

TALK SHOW TOPICS

From The Northern Lights Performance Package

(We recognize audience make-up and topics of each show are different.

Below is a list of The Northern Lights monologues and a brief description of talk show topics that the monologue covers)

Voice of Methamphetamine

A conversation between Methamphetamine and a curious youth put into poetic form. This story covers why Meth is different than all other drugs. For interested listeners, topics could cover personal experiences, or comments by friends and family.

Introduction by Local Sheriff or Chief of Police

Law enforcement is very clear: “We can’t do this by ourselves.” This introduction also is very clear that “if left unchecked...left unchallenged...” meth will continue raging across this country. “It has to be stopped, this is our mission!” For interested listeners, topics could be from the law enforcement community.

What Do I Do? Where Do I Turn?

This is a heart-wrenching poem about growing up within a family that is meth addicted. The issues the child talks about, however, range from abuse, to whether or not to tell about the situation and how to make that decision. Topics could be about how to live in any abusive situation and how to cope with it. It would make an excellent match with an on-the-air therapist.

Parent/Child Medley

Real life stories from both a child and a parent’s perspective: For interested listeners, topics could be their own life stories and experiences.

The High Cost of a Multi-Level Response

This is a medley from a variety of different agencies which all would be involved in any meth lab investigation: *police, social worker, jail, judge, hazardous waste, and the emergency room*. For interested listeners, topics could be from any of these different agencies and the total cost of an investigation and treatment vs. pro-active education. *(Average cost of meth lab investigation in Minnesota: \$149,000/ Treatment: \$30,000)*

Addiction and the Stages of Life

This story introduces a Shakespearean storyteller. He talks of different stages of life, and introduces an infant, an adolescent and addiction. For interested listeners, topics could be about the essentials of early childhood development and how a child learns, the confusion of being an adolescent, “Oh I am so not ready for this!” and/or the elements of addiction. Our storyteller describes for the audience the “red flags of possible addiction” in hopes that some will become aware of them in themselves and/or others.

The DNR and the Fire Storm

Assisted by Steve Simmer of the Minnesota DNR, we created a story about “fighting meth” and relating it to fire behavior. Steve Simmer understood the similarities and offered invaluable insight. For interested listeners, topics could be anywhere from firefighting to containing the meth problem, to actually fighting the high level of addiction in our country.

The Conversation

This is a conversation between Luella B. Cook and Methamphetamine as she takes on this drug and reminds the audience, “we are The American People” and can do anything we set our minds to. “We are now dangerously out of balance with our designer drugs. And now this must stop!” *Luella B. Cook was a real Minnesota character (1890-1975): English Teacher at Central High School, curriculum developer for the State of Minnesota, author of several English textbooks, on the President’s Council for Education, in Who’s Who of American Women and a long time resident of Deephaven, Minnesota.* For interested listeners, topics could be about The American Spirit and/or the need for us all to make our stand against methamphetamine.

Heaven’s Gift of the Feather

This is a poem about how fast and confusing life today can be for young people. It’s about regaining passion for something we love and finding a sense of purpose. It was written to address America’s addiction problem and re-connect with our natural birthright. For interested listeners, topics could be about passion, feeling, caring and a sense of purpose. What’s missing and why??

Pandora Releases Hope

“Guilt, shame and fear aren’t gifts,” says a young girl named Hope. This is a comedic conversation between Pandora and Hope. It’s meant to tell the ancient legend and remind the audience that “under all the evils let loose....was Hope.” It’s a wonderful catalyst for the radio audience to talk about hope in a troubling world.

Final Act: The American Character

“These are the times that try men’s souls.” *The American Character* has been stressed and challenged before, against all odds, we have prevailed. This is a reminder of that. An excellent opening for Americans to regain their sense of spirit and talk openly about it!