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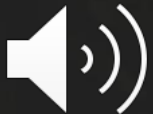
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# Communication Sparks Growth

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By: Madison & Kim

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# Introduction

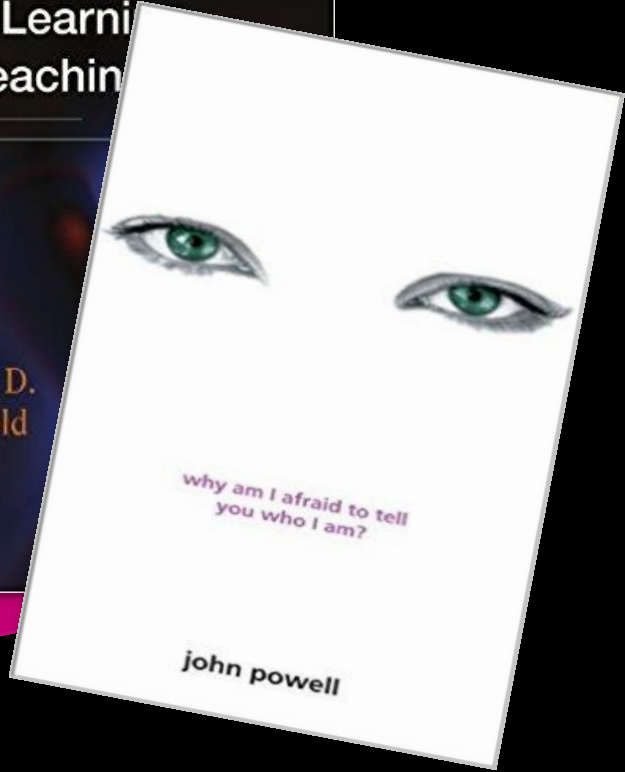
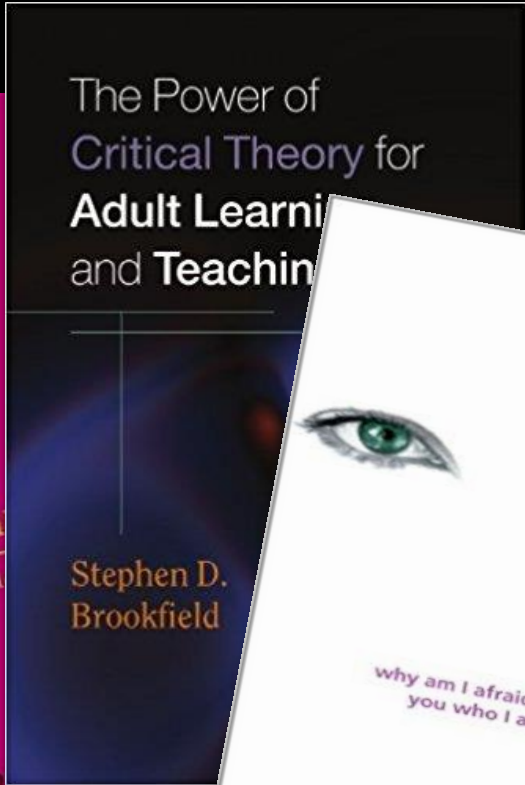
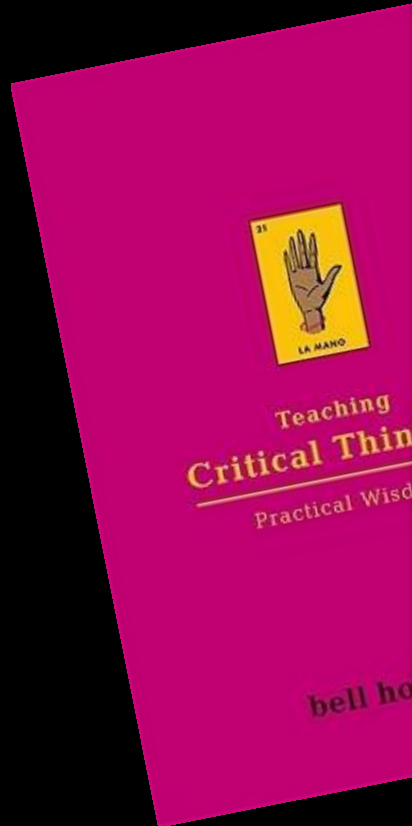
**“It is impossible to overemphasize the immense need humans have to be really listened to, to be taken seriously, to be understood.”**

*~ Dr. Paul Tournier, M.D.  
Swiss Psychiatrist and Author*



## Topic

The purpose of this presentation is to reveal how communication sparks growth within individuals and institutions.





## Purpose & Why

**Communication is important because:**

- Root cause for destructive behavior (games) when *not* used effectively and continuously
- Moral Requirement: One of the greatest, human kindnesses
- Empowers others' growth



## Objectives

- Reflect on four exploratory questions central to the theme
- Examine the effects of communication through a collaborative lesson
- Develop critical thinking skills



## Exploratory Questions

1. How do you identify yourself with a discourse community, and how is power and voice used in those communities?
2. How do you understand developmental models as they relate to your own personal and/or professional roles?
3. In what ways do you understand the influence of ideology in your own everyday thoughts and actions? In our institutions and organizations?
4. Describe and analyze the links between personal agency and institutional / organizational power.

A hand holding a lit lantern with string lights in the background. The lantern is lit, and the background is dark with bokeh lights.

# Topic Analysis & Exploration

**“Critical thinkers are clear as to the purpose at hand and the question at issue.  
They question information, conclusions and point of view.  
They strive to be clear, accurate, precise, and relevant.  
They seek to think beneath the surface, to be logical and fair.”**

*~bell hooks, Teaching Critical Thinking: Practical Wisdom, p. 9*





# 4

How do you identify yourself with a discourse community, and how is power and voice used in those \_\_\_ communities?

## Overall

For the groups where I speak more freely and confidently, I feel my voice is stronger, louder, and more influential.



# Kim's Thoughts

## Discourse Communities

- Work Group
- Romantic Relationship
- Family
- Friends
- ATD-CIC Board
- Book Club
- **Technology Start-up / Business Owners**
- Social Online Space (LinkedIn, Twitter, Blog, etc.)



# Madison's Thoughts

## Discourse Communities

- Ivy Tech Community College Admissions
- Clear River Church
- Latino Student Union (LSU) Advisor
- Family
- Friends
- Social media
- Adult Education Master's Program



## Overall

The power and voice I have within each discourse community is ever changing, as I too am learning and changing over time.



# 5

How do you understand developmental models as they relate to your own personal and/or professional roles?

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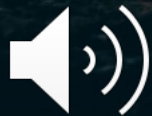
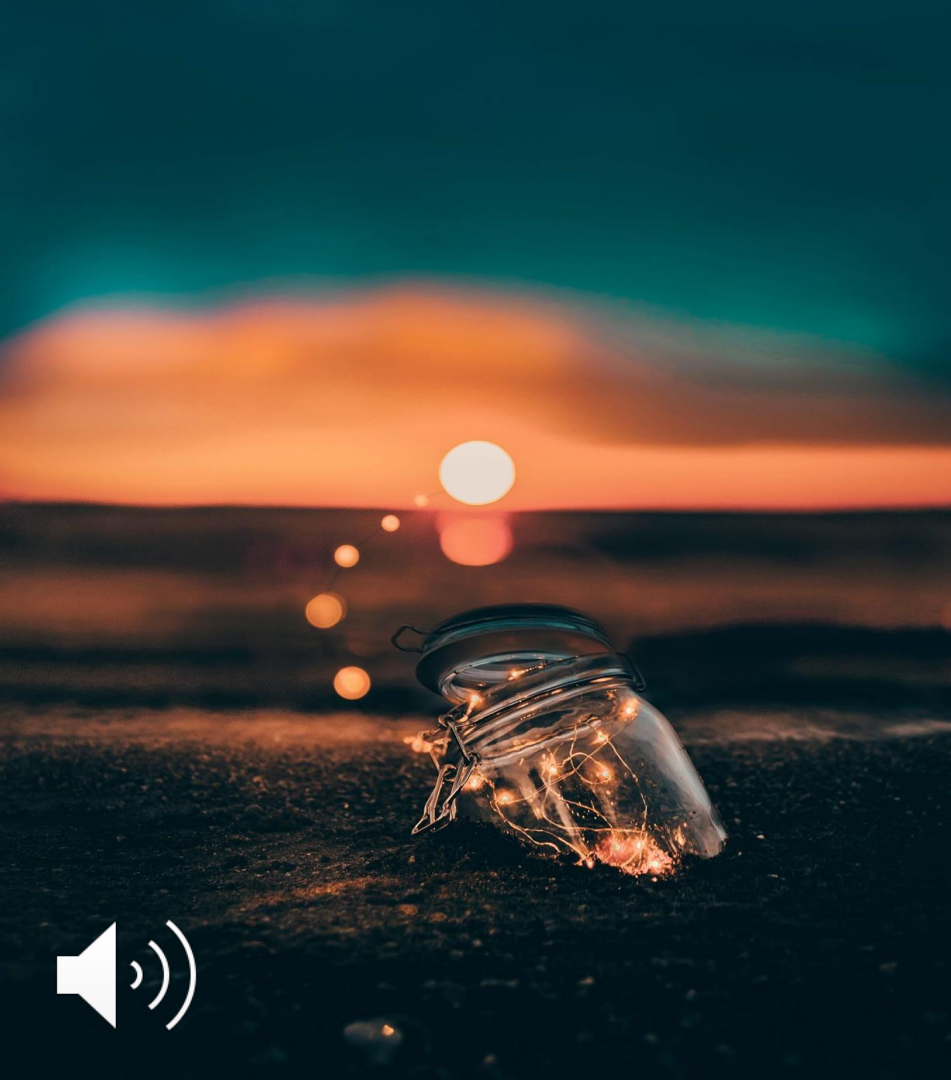


# Madison's Thoughts

## Abraham Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

- Once lower level needs are met, a person can grow and learn in new ways
- Self-actualization leads to deeper and fuller relationships
- [12 Characteristics](#)
- Striving towards self-actualization will help you live life to the fullest





# 7

In what ways do you understand the influence of ideology in your own everyday thoughts and actions? In our institutions and organizations?

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# Madison's Thoughts

- Ideology is weaved into every facet of our lives
- Challenge ideology through communication
- Be a critical thinker, challenge the status quo
- [Critical Thinking Community Article](#)

An idea  
is something  
you have;  
AN IDEOLOGY  
is something  
that has you.  
- Morris Berman



# Kim's Thoughts

## Ideology & Communication

- Influences:
  - How & What we Share with Others
- Power drives whether communication is shared freely or forced
- Affirmation of the ideology is conveyed through communication



[Ray Dalio's TEDTalk](#), "Bet Against the Consensus and Be Right", illustrating the power of perspectives.



# 8

Describe and analyze  
the links between  
personal agency and  
institutional /  
organizational power.

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# Our Thoughts



[Julian Treasure's TEDTalk](#), "5 Ways to Listen Better", illustrating the power of conscious listening.

## Personal Agency & Organizational Power Links with Communication

- Organizations need and want personal agency to ensure evolution
- Organizations are and should create open spaces for sharing
- Sharing must be given freely and between balanced powers
- Individuals want to feel heard
- Both need to embrace "RASA"







# Literature Review

Everyone's existence  
is deeply tied to that of  
others: life is not time  
merely passing by, life  
is about interactions-  
Pope Francis

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## Literature Review

The purpose of this literature review is to share the resources we found most helpful in bringing about our own understanding of how communication sparks growth within individuals and institutions. This review will also provide context to each book, article, and video we used within our project and allow readers to delve deeper into our project through their own exploration of our resources.

### Books & Articles

**Brookfield, S. (2005).** *The power of critical theory: Liberating adult learning and teaching*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

*The Power of Critical Theory: Liberating Adult Learning and Teaching*, by Stephen Brookfield laid the foundation for our understanding of critical theory, critical thinking, and ideology within practice. Brookfield's work challenged us to think critically about how communication is key in bringing about changes within individuals and within our society. Throughout this course, this book has framed the way we view power and voice within discourse communities and within our society as a whole. Moreover, Brookfield's work has informed our research regarding communication between individuals and ultimately institutions.

**hooks, b. (2010).** *Teaching critical thinking: Practical wisdom*. New York, NY: Routledge.

The book *Teaching Critical Thinking: Practical Wisdom* by bell hooks helps us figure out how to best teach communicative growth within the classroom, which ultimately helps individuals grow. Communication can either be promoted or quelled within the classroom and hooks teaches ways to promote communication through: engaging pedagogy, conflictive issues, physical classroom environment set ups, storytelling, and encouraging students to delve into historically "difficult to talk about" issues. Her book is in a more narrative form, is easy to understand, and allows readers to see ways in which they can take her teachings and apply them to their own practice.

**Powell, J. (1999).** *Why am I afraid to tell you who I am?* Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

John Powell's book *Why Am I Afraid to Tell you Who I Am?* was written in 1969 and helps us see how communication helps us grow and become fully human. It is easy to stay at surface level communication with those around us, but Powell challenges readers to deepen our communication with others. This book works through the different levels of communication and points readers towards what he calls "gut level communication". Powell believes that the only way for us to ever become fully human and to show our true self to others is through this act of "gut level communication". Ultimately, communication is what helps us connect and share with others our fear, joys, likes, dislikes, goals, dreams, etc. Communication is a necessary part of human growth and development and becoming fully human.

# Literature Review

## Directions:

Please follow this [link](#) to view our full literature review.





# Interactive Lesson

**“Critical thinking is an interactive process, on that demands participation on the part of teacher and students alike.”**

*~bell hooks, Teaching Critical Thinking: Practical Wisdom, p. 9*





# 6

Design a learning activity that supports the development of reflection, reflexivity, and critical thinking.

## How to see past your own perspective and find truth | Michael Patrick Lynch

LESSON CREATED BY MADISON DELKS USING TED Ed

VIDEO FROM TED YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Let's Begin...

Seeking TRUTH through communication is how we will grow both personally and professionally. Michael Patrick Lynch encourages all people to take time to listen and understand the perspectives of others to ultimately find truth through the act of communication.



[Watch](#)

Think

Dig Deeper

Discuss

## Directions:

1. Click *Launch Lesson*
2. Participate in the lesson
3. Click *Discuss* to reflect on the learning experience with your peers

Launch Lesson

Discuss

To explore the effects of communication on individual and institutional growth, we are going to work through a Ted Ed lesson and collaborate on a Google Doc to reflect upon the course to cultivate a social learning experience.



# Our Discussion on Lesson



## Madison's Thoughts:

- Strive towards understanding through communication
- Work past our own perspectives
- Listen more intently and be humble



## Kim's Thought's:

- Honest and consistent communication sparks growth in everyone involved
- Reflect back on how you communicate and think to push growth





**“I can tell you who I am, report my emotions to you with candour and honesty,  
and this is the greatest kindness I can extend to myself and to you.”**

*~john powell, why am I Afraid to tell you who I am?, p. 72*



# Closing Thoughts



[Pope Francis' TEDTalk](#) illustrating the importance of tenderness and “the future worth building”.

Overall, here are our main takeaways regarding how communication sparks growth.

- We are all connected
- To develop ourselves, we must connect with each other
- Collective tenderness, exhibited through deep listening and sharing, is how we grow as individuals and institutions







**“In such a community of learning there is no failure. Everyone is participating and sharing whatever resource is needed at a given moment in time to ensure that we leave the classroom knowing that critical thinking empowers us.”**

*~bell hooks, Teaching Critical Thinking: Practical Wisdom, p. 11*



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