Words into Deeds: Making the Leap from Academics to Action Teaching and Learning Guide

**Title of Video:** Words into Deeds: Making the Leap from Academics to Action

**Speaker:** Dr. Yurie Hong, associate professor at Gustavus Adolphus College in the department of Classics and Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies. Dr. Hong is also the founder and lead organizer with indivisible of St. Peter and Mankato.

**Date of Talk:** October 10th, 2019

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| **Which disciplines would find this most useful?** | * Activism
* Social Justice
* Nonprofit Leadership
* Political Science
* Sociology
* Corrections
* Government
* Gender and Woman Studies
* Ethnic Studies
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| **Learning Goal(s)** | After watching this video, students will be able to: * Students will be able to identify an example of activism that may be taking place in their community
* Students will be able to describe ways that people participate in political activism
* Students will be able to demonstrate ways that people can access resources for getting active
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| **Social Justice Learning Goal** | * Students will learn of a specific example of someone who got into activism in their personal life outside of work and about ways to get active as well as resources for getting involved in activism
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| **Companion Readings** | Kid Activists Aren’t Political Pawns<https://slate.com/human-interest/2019/04/youth-political-activism-climate-change-kids-gun-control-teens.html>Want to be a political activist? Here's how to start.<https://www.houstonchronicle.com/local/gray-matters/article/Want-to-be-a-political-activist-Here-s-how-to-11136601.php>‘Young people are angry’: the teenage activists shaping our future<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/may/13/young-people-are-angry-meet-the-teenage-activists-shaping-our-future> |
| **Companion Resources** | Indivisible St. Peter & Mankato’s FB page:<https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Nonprofit-Organization/Indivisible-St-PeterGreater-Mankato-275595776561879/>Resources for voting and getting active:<https://votesaveamerica.com/>Resources for student activism:<https://www.accreditedschoolsonline.org/resources/student-activism-on-campus/>A list of some apps for digital activism:<http://yonah.org/channel/apps-digital-activists/> |
| **Discussion Questions** | 1. Talk about a social cause you’ve participated in activism for. If you haven’t participated in activism just talk about a cause you feel strongly about.
2. Why is it that you care about this particular cause,? What about it makes you want to create change?
3. Why might it be that you care about this cause and someone else might not?
4. After watching the video, are there new or different ways you could see yourself getting active in the future?
5. Do you think it’s important that people participate in activism?
6. Has this talk had an impact on the way you think about activism?
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| **Activities/Project Ideas** | * Assign students to complete the viewing guide questions (at the end of the module) below and free write or reflect on their thoughts about the video
* Class discussion using discussion questions provided
* May also be done in the form of online discussion posts
* Assign students to peruse provided websites and resources to learn more about activism and write up a brief report on their findings
* Assign students to go to an event related to activism and report their experiences
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| **Viewing Guide** | Video information:* Length of video – 1:11:06
* Welcome from Dr. Sarah Epplen-0:10
* Introduction by Margarita Ruiz- 2:40
* Talk begins – 3:55
* Q&A portion begins – 56:30

Guided viewing questions:* Listed at the end of the module
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| **Instructor Guide** | Outline of the Video:Dr. Yurie Hong’s talk on making the leap from academics to activism discusses:* Her start in education and academics and her academic Intrests
* How she felt the pull toward activism after the 2016 presidential election
* Background on what Indivisible is and how she started her own chapter of it in Southern Minnesota
* What she has done through Indivisible and what has made Indivisible work so well
* How to be sustainable in activism
* Why activism is so important and resources for getting involved
* Final remarks and audience questions

Summary:Dr. Yurie Hong presents as the keynote speaker from the Sociologist of Minnesota Annual Meeting in 2019. In the talk, Dr. Hong discusses her journey of becoming an activist. After being in academics for a number of years, Dr. Hong discusses how she came to become an activist as well as what it’s like to be in activism. She talks about the what she has been able to accomplish through the activism community in southern Minnesota. She talks about the hard parts of being activist and ways you can be more sustainable in activism on a personal level. She provides wisdom and resources for budding activists and makes activism more approachable for everyone from academics to concerned citizens. The video starts with a welcome from the president of Sociologists of Minnesota Dr. Sarah Epplen followed by a brief introduction for Dr. Hong by Minnesota State University Student, Margarita Ruiz (@ 2:40) this is then followed by Dr. Yurie Hong’s talk (@3:55). After her talk, Dr. Hong takes some questions form the audience (@56:30).Suggestions for Incorporating the Video into Course Curriculum: This video may be incorporated into a wide range of course curriculum. Course topics that can be supplemented with the incorporation of this video include but are not limited to activism, social movements, civic and political engagement, social problems, community organizing and more. This video is a strong curriculum piece on its own, but can be further supplemented with companion readings for deeper learning. In addition, instructors can choose from a variety of activities and projects depending on the depth in which instructors desire to teach this topic. Possible class activities or assignments include watching the video, writing a reflection, holding a class discussion, writing an essay, interviewing activists, and more.  |

**Guided worksheet for social justice lecture series:** *Words into Deeds: Making the leap from academics to action*

1. Discuss what is meant by the term “six degrees of separation.”
2. What are the important messages Dr. Hong’s High school teachers taught her?
3. Talk about what event got Dr. Hong into activism.
4. What is “Indivisible”? Talk about where the Indivisible Guide came from and how it can be used. How did Dr. Hong use the Indivisible resources?
5. What lesson did Dr. Hong talk about learning from the women of the Montgomery Bus Boycott? How did she adjust her Indivisible chapter after learning this lesson?
6. What are some ways that Dr. Hong has been active? Talk about specific examples of activism that Dr. Hong talks about participating in. What kind of impacts have these efforts had?
7. Dr. Hong talks about how *certain* skills transferred very well from academics to activism, what were some of those skills and how did Dr. Hong use them in activism?
8. What are some strategies that Dr. Hong gives for lasting in activism or rather, not burning out? How can activism be sustainable for *you*?