Dialogue is failing or more accurately dialogue is fading away and to say that it is because of sites like Facebook and a highly commoditised capitalist world is in some ways burying the lead because I think the issue lies in the individuality fallacy.

Facebook does not undermine dialogue because it only involves the form communication takes and to that end it is harmless with reference to dialogue. The content in this case is what is amiss and to rectify this is propose a self-involved respect for others. The everyday prevailing notion of individuality implies that the individual ought to seek their own ends and that they are the masters of their destiny. This constitutes a fallacy because what many people fail to consider is that you cannot even begin to have a sense of self without others. There is no such thing as individuality because that sense of self you have and rightfully cherish has developed based on a locus of experience that you weave together to form what you call your *self.* Experience is a constant engagement with the outside world, and the way you engage and interpret the outside world is based on your orientation. You may think of yourself as a true individual because you shed yourself of your families narrow minded conservativeness and became more liberal, but how can you even begin to consider yourself as an individual when all you did was leave one perspective and latched on to another. Consider that you only really could have made that decision as a matter of taste and not truth as such because there is no method to validate or confirm that that perspective is the one reasonable choice, for who on earth can say without a doubt that this perspective is right and this perspective is wrong? Therefore all decisions of orientation are either hereditary or matters of taste but both are choices that inform or form your locus of experience. Your individuality is therefore a highly predicated entity and individuality is an illusion. It is therefore wrong or at least constitutes an issue to serve just your own ends knowing that so much of who you are is owed to people around you and people’s ideas that have shaped the world around you.

So what does this have to do with dialogue then? Well, in a word, everything. If there is no pure individuality, then it stands to reason that that which you call your ‘self’ is owed to everyone else. That teenager who wears their torn jeans should thank in part the grunge movement and perhaps even Kurt Cobain. The coffee guzzling existentialist absorbed in deep introspection and suspicion owes his scepticism to Jean-Paul Sartre who owes his entire cannon to Edmund Husserl, who owes his prestige to Hegel who owes his fervour to Kant, who owes his dense justifications to St. Augustine, who owes his ideas to Plato and Jesus Christ, who develops a new normative system based upon the old Jewish prophets, who owe their edicts to God. If you want to do something truly radical then always be humble-understand that that person you are talking to, and every person you have ever encountered has in some way, however small, shaped who you think you are.

At the end of this juncture I would like to add a few words; you are an individual but that thing that you call your individuality is not yours it is both made up of and makes others. If you want to fix dialogue then make sure you understand that the conversation you are having develops your sense of self and the other persons, so you are therefore creating something every time you are engaged in dialogue.