



Goethe-Institut Gedimino pr. 5, 01103 Vilnius, Litauen

## Storytelling as an advocacy tool Workshop

The Workshop is open to 10-15 Activists, community leaders, Social workers and workers in the development field, gender based projects and projects that work on personal testimonies of cases.

### Date & Time

3 day workshop (7/8/9.12.2016) 10am to 5pm

### Registration

<https://www.goethe.de/ins/lt/lt/kul/sup/bla/anm.html>

### Purpose

To introduce participants to storytelling as an advocacy tool in order to provide individuals with a voice, a safe space to express and discuss their personal testimonies, the injustices they have been subjected to. To introduce participants to the idea of holding safe spaces for the people they work with. To explore with participants the ways in which they can document personal testimonies sensitively. And to explore how such testimonies can be effectively used within legal justice activism.

The 3-day workshop will introduce participants to the storytelling and story documentation model used by The BuSSy Project, a method to provide survivors with a voice, a safe space to express and discuss their personal testimonies, the injustices they have been subjected to. This type of storytelling aims to remove the shame and stigma attached to the stories and the storytellers, and allow the storytellers to go through an empowering healing experience by sharing their stories with others. The workshop will also look at how these stories can be used sensitively and impactfully for advocacy.

Participants will explore methods of creating and holding safe spaces, for the women and men they work with, for sharing of personal stories, the documentation process with respect to personal testimonies, including, formulating ethical guidelines, carrying out risk assessments and dealing with survivors. And how these stories can be communicated to the public via different media, such as, on stage, written word.

### About The BuSSy project

BuSSy is a performing arts project that documents and gives voice to censored untold stories about gender in different communities in Egypt.

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The project organizes storytelling workshops and performances where women and men step on stage to share stories about harassment, rape, gender discrimination, honor killing, forced marriage, Female genital mutilation, motherhood, domestic violence, child abuse, mass sexual assaults and many others, from different communities and cities in Egypt.

[www.bussy.co](http://www.bussy.co)

### **About The Facilitator**

Sondos Shabayek is the Director of The BuSSy project (A performing arts project that documents gender based stories and presents them on stage). She is also the Founder & Director of Tahrir Monologues (a performance of true stories from Egypt's revolution).

She has facilitated storytelling workshops in different cities inside and outside Egypt, with different age groups and marginalized communities.

She wrote and directed award winning 'Girl' a short film about harassment in Cairo. She also wrote and directed 'I am not my veil' a short self-portrait video about the conflicting reactions of the Egyptian society towards the veil, and 'Oh fear' a short self-portrait video about inner fears.

Prior to her work in theater and film, she studied Mass communication and broadcasting. And she worked for more than 6 years as journalist and editor. Her journalistic work focused on exploring, exposing & discussing social taboos in Egyptian society.