

Storytelling: Speaking

Lesson 4



TAKE POWER. GIVE BACK.

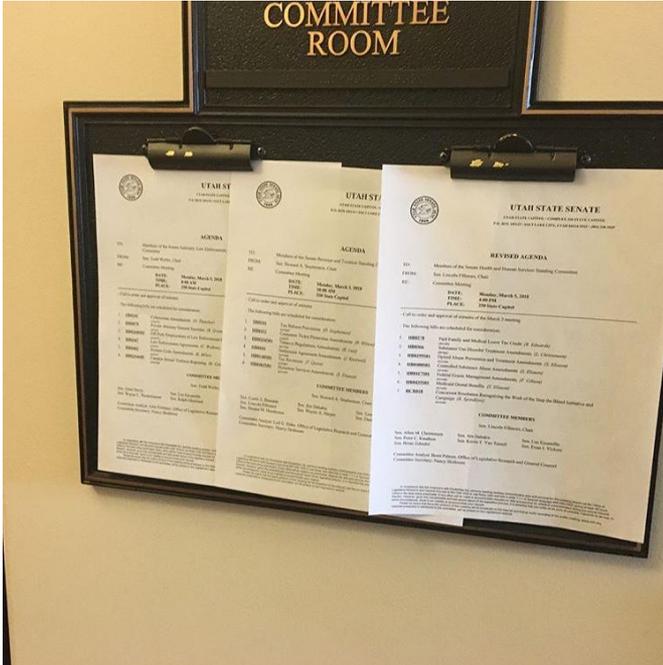
The Power You Wield



“Testifying has helped me understand that one individual's behavior and actions make a **difference**. That my actions are important to people other than myself.”

Anita Hill

Testifying



Editorials vs. Testimonies

Editorials:

- Read **silently**.
- **Longer** format.

Speeches:

- Spoken **aloud**.
- **Shorter** format.

How do we convert the passion and structure of our written words into effective **speeches**?

Structuring Testimony

1. Introduce **yourself!**
"Chair _____, members of the committee" For the record, state your name, address, and the organization or group you represent (if applicable).
2. Introduce your **story**.
3. Introduce your **beliefs** about the bill.
4. Discuss **why** you believe it: find statistics/studies, answer opposing arguments, etc.
5. Call to **action**: tell your legislator how you want them to vote!

Structuring Testimony

Example:

1. Introduce Yourself

Chair Jones, members of the committee my name is Sarah Harmon and I live in South Jordan.

2. Introduce Your Story

Last December, I sat down on my parents' bathroom floor as my friend described the events of the night before — the night she was raped. This is not the only time I have dealt with rape. This is not the only bathroom confession I've heard. This is only the most recent.

3. Introduce what you believe about the bill and why

Legislators supporting House Bill 254 argue that protecting the campus community from abusers must be prioritized, even at the cost of a victim's privacy and desires. But protecting survivors is the only way to protect communities. The opposite of rape is ownership of your body. Reclaiming that ownership is central to healing. A community that strips control from survivors is a community where women do not feel safe reporting sexual assault. It is a community where rapists will not only escape punishment, they will escape notice. Communities that fail to prioritize the needs of survivors are not safe communities.

4. Tell them how to vote!

Vote no on HB254 to allow survivors to reclaim their autonomy.

Delivering Testimony

Persuasive speakers take power and give back by:

- Knowing more than they say
- Asking directly for what they want
- Being confident in tone and posture

We can **become** persuasive speakers by:

- Practicing our speeches in the mirror
- Varying our pitch and rate
- Speak slowly and firmly
- Lifting our chins and letting our brilliance shine!

To-Do's

1. Turn your **op-ed** into a speech!
2. Submit a **video** of you delivering your speech.
3. Watch three videos of Parkland students controlling platforms!



GIRLS
LOBBY



TAKE POWER. GIVE BACK.