



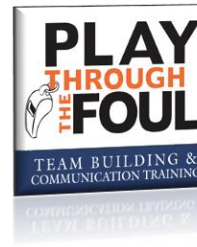
Vera Jones

is a Motivational Speaker, Author, Communication Coach, 30-year veteran Television and Radio Broadcaster, and Syracuse University Hall-of-Fame Scholar-Athlete. She is most widely known for her veteran women's basketball analysis and reporting for various networks over the past two decades including ESPN, Fox Sports, Madison Square Garden Network, NBA-TV, and the Big Ten Network. She is also often recognized by her appearance in a Goalcast video with over 47-million views.

Vera is a **Certified Mediator and Trainer in Workplace Conflict Resolution**. She earned her master's degree from S.U.'s prestigious Newhouse School of Communications where she first developed her interest in the psychology of interpersonal communication. As President of Vera's VoiceWorks, LLC, and Founder of the **Perseverance Speaker's Academy**, she passionately pursues her purpose by inspiring and coaching others in various motivational and leadership training forums.



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GIRLS DON'T WHISTLE?

A D.E.I. Countdown to Change

OVERVIEW:

Girls Don't Whistle? – With the help of the Andy Griffith Show theme song, this **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging** presentation invites participants to change their relational tunes for the better. Vera believes stimulating greater empathy and building trust are major keys for opening doors bolted by biases, fear, and ignorance. Tempering the need for honest self-introspection, Vera sheds light on why we react blindly to differentness and therefore perpetuate stigmas and negative stereotypes. Always geared towards conflict resolution, Vera brings simple solutions to an otherwise tense or difficult subject with a personal and organizational challenge. She calls it her called a **Countdown to Change**. She helps to transform teams and organizational cultures into more diverse, equitable, and inclusive workplaces by giving leaders specific strategies to develop awareness, accountability, and action. *This presentation is also tailored for **Women's Leadership and Empowerment**.*

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

The Countdown to Change is a challenge to promote:

- **CONNECTION** – by understanding the power of sharing experiences and asking empathic questions that build trust and breakdown "Silo Mentality."
- **COMMUNICATION** – by discovering ways to have positive, proactive conversations regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion, rather than reactive and defensive ones.
- **COLLABORATION** – by embracing and understanding how differences add value, and how the entire team must be accountable for creating the desired D.E.I. culture.

