This is a recording from a Fall, 2021 session of my intermediate level French conversation class, “Intensive French II” at the University of Michigan’s Residential College. This class is the oral discussion component of an intensive, single semester, eight credit course that covers the equivalent of a standard, two-semester, second-year college course. Each week, we discuss a current controversy in the French-speaking world, based on the dialectical format of the textbook *Controverses* (third edition).

The topic of the week in question was “La parité entre les sexes” (Gender Equality) and the recording is from the third of four 50-minute, weekly sessions devoted to this topic. As preparatory work, I assigned the students two articles to read in advance that present opposing views on French sex equality laws. I also divided the class into two groups, each responsible for answering questions on one of the articles. I designed the homework and introductory exercise in the classroom to help students understand the arguments for and against these laws presented by the prominent French intellectuals featured in the articles, and to express themselves on the issues involved. I then facilitated a full group discussion on these and other laws created to promote equal treatment between men and women around the world. In the last part of the class, I presented statistics on the concrete effects of these laws in France as of 2011, including on the percentage of the women in the Senate and regional parliaments, along with comparable figures for other legislatures around the world.

Please note that the lecture itself begins at around 4’30’’ of the recording. From approximately 7’55” to 16’10”, students engage in a small group activity that is, unfortunately, not captured on the video. Thereafter, the video captures the larger group work through the end of the session.