

# Make it Real: Role Play

Short skits are a great way to create a visual representation of an issue or problem and start a dialogue about the issues. Once people start talking, change can take place.



## Follow these steps to make sure your skit is a hit!

### Define Your Goals –

What message are you trying to convey? What do you hope participants will learn from your skit?

### Determine Your Audience –

Who will be invited to attend? Will you publicize it? If so, create flyers, etc.

### Choose the Right Location, Date, and Time –

Think about the size of your audience and time constraints. Don't forget to consider your visual aid, computer and technology needs, staging and lighting, etc. when choosing the location.

### Develop Your Skit –

Gather your team of Agents, brainstorm and develop your idea for a script about your topic. Research statistics, and view some other skits online to get ideas.

### Write the Script –

- Use language, words and phrases that appeal to your audience's age group. Make your skit relevant!
- Use statistics, examples, and situations that the audience will understand and find interesting.
- Provide a "call to action" – Your PSA should evoke a desire to do something as result of what they have heard.

### It's Showtime - Rehearsing and Performing your Skit –

- **Use every resource at your disposal** – Talk to your school's drama department and ask if they have equipment/props/costumes you can use.
- **Recruit your cast and crew:** Hold auditions for the acting parts and recruit volunteers for stagehands and other roles. Be sure they sign the Performance Release Form if you intend to record your skit.
- **Rehearse your PSA** several times before your performance date.
- **Set up early and do a tech check** before your audience arrives.
- **Relax! Your skit is going to be a hit!** It doesn't take professional performers to make a great skit. This skit is about making others think about life, what needs to be changed in the world, and how they can effect that change
- **After your skit, hold a Q&A and discussion about the topic.** Encourage your audience to get involved to raise awareness and register online at <http://www.idrivetvonline.com/get-involved/become-an-agent/> to become i-SAFE Agents.
- **Take a bow** – At the conclusion of your performance, recognize your performers and staff and thank your audience for attending.

## Here are a few examples of skits you could choose to perform:

- **Anonymity/Ambiguity of online profiles/Impersonation** – Have you ever received a friend request from someone you don't recognize that claims s/he goes to your school? Or maybe their profile seemed a bit off? People online can claim to be whoever they want to be, making it more important than ever to be sure you know who you are talking to. To help drive this point home to students from your school, you can organize and perform a skit demonstrating the ambiguity of online profiles.
- **Bullying/Cyberbullying** – If Bullying/Cyberbullying is a problem you want to bring to light, a skit demonstrating the impact of bullying/cyberbullying and how language or actions can impact others would be a great skit to perform. Identify the difference between a bystander and an upstander, demonstrate the effects of bullying and show students what it means to be a respectful, responsible member of their online and real-life communities.
- **Teen dating violence** – Teen dating violence is a real problem, and is often not talked about because of the shame or fear involved. A skit on teen dating violence could help prompt teenagers to talk about and confront dating violence by helping them examine the underlying causes of the violence, and discover positive ways to handle violent situations.

## Measure Your Success –

How will you measure success ( # of attendees, feedback form comments, # Agents recruited, etc.?)