acknowledge the **individual distinctiveness** and **group dynamics**, responsibly “stretching” or “inviting” participants to engage and express authentically on an equal level.

## A Facilitator's Lens - Liminality Framework

