

THE NAME OF THE GAME IS WAR

BACKSTORY

Sal is a congressman/woman who has just found out that a close member of his/her family is currently struggling with a major drug problem, and has just been admitted to the hospital for a heroin overdose.

PREVIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES

Sal, having just received a phonicallly with the news, is giving a speech in front of a large group of reporters about the war on drugs. Sal struggles to get through the speech.

SAL

After tireless discussions, meetings and conferences we have come to many conclusions about the future of our country and the war on drugs. It is our understanding that drastic measures need to be taken to ... *[Pause - - Sal becomes lost in thought - - struggles to come back to the point]* ... that drastic measures need to be taken - - this is a task that requires a great, great deal of effort - - an effort similar if not analogous to World War. *[Marty is becoming more overwhelmed as he/she cannot get the family member out of his/her thoughts – but fights to continue the speech]* Ladies and gentlemen, the name of the game is WAR - - I have outlined here several points ... *[Pause - - Marty can no longer contain his/her true feelings in this public situation – and breaks the formality]* I can't do this. I can't do this. *[Pause – the room goes silent]* I'm sorry - - ladies and gentlemen - - I do not know how to wage war against my own family. *[Marty walks out as reporters shout after him/her].*

EMOTIONAL FLEXIBILITY EXERCISE

- 1) Emotional/sense memory of a time when you felt like a fraud.
- 2) Personalization: someone you love deeply who is (or has been) in trouble.
- 3) Sensory condition: oppressive heat - - instructor can suggest the heat be endowed with things in the actors life that no matter how hard you try, you cannot change.