A Questioning Framework for Focus Groups

Here is an example of the roadmap that focus groups with Miwok Indians might follow to find out the best way to promote change around tobacco use within their culture.

**Warm up**
1. Tell us your name and one adjective that describes Miwok culture.

**Introductory**
2. What values do you feel are important in the Miwok community?

**Transitional**
3. If you had to rank these values in terms of importance, which would be at the top of the list? [What makes you think that?]
4. What are some differences between the values of Miwok culture and those of non-Indian communities in the area?

**Key Questions**
5. What are some typical social blunders non-natives make when interacting with Miwok people? [What are the social cues they miss? What behaviors are offensive to Miwoks? What is the best way for non-natives to learn about Miwok cultural practices? Do you feel it is important for non-natives to understand Miwok culture?]
6. How can non-natives establish relationships in a Miwok community? [How can they gain entry? How can building trust with the people?]
7. Who are the leaders in your community? [Are these the people who make positive changes in your community? Can you give an example of a positive change recently? Would you follow these individuals if they were promoting healthy ways of living?]
8. Has any of these tribal leaders created policies to help your community stay healthy? [If you wanted to promote healthy living in the community, would you use policies to achieve that? How would you achieve it? Whose help would you need? What methods would be most effective in getting the message out?]

**Ending Questions**
9. What motivates Miwok people to get involved with community action?
10. Is there anything else you think I should know about working with Miwok communities?