

Storytelling for Social Justice

As a multicultural society, the United States is rich with the stories of the diverse groups that make up this country. Not all stories are equally acknowledged, affirmed or valued. Many stories survive through resistance in the face of a status quo that marginalizes, and often silences, their telling, thus diminishing their truths. Through candid dialogue, [Storytelling for Social Justice](#) explores the stories we tell ourselves and each other about our society.

The technique invites participants to tell their own stories, through four different story types:

1. **Stock stories** are the stories we hear all the time, true or not. They are the accepted narrative about an organization's culture and climate, and often reproduce bias. They are transmitted explicitly and implicitly.
2. **Concealed stories** are in the shadow of stock stories. These stories can be hidden and not shared explicitly. They often disrupt stock stories, or provide different perspectives.
3. **Resistance stories** are stories that may emerge from concealed stories. These are public or known stories that challenge the status quo about what is stock and what is concealed.
4. **Transformation stories** have not been heard before. They are stories that intentionally envision a future culture and climate and suggest change. These stories emerge from thoughtful analysis and careful study of culture and history that point toward action/change.