





## Quiz: What kind of storyteller are you?

This quiz should help you figure out how to pick a medium to share your story that plays to your strengths, but is definitely not an exact science -- go with your gut and what you're most comfortable with!

### **Question 1: What was your favorite subject in school?**

- a) Social Studies -- I love learning about history and politics!
- b) English -- Writing and revising are my favorite!
- c) Music -- Performing for an audience is my passion!
- d) Gym -- I love team sports!

### **Question 2: If you had to play a sport, which would you pick?**

- a) Gymnastics -- I love the intensity of performing for a judge!
- b) Baseball -- I love how strategic and historic the game is!
- c) Soccer -- I want to make a highlight-reel play in front of millions of fans!
- d) Volleyball -- I love how every member of the team needs to work together!

### **Question 3: If you could choose the format for a final project, what would you pick?**

- a) A presentation to the class -- got to utilize my public speaking skills!
- b) A big paper -- I express myself best in writing and am not a fan of public speaking.
- c) A creative project like a video or poster -- I love to express myself creatively!
- d) A group project -- I'm great at collaborating with others.

### **Question 4: If you have an issue with an authority figure (parent, teacher, boss, etc.), how do you address it?**

- a) I tell them directly, to their face if possible.
- b) I write a letter, email, or text, so I don't lose my cool in the face of authority.
- c) I rally support from my friends/the world on social media to pressure the authority figure to change their behavior.
- d) I pull together a group of peers/siblings to coordinate a response as a team.

## **Question 5: You just got engaged! How are you sharing the news?**

- a) Planning a party with my friends and family to tell everyone I care about.
- b) Sending an email/text to my friends and family -- this is big news, it's important to get the wording of it just right!
- c) Posting a picture of the ring on social media -- my followers will love this!
- d) All the people I care about were already here, they helped me plan the proposal!

### **Results:**

#### ***Responded mostly "a": The Speaker***

Speaking to lawmakers is the way to go! Whether it's giving testimony in a committee hearing or in a one-on-one meeting, you are great at facing authority and sharing your story live. Opportunities to look out for are: committee hearings, advocacy days where you can meet one-on-one or in a small group with your lawmaker, or calling hotlines/lawmakers' offices to share your story.

#### ***Responded mostly "b": The Author***

Publishing your written story will be the best way to make your voice heard. Whether public speaking makes you nervous or you just express yourself best in writing, written testimony is the medium for you! Opportunities to look out for are: op-eds or letters to the editor in your local paper, filling out surveys with your story, or writing emails/letters to your lawmakers.

#### ***Responded mostly "c": The Influencer***

Sharing your story on social media is the way to go! Whether it's writing your story on an Instagram post or Twitter thread or recording videos for Tiktok or Youtube, you'll be great at sharing your story to the masses to rally support. On your personal account or an advocacy group's page, you can make a broad impact by posting on social media.

#### ***Responded mostly "d": The Team Player***

Whatever the medium, you thrive when you work with a team to rally support for your cause. Being in a group allows you to play to your strengths without bearing the burden alone. Opportunities to look out for are: Signing petitions, attending advocacy days and rallies, joining advocacy groups, attending community meetings, and filling out surveys/sending emails to lawmakers.

## Exercise: Craft Your Message

Once you've brainstormed your story and chosen your audience, it's time to hone the details to make it an effective advocacy tool. Effective advocates build power and momentum by combining emotion, facts, and solutions in their storytelling.

### Example: Support Investments in GBV Services

Hello, my name is [NAME] and I'm a resident of [DISTRICT]. I am here to advocate for making TANF more equitable for Black clients and help folks be able to access more time if they are still in need.



As a former TANF recipient, I've experienced firsthand how direct cash assistance helps folks break the cycle of poverty and build self-sufficiency. However, I've also felt the effects of the racism embedded in TANF time limits and the process of getting hardship exemptions. I've seen and experienced how Black clients get cut off from their benefits at a much higher rate than our portion of the caseload.



HB 2048 makes an important, and long overdue, fix that will make the TANF more equitable and help folks be able to access more time if they are still in need.

Please support families' abilities to meet their basic needs by supporting HB 2048. Thank you for your time and consideration.



= Solution



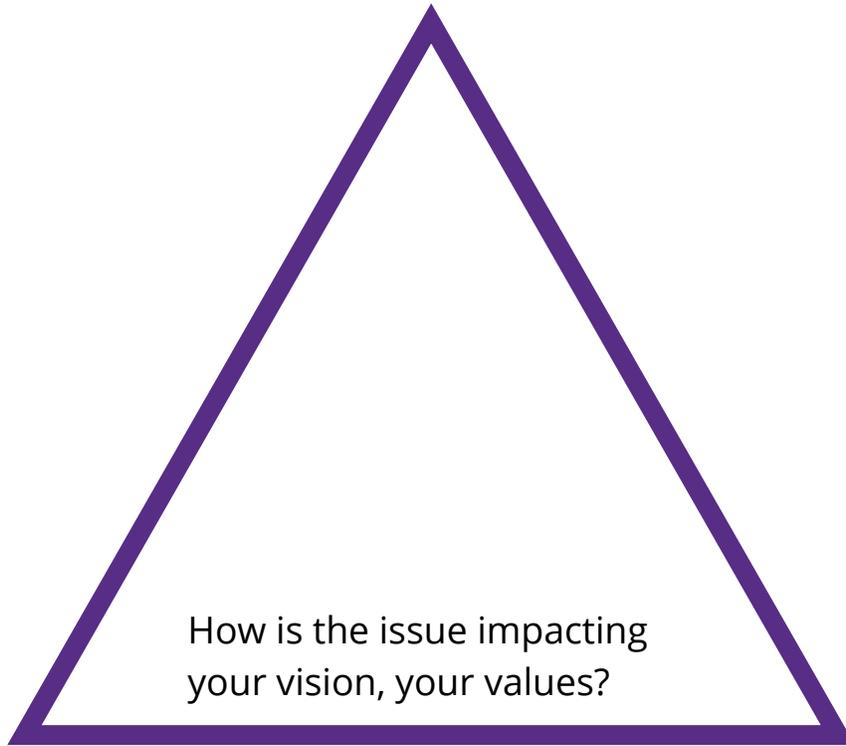
= Values/Vision



= Issue

**Using the diagram on the next page, review your story and distill the specific issues you faced, the solutions that helped you (or could have helped you), and the values/vision those solutions embody. This will help you hone your story into an advocacy tool.**

**The Policy (a solution)**



**The Issue (facts)**

**Values (emotion)**

**Draft Your Own!**



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## Putting the Pieces Together

When we tell our story, we shatter stereotypes and show our lawmakers that their decisions have a real impact.

1. Think about the issues we are working on...  
Which of these have touched your life?



- Direct cash assistance to help folks meet their basic needs
- Innovative poverty reduction efforts like Guaranteed Basic Income
- Access to dental care
- Increasing equitable access to cash assistance by ending policies with historically racialized outcomes
- Building safe and vibrant communities by continuing the conversation on public safety and holding police accountable

2. Lead with your values and how you believe the world should work.

*"I believe..."*

*"We all deserve..."*



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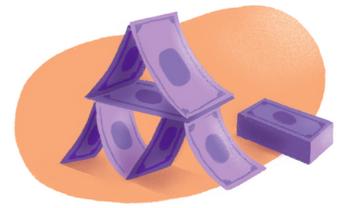
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**3. Share your experience with the issue.  
Explain how it does not match your values.**



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**4. What is the solution and how does it align with your values?  
Explain what steps should be taken.**



*“One way to make things better is...”*

*“Bill # \_\_\_\_\_ would....”*



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