

4-STORY FRAMEWORK FOR ORGANIZATIONS

- Value Story - Why are we about this mission?
- Founder Story - Where are we rooted?
- Purpose Story - What holds us together?
- Community Story - Who is the narrative centering?

4-STORIES ADAPTED FROM "STORIES THAT STICK"



- principles to be adapted
- a few stories along the way
- practices and policies to consider
- time for Q&A

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Organizations
- Communities
- Individuals

as we join God's story in the world

TODAY'S OBJECTIVE

We envision narrative change in every direction

INTRODUCTION
HEARING ONE ANOTHER

How can I contribute or get involved?

<p>Donate Today Partner with Abara in support of Border Response</p>	<p>Go Deeper Recommended resources are available upon request</p>
<p>Share Your Experience What thoughts, perspectives, or ideas come to mind?</p>	<p>Make an Introduction Connect Abara to others interested in supporting narrative change</p>
<p>Host a Gathering Gather friends in your city (or living room) to process these principles together</p>	

General Inquiries

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- DIGNITY FIRST
- SAFETY ALWAYS
- FOLLOW LOCAL LEADERSHIP
- WHEN IN DOUBT, ASK PERMISSION
- IF THIS WERE MY CHILD
- SHARE THE STRENGTHS (ASSETS) OF THE COMMUNITY
- HONOR HONOR STORY
- LISTEN FOR WHAT IS NOT BEING SAID
- CHECK MY MOTIVES
- DO NO HARM
- ETHICAL AND DIGNIFIED
- TELL YOUR STORY (ON YOUR OWN TERMS)

12 PRINCIPLES FOR ETHICAL STORYTELLING

builder locally or globally.

help to anyone who desires to be an effective bridge anything on social media. We hope these steps can be of enter a space, before taking a photo, or before posting to remember the following principles before we're invited to others. When interacting with our neighbors, we try to story can work for the empowerment or detriment of Ultimately, the way we see, listen, or participate within a neighbor or volunteer.

SIDENOTE
We will cover a few quick thoughts & tips intended to help you sustain friendships between cultures - while visiting a family, home, school, global village, or as a local neighbor or volunteer.
How does our budget reflect our values?

WELCOME
APPLYING THESE PRINCIPLES

ETHICAL STORYTELLING

Simple Steps for Honoring the Story of Others



DIGNITY FIRST

In the words of Dr. John Perkins, "We don't give people dignity, we affirm it."

Are we willing to be fully present with our neighbors to be sure we honor every person's inherent worth? When we return home, how will we share what we saw, heard, or experienced? Everything rests on relationship.

What is Dignity? What does it look like to be fully present with our neighbors?

SAFETY ALWAYS

- When interacting with children (or anyone), are we thinking clearly about the wellbeing and cultural norms of those we are with?
- Are we aware of the surrounding reality, safety, or authority (school, family, parents, village)?
- If something seems to be in question, check immediately with a local neighbor or community leader

FOLLOW LOCAL LEADERSHIP

Emotions can feel heightened or exposed while meeting new neighbors or when seeking to understand the reality of other people's lives or cultures.

Even the most seasoned neighbor or volunteer is capable of missing the mark on standard etiquette, stumbling through cultural faux pas, or unintentionally committing a social error.

Over time, we learn from local leaders and their wisdom We're seeking quality of friendship not perfection

What are things you have learned from making mistakes with unfamiliar cultural norms?

"Ultimately, the way we see, listen, or participate within a story can work for the empowerment or detriment of others."

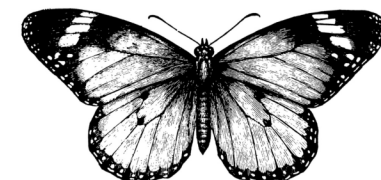
WHEN IN DOUBT, ASK PERMISSION

We want to be mindful of our neighbor's dignity. We choose to ask permission before taking a photo. If we are with an adult - we ask directly. If we are with children - we will check first with a parent, teacher, leader or translator.

This requires discernment - sometimes life presents powerful moments that need to be captured - especially with friends or partners or when a story needs to be shared later for the sake of justice.

We choose to err on the side of asking first and going slow.

What are reasons one might say no to a picture? What are reasons one might say yes, when they would rather say no?



IF THIS WERE MY CHILD

If this visit were reversed and a group was visiting my child's school, our neighborhood, home, or faith community - how would I respond as a parent or leader?

Do I want people posting photos of my children online without my permission?

Is this a public space and do we have permission from local leaders or parents here?

We commit to our neighbor's timeline, to seek to understand with adaptability, grace, and patience. We believe every person has something to give, something to offer. We choose mutually, reciprocity, and solidarity as givers and receivers, learners and listeners. We commit to remember that we are a guest in someone else's sacred space. We will work for the empowerment and dignity of everyone we encounter with justice, mercy, and humility - as far as it depends on us.

DO NO HARM

ETHICAL AND DIGNIFIED

TELL YOUR STORY (ON YOUR OWN TERMS)

- We recognize that just because a situation is ethical does not mean our practice is dignified (and vice versa); And just because an unfolding story or policy is legal does not make it moral or ethical
 - Stories hold power to re-imagine life and change the trajectory of harmful narratives toward elevating beauty, empowerment, resilience, spiritual strength and flourishing and yet:
 - Stories from the margins are too often silenced, hijacked, misrepresented, unheard, or under-heard
 - We recognize the power of how narratives shape history, repeat history, or perpetuate the pain and harm of irresponsible faith, violence of many forms, xenophobia, white supremacy, and White Christian Nationalism (WCN) in our current global moment
 - We aim to de-center stories of privilege as the focal point and re-center stories from the margins, while honoring the inherent worth and dignity of all people
 - What's string here when we think about ethical AND dignified?
- We recognize that stories are sacred and are meant to be invitational
 - We commit to healthy boundaries with our own pain, our loved ones and neighbors: We will not pressure others to share their stories
 - We are mindful of those around us by paying attention with empathy, solidarity, and awareness as much as possible
 - We recognize the power of story to speak Truth as a means of conciliation, restorative justice, healing, and peace building as an expression of good news
 - We commit to storytelling, poetry, spoken word, cultural traditions, and liberating language that hold space on one's own terms and that of one's community and agency
 - We imagine new ways for storytelling to emerge for the sake of healing without re-traumatizing others (or ourselves) from suffering and pain
 - Have you ever felt pressure to tell your story? Where have I seen the power of story as an agent of healing?

SHARE THE STRENGTHS (ASSETS) OF THE COMMUNITY

Beauty is everywhere: in the life of every person, neighborhood, and nation.

While there are deep pockets of poverty and pain and the odds are often stacked against communities - how can we share the beauty, strength and resilience of a story?

How can we emphasize what neighbors want shared or prefer to share for themselves? How can we amplify the voices of those who often feel silenced? Where have you seen beauty, strength, and resilience in the larger story in your community?

WORD OF GRATITUDE

This resource is intended as a starting point to build upon as an attempt to honor those who've gone ahead of us.

This small booklet is a reflection of principals and practices we're learning over the course of our vocational journey.

This work is an extension of countless leaders known and unknown, those off the beaten path, and many others in pursuit of meaningful action informed by deep reflection.

This project is only made possible through the collective wisdom of neighbors and friends who continue to speak into our lives through their patient mentoring.

- Nate Ledbetter

LISTEN FOR WHAT IS NOT BEING SAID

- Body language speaks louder than words. Listen between the lines, between the pause, or for the larger story that we are entering
- When we don't understand a situation, we choose to wait until an appropriate time to learn more
- When we sense relational tension, we seek to understand over being understood
- We choose to honor the presence of our neighbors in solidarity, with compassion and for the empowerment of others
- It's not about us - it's about the dignity of those around us

What would it be like to look at the larger story or history we are entering instead of just the personal interaction?

CHECK MY MOTIVES

We learn over time to ask ourselves crucial questions when we encounter a compelling story:

Why am I taking this photo? What is the big idea behind this story or video or social media update? Am I unintentionally exposing another person's pain or story for my own gain?

Or am I freely and joyfully aligned with my sister and brother in a way that honors the dreams and desires of my neighbor while sharing this story or media update?

A FEW RESOURCES

These are A FEW starting points and are not intended to be comprehensive.

Social Media Policy Sample (available upon request)

Asylum Narrative Translation Project of Abara.org
with Angelica "Lica" Acosta Garnett

"The Fire Next Time" by James Baldwin

"Seeing Jesus in East Harlem" by Jose Humphreys

"Using Story to Change Systems" by Ella Saltmarsh |

Social Standford Review

"Seeing the Generative Story of Our Time"

via On Being with Krista Tippett

The Voices Project | voices-project.org

CCDA.org | Ethical Storytelling Online Training

"Stories That Stick" by Kindra Hall

"Resonate: Present Visual Stories That Transform

Audiences" by Nancy Duarte

The King Center | Nonviolence365@ | thekingcenter.org

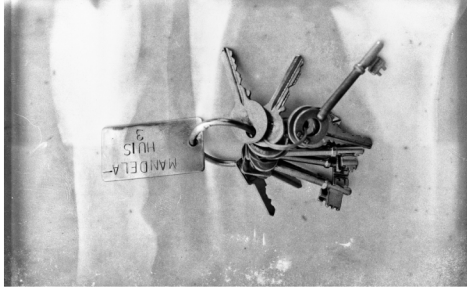
HONOR STORY

Every person and place has a story, a narrative that we're entering, a history that we want to know over time.

To whom does the story belong? Would our new neighbors feel honored if they heard us sharing a story or photo with someone else? Would we share the story or photo differently if a neighbor was sitting next to us?

Is this experience, or knowledge, meant to be "held" (not shared) rather than shared for this wider audience?

What story is our place/land telling? What is the cry of this place and people? How do we honor our neighbors in the sharing of their story?



The Forum Daily with via Immigrationforum.org

"Quoting Immigrants: Media Toolkit for Anonymous Resources" via DefineAmerican.com

"Reimagining Immigration News: North

Carolina's Case for the Nation" via

DefineAmerican.com

"The Danger of a Single Story" by Chimamanda

Ngozi Adichie's | TED Talk

"The God Who Sees" by Karen Gonzalez

Unsettling Truths The Ongoing, Dehumanizing

Legacy of the Doctrine of Discovery"

by Mark Charles & Soong-Chan Rah

The Redemptive Non-profit: A Playbook for

Leaders redemptionnonprofit.org

Dynahlee Padilla-Vasquez of the UN Foundation