

1



Inning #6 Going to the Bullpen: How the Media Can Help You

The Webinar will begin at 10:00am Participant Dial In Number: 1-855-897-5763

nystateofhealth.ny.gov



Today's Webinar

- Dial in to the audio portion of the webinar using the telephone number on the Audio tab. Audio is transmitted through the telephone only, not through computer speakers.
- All participants will remain muted for the duration of the program.
- Questions can be submitted using the Q&A tab on your Webex control panel; we will pause periodically to take questions.
- To participate in polling, you must use your own computer.
- A recording of the webinar and any related materials will be available online and emailed to all registrants.



Agenda

- Introductions
- Recap of Inning #5
- Going to the Bullpen: How the Media Can Help You
- Questions & Answers
- Conclusion



Presenters

Welcome

Donna Frescatore - Executive Director, NY State of Health **Bill Schwarz** – Director, NYS DOH, Public Affairs Group

• Today's Presenters from Ketchum New York

Tom Barritt

Partner/Managing Director Communications Training Network



Paul Wood

Executive Vice President and Group Manager





Inning #5: Effectively Handling Free Agents Evaluation Survey Results

Here's what you said:

- More than 93% said it "increased my knowledge of the topic(s)."
- More than 91% said "there was sufficient information shared that will enable me to successfully enroll self-employed applicants into coverage."

"Everything was excellent!"

- "Much happier with slower pace."
- "Your examples today were very useful and not simplistic. Thank you for that."
- "Spend more time on examples."

Complete the evaluation survey of today's webinar immediately following the program.

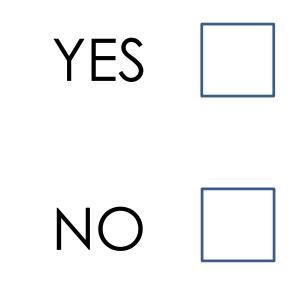
"Going to the Bullpen"

How the Media Can Help You

Tom Barritt September 3, 2014

Instant Poll

Have you ever been interviewed by the media?



Instant Poll

The key objective of a media interview is to...

Convey information

Convince the reporter you are right

Deliver quotes to inform

A Homerun for Media



Types of Media

- Print
- Broadcast TV
- Radio News
- Talk Radio
- Reporter's Blog
- Live
- Taped
- In-studio

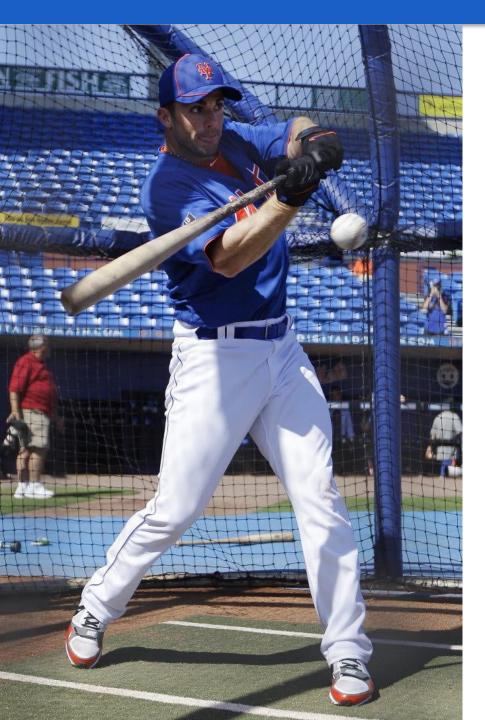


Media Relations – **A Team Approach**

Best Practices for Communications Teams

- Review request
- Share knowledge on reporter/publication
- Discuss boundaries for interview
- Establish ground rules
- Determine messages and response strategy
- Prepare content
- Monitor and follow up





Batting Practice - **First Things First**...

- Ask the reporter questions
- Understand the format
- Get background on the reporter
- Determine focus of the article
- Are there specific questions the reporter will share?
- Determine the deadline
- Don't respond immediately –
 "We'll get back to you"
- Set time limits
- Prepare

CRAFTING A STORY

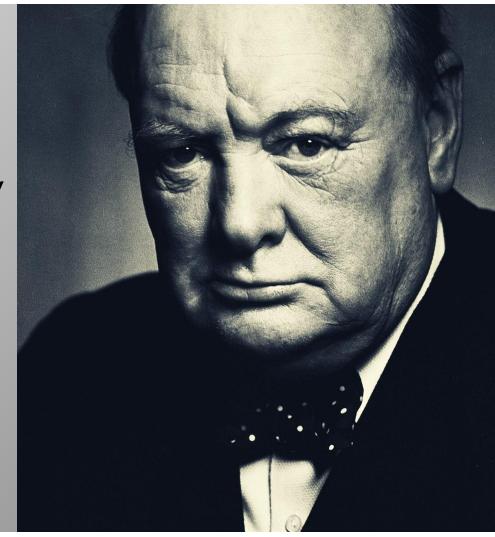
NOT JUST WHAT YOU SAY...

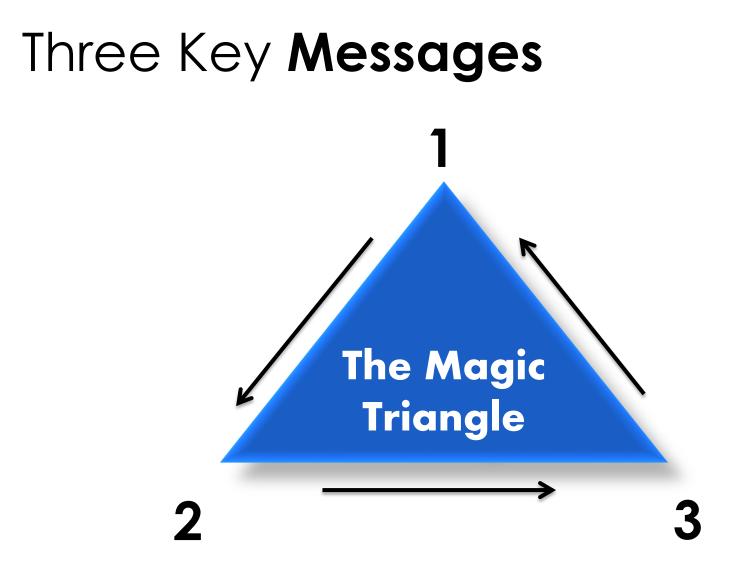


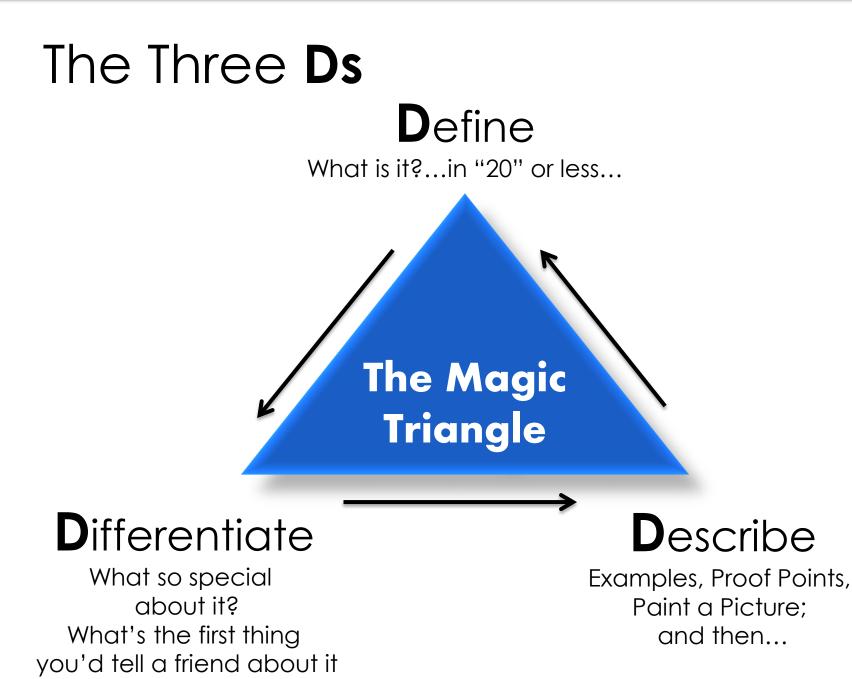
HOW YOU SAY IT...

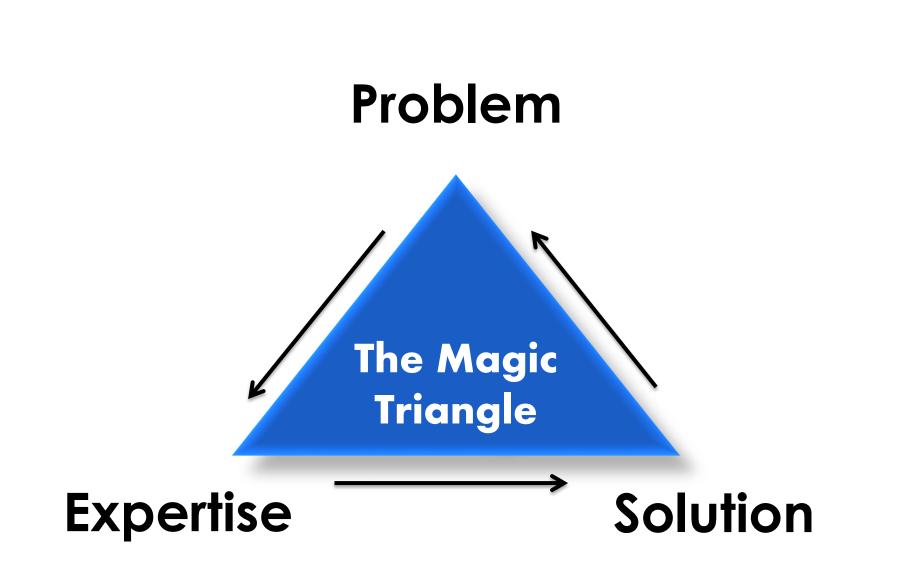
"'I'm just preparing my impromptu remarks."

Winston Churchill









The Details...

- Facts & figures
- Anecdotes/Personal Stories
- Voices of Support ...which all result in...

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Quotable Language

Rules of **Quotability**

- Be concise less is more
- Just the facts
- Don't be too clever
- Humor rarely works
- Should reflect/communicate the underlying key message



NY State of Health Messages

- NY State of Health is the place to shop, compare and enroll in a low-cost, quality health plan.
- NY State of Health is ready to help online, via phone and in person.
- Open enrollment begins November 15, 2014 for coverage that starts January 1, 2015.
- Getting married or divorced, having or adopting a child, losing employer insurance, or permanently moving into New York State means you may qualify for a Special Enrollment Period.
- Get started by:
 - visiting nystateofhealth.ny.gov
 - calling1-855-355-5777

When the Media **Reaches Out** Confirming **Interviews** Quotes **Soundbites**

Common Questions from the Media

- How many people have enrolled?
- Are you busy?
- Are the plans affordable?
- What's been your greatest challenge?
- What do you expect will happen with the premium rates in 2015?

An Interview Is <u>Not</u> a Conversation...or a Debate



 You are not trying to persuade or impress the reporter – you are trying to reach their audience

Remember Your **Audience**

- What are their interests and concerns?
- Speak their language avoid jargon!
- Target your messages to make sure they resonate

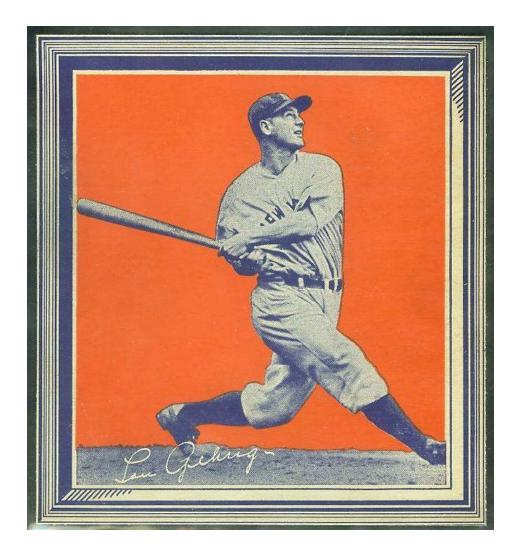


"What questions do you have for my answers"

- Henry Kissinger



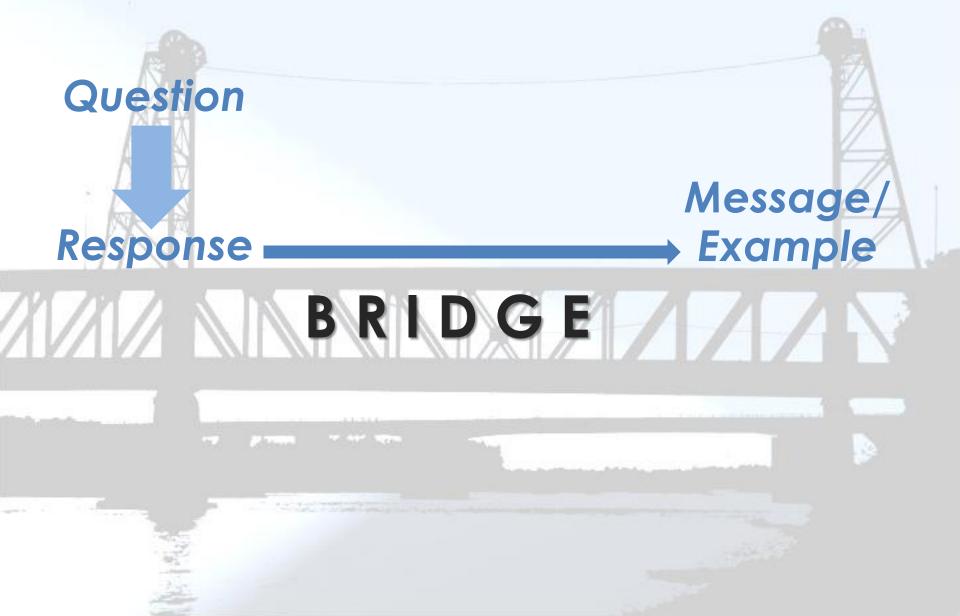
Frame Your Story



Use the Bridging Technique

- Prevents interviews from becoming interrogations
- Allows you to drive your messages from the very first question
- Best way to stay "on message"

The Bridge to Your Message



Sample Bridges

- What I can tell you is...
- Let me put this into perspective...
- You know, the real issue here is...
- I think it's important to realize that...
- You know, to me the real question is...
- That's not my area of expertise, but I can tell you that ...
- I don't know, but I can help you find someone...

Tough Question..?

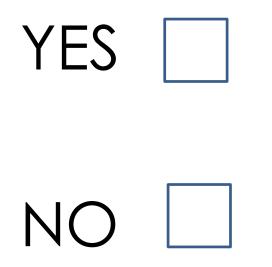
STATES STATES

AMMANN

Tell Your Story

Instant Poll

Do you find it challenging to respond to negative media questions?



A negative question, often speculative, may focus on a problem or issue, or sound critical or confrontational.

Turn Negatives into Positives



On the contrary ...

No, not at all, actually ...

I would disagree, here is the real story ...

Be **Positive**: Flag It!

- The key thing is...
- What we're most excited about is...
- What's most important is...
- Another thing to remember is...
- The best part about...

Instant **Poll:** How Would **You** Answer this **Negative Question?**

"We hear that many people might not renew. Are you hearing that?



"No comment"



"Where are you hearing that?"

"Let's step back and talk about what's been accomplished this year. New York State has done a great job of providing affordable health plans and will continue to do so."

There is no such thing as foffthe record

Don't ever say: "No Comment"

Interview by Telephone

- Set up a time to talk
- Prepare notes
- Stand up
- Give the "5 minute warning"
- Summarize your key themes

Interview in Person

- Set a time to talk
- Find a quiet location
- Set time limit



Dealing with **Difficult** Questions/Reporters

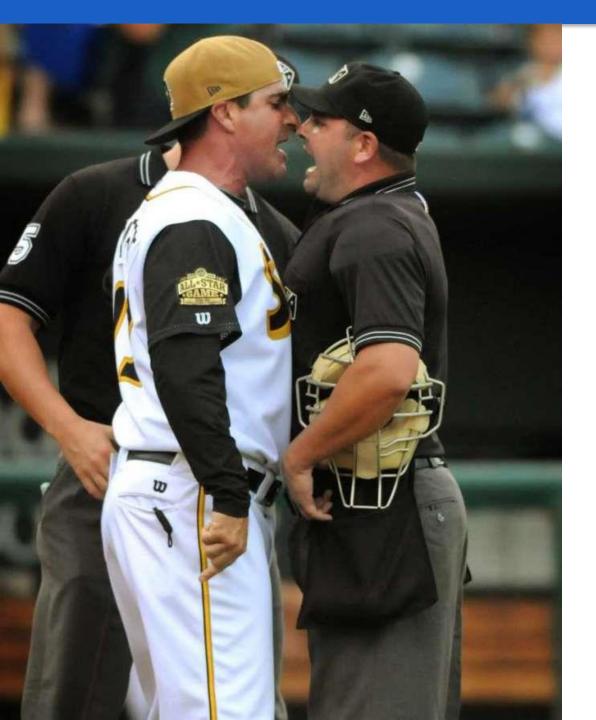
Avoid Combative Instinct

- Anticipate tough questions
- Recognize when you are being "baited"
- Minimize urge to fight back
- Refocus conversation



Avoid Speculation

• Don't raise expectations



Don't overreact

Know When to Defer



Instant **Poll:** How Would **You** Answer this Question?

"Is it true that premiums will fluctuate widely in 2015?"



"No comment"

"Let's step back for a minute to talk about what factors might impact premiums."

"Our role as navigators is to assist people in
enrollment. This question is best directed to the state."

Corrections

- Avoid impulse to "correct"
 - Work with team

 Determine appropriate next steps

Role Play Demonstration

Questions?



End of the Inning

- Please complete Inning #6 survey
- Watch for inning replay to be posted to
 <u>http://info.nystateofhealth.ny.gov/SpringTraining</u>
- Inning #7, Part 1– Know Who You're Pitching To
 - Wednesday, September 17th at 10:00am
 - invitation to follow