

Narrative Repair and Hope

Re-connecting in the Civic Space

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What is the Civic Space?



**TRUMAN NATIONAL
SECURITY PROJECT**

Building the Next Generation
in National Security.

- **Civic space** is the foundation of democratic society.
- When civic space is open:
 1. Citizens and civil society organizations can organize, participate and communicate without hindrance.
 2. Citizens are able to claim their rights and influence the political and social structures around them.
 3. The state holds by its duty to protect its citizens and respects as well as facilitates their fundamental rights to associate, assemble peacefully and freely express views and opinions.

Public Narrative Framework

- **Story of Self:** Your personal story, revealing your values and why you're called to leadership, built around key **Challenges**, the **Choices** you made, and the **Outcomes**.
- **Story of Us:** Connects individual stories to shared values, experiences, and identities that bind a community or movement together, showing collective strength.
- **Story of Now:** Addresses an urgent challenge, presenting the stakes (price of inaction) and possibilities (what action can achieve) to inspire immediate, specific action.

- This framework helps transform stories from individual experiences into collective purpose, taking us from the individual all the way to the systemic.
- Telling stories is how we communicate emotions, values.

Write a Story of Self

- Where were you born, and where did you grow up?
- Are there people who made an impact on you while growing up (e.g., family members, friends, community members, role models, cultural icons, etc)
- Are there significant childhood experiences coming of age stories that stick out for you, who you are?
- What you are passionate about?
- Are there significant experiences in adulthood which have had an impact (relationships, travel, work colleagues, etc)?