

My name is **Fred Korematsu** and I advocated on behalf of the rights of Japanese Americans during World War II. I refused to be relocated to an internment camp and, after the war, I sued the government for violating the rights of American citizens. Because of my efforts against injustice, every person who was interned received \$20,000 in retribution.

My name is **Mary McLeod Bethune** and during the first half of the 20th Century, I advocated for poor black children who were denied a public education in the rural south. My mother and father were former slaves and taught me (and my 16 brothers and sisters) the value of education. After I finished my schooling, I paid money out of my own pocket to establish a school in a one-room shack that later became a well-endowed college for African-Americans. I believed in the right of every person to get an education.

My name is **Candy Lightner**. After my 13-year-old daughter was killed by a drunk driver, I advocated for stricter drunk driving laws and founded MADD, Mothers Against Drunk Driving. Because I cared enough to take a stand, the roads are safer places for everyone.

My name is **Theodore Roosevelt**. I was the 26th president of the United States and I advocated on behalf of the western wilderness. I wanted to make sure that this beautiful land was preserved for future generations like you. Because of my efforts, the national park system was established.

My name is **John Lewis** and I advocated on behalf of the rights of coal miners. My dad was an immigrant coal miner, and I became a miner too and learned about the tremendous dangers of working deep under the earth. After an accident killed 160 miners, I pressured the state legislature to pass safety measures. Because of my actions, coal mines are safer places to work.

My name is **Harriet Tubman** and I advocated for the end of slavery in this country. I was a runaway slave myself and became a “conductor” in the Underground Railroad, a network of secret hiding places and food stops that helped lead southern slaves to freedom in the north. I dared to risk my life for what I believed in and helped bring more than 300 slaves, including my aging parents, to freedom.

My name is **Jane Addams** and I advocated for poor people and immigrants living in the slums of Chicago. When I was 27, it felt like my life didn't have any purpose. I was too young to feel this way! So I decided to take up a cause and pledged to devote my intelligence and creativity to improving the lives of the urban poor. Two years later, I opened Hull House, a community center that focused on giving poor people hope and self-respect. I fed the hungry, clothed the needy and brought medical care into their lives. President Theodore Roosevelt named me "America's most useful citizen."

My name is **Maggie Kuhn** and I founded the Gray Panthers to advocate for the elderly and to fight discrimination based on age. The Gray Panthers supported legislation to regulate nursing homes, monitored banks and courts, and worked to end stereotyping of older people in the media. I think it's outrageous that both the old and young are not taken seriously. People in power positions think "the old don't know much" because we "don't do much." And they think of children as not having much to say because they're children. Yet we both are free to change society!

My name is **Sarah Brady** and I fought on behalf of gun control. My husband Jim was press secretary to President Ronald Reagan when the President was shot and wounded in 1981. Jim got shot too—in the head—and he's now permanently disabled. I decided to take a public stand in support of gun control and pressed senators to pass a bill requiring a 7-day waiting period before a person can buy a gun. The Brady Bill passed in 1993.

My name is **Fannie Lou Hamer** and I was one of thousands of ordinary people who fought for civil rights for African Americans in the 1960s. After I and 17 others registered to vote in Mississippi, the police stopped our bus and threw us in jail because they said the bus was painted the wrong color. That same night people shot bullets into my house. But that didn't stop me. I continued to work on behalf of voting rights and equal rights for all.

My name is **Humberto Medeiros** and I advocated on behalf of Mexican American migrant workers in the 1950s. I was a humble Catholic priest, and then a bishop in Brownsville, Texas. Most of my parishioners were migrant workers and I supported them when they went on strike to ask for a decent, living wage.

My name is **Harvey Milk** and I advocated on behalf of civil rights for gay Americans. I was the country's first openly gay public official in San Francisco. I fought for the defeat of Proposition 6, a state initiative that would have made it illegal for gay people to teach in public schools.

My name is **Cesar Chavez** and I advocated on behalf of immigrant farm workers. I came from a family of migrant workers and watched Mexican-Americans come to California and work for wages so low that they couldn't feed or clothe their families. Their children had to quit school to work in the fields and the pesticides made them sick and burned their eyes. They were housed in shacks that didn't even have drinking water. I was outraged and organized a union called the United Farm Workers of America. Because I cared enough to take action, many farm workers now enjoy higher wages and better living conditions.

My name is **Ryan White** and I advocated for people with AIDS. I contracted AIDS through a blood transfusion when I was 13. After that, I wasn't welcome anywhere. People in my hometown fought to keep me out of school, I was the target of jokes and lies, and our house was frequently vandalized. Waiters would throw away the dishes I had eaten off of. Even in church, people refused to shake my hand. I realized that all of this happened out of ignorance and fear. So I decided to dedicate my life to educating people about the disease. I traveled around the country with my mom, talking about AIDS and answering questions about my experience. When I died at age 18, people were finally beginning to get it: AIDS is a disease, not a dirty word.

My name is **Marion Wright Edelman** and I am an advocate for children's rights. In 1973 I founded the Children's Defense League to provide a voice for children who don't have a voice or a vote in national politics, particularly those who are poor or handicapped. I continue to lobby on behalf of children's rights to be sure the country's youngest citizens are taken into account when legislators make public policy.

My name is **Samuel Gridley Howe** and I'm considered the father of the disability rights movement. I was a doctor in the 1800s and worked mainly with the blind. I hated to see blind or other disabled people abandoned or shut away in institutions, which was common back then. I believed in the fundamental humanity of all people and insisted that the disabled should be treated with confidence, rather than pity. I opened up many schools that helped integrate disabled people into mainstream society.

My name is **Sojourner Truth** and I spoke out for both the abolition of slavery and for women's rights. I don't even know exactly when I was born. I only count my age from the time I was emancipated from slavery. That's when I began to live. After that, I decided to travel through the country, preaching a message of universal equality.

My name is **Susan B. Anthony** and I advocated on behalf of the human rights of women. I decided to vote in the 1872 presidential election—and found myself arrested and fined \$100 (a lot of money back then)! I organized a door-to-door campaign to collect signatures for a petition to give women the right to vote and to own their own property. This became a model for other grass-roots organizers.

My name is **Josephine Griffing**. I was a white woman who advocated on behalf of slaves and freed slaves. My home in Ohio was a stop on the underground railroad where I offered rest and safety to escaped slaves. I spoke up at hundreds of antislavery meetings and lobbied Congress to end slavery. After slavery was abolished, I lobbied Congress again to help rebuild the lives of freed slaves. Just freeing slaves was not enough, I insisted. The country had to make up for its horrendous past treatment of African Americans.

My name is **Paul Cuffe** and I advocated for African American voting rights after the American Revolution. I was a black business leader in Massachusetts. I owned a small fleet of trading ships and paid my taxes like other citizens, but because I was black, I was denied the right to vote. So I sent a petition to the Massachusetts legislature. They rejected it, but I didn't give up. I refused to pay my taxes-and got thrown in jail. In 1783, a Massachusetts court ruled that black male taxpayers had a right to vote.

My name is **Cleveland Amory** and I helped organize the animal activist movement. In 1967, I founded the Fund for Animals. Our motto was, “We speak for those who can’t.” I raised awareness of animal cruelty and took steps to end animal abuse. For instance, our group helped save baby seals that were being clubbed to death in Canada for their coats. We bought a British trawler (boat) and painted the seals with organic red dye that didn’t hurt the seals, but that made their fur worthless to hunters.

My name is **Tecumseh** and I was a chief of the Shawnee tribe who advocated on behalf of all Native Americans. I believed that where there is unity, there is strength. So I tried to unite all Native American tribes from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico to oppose the white settlers who were encroaching on our land and threatening our way of life. I spent much of my career campaigning among the tribes of the Old Northwest Territories to win recruits to this confederate cause.

My name is **Clara Barton** and I advocated on behalf of those who are victims of war and natural disasters. During the Civil War, even though nurses weren't allowed on the battlefields, I went anyway to help the wounded and dying soldiers. I later founded the American Red Cross, devoted to the relief of suffering in peace as well as in war.

My name is **Thurgood Marshall** and I was the first African American to serve on the Supreme Court of the United States. Etched in stone over its entrance are the words “Equal Justice Under Law” and I was committed to applying those words to all people, black and white. I advocated on behalf of the racial integration of schools. I believed that a segregated education was not an equal education. Because of my efforts, boys and girls of all races and ethnicities can go to school together.

I wish I had a neck as long as a giraffe so I would have that much time to consider what I was about to say before it came out of my mouth.

Attributed to Hazrat Ali, an early Muslim leader

Do unto others as
you would have
them do unto you.

The Golden Rule, Judeo/Christian tradition

A pebble cast into a pond
causes ripples that spread
in all directions. Each one
of our thoughts, words
and deeds is like that.

Dorothy Day (1897-1980)

Pause before you speak and ask yourself two questions about what you are about to say: “Is this true? Is this useful?” If your words don't meet both criteria, it's wise not to say anything at all.

Buddhist tradition, concept of “wise speech”

Be swift to hear,
slow to speak, slow
to wrath.

James 1:19, The Bible

I have often
regretted my
speech, never my
silence.

Publius Syrus (First Century, B.C.)

The music that can
deepest reach, and
cure all ill, is
cordial speech.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Three people are damaged
by gossip: the gossiper, the
listener, and the victim.
One simple comment can
travel far, damaging
everyone in its wake.

Jewish proverb

Unit 4, Meeting 3 – Student Handout

“Consequence” Case Studies

Case Study 1

At the start of the year, students on the Rule Committee decided to establish a rule against weapons. Guns, knives, and other potentially dangerous weapons are not allowed on school property under any circumstances.

Last Friday, a math teacher caught an 11th grade boy showing his dad’s survival knife to a friend out on the ball field. The teacher has sent the case to the Student Discipline Committee to handle.

- 1) Should there be a consequence? Why or why not?
- 2) If so, brainstorm a list of possible consequences.
- 3) Decide on the best consequence. Explain the reasons for your choice.

Unit 4, Meeting 3 – Student Handout

“Consequence” Case Studies

Case Study 2

At the start of the year, students on the Rule Committee decided to establish a rule against graffiti and tagging in the new high school.

Late yesterday afternoon, after the varsity basketball game, a coach caught two girls spraying graffiti on the side of the gymnasium building. The coach yelled at the girls and gave them a lecture. This morning he handed the case over to the Student Discipline Committee to determine what should be done next.

- 1) Should there be consequences? Why or why not?
- 2) If so, brainstorm a list of possible consequences.
- 3) Decide on the best consequence. Explain the reasons for your choice.

Unit 4, Meeting 3 – Student Handout

“Consequence” Case Studies

Case Study 3

At the start of the year, students on the Rule Committee decided to establish a rule against stealing.

Yesterday after lunch, a 9th grade girl discovered that someone had broken into her locker and stolen her cell phone and iPod. Later in the day, a 10th grade girl was caught with the stolen goods in her backpack. She claims that another boy gave her the goods and that she had nothing to do with the robbery. The case has been sent to the Student Discipline Committee to handle.

- 1) Should there be consequences? Why or why not?
- 2) If so, brainstorm a list of possible consequences.
- 3) Decide on the best consequence. Explain the reasons for your choice.

Unit 4, Meeting 3 – Student Handout

“Consequence” Case Studies

Case Study 4

At the start of the year, students on the Rule Committee decided to establish a rule against fighting.

After lunch today, a 10th grader came to a member of the Student Discipline Committee and reported that he overheard a group of senior guys talking about jumping a sophomore after school. He names names and says he’s afraid the sophomore is going to be badly hurt.

You call an emergency Committee meeting to discuss what to do.

- 1) Should there be consequences? Why or why not?
- 2) If so, brainstorm a list of possible consequences.
- 3) Decide on the best consequence. Explain the reasons for your choice.