Power of Advocacy

How to Survive a Plague

- Filmmaker David France captures the social activism surrounding HIV/AIDS in 1980s through 90s.
- The activism and advocacy of ACT UP and TAG (Treatment Action Group) changed the way patients with HIV and AIDS were diagnosed and treated.

Discussion Questions

Did any of ACT UP’s actions cross the line?

Was TAG working from the inside effective?

Are you personally comfortable critiquing or complaining to people who stand in the way of a policy goal that you support?

What aspect of this documentary stood out to you?


Providing Policy Advocacy at Three Levels

Micro Policy Advocacy
Interventions to help specific individuals or families to help them obtain services and benefits

Mezzo Policy Advocacy at the Organizational Level
Interventions to change dysfunctional policies in agencies and communities that may create the need for micro policy advocacy

Macro Policy Advocacy
Interventions to change dysfunctional policies in government that may create the need for micro and mezzo policy advocacy

Adapted from: