

DO NOT WAIT FOR SOME DEFINITIVE STATEMENT OF BIAS FROM THE JUROR.

IT MIGHT NOT HAPPEN WITHOUT YOUR HELP.

Obtaining a challenge for cause is an *interpersonal art*, subject, therefore, to a wide variety of styles and strategies. This does not mean that it is not subject, also, to some degree of organization and control.

Step 1. Bring up the issue at the earliest possible opportunity.

- If the clue or problem came up during your opponent's voir dire, your first question (when you get to that juror) should concern that topic. Likewise, if it comes up during your questioning of the juror, stop and deal with it immediately.
- A direct approach communicates to jurors that you are a straightforward person, that you don't hide things, and that you are not afraid of difficult areas.

Step 2. Reward the juror immediately.

- Your first words to the juror should be words of reward, acceptance, reinforcement, or respect. The juror has given you information you needed and which the juror could have concealed.
- The reward encourages further disclosures by the juror and the rest of the panel.

Examples:

Mrs. Jones, I want to tell you how much I appreciated your honest remarks about your concern that too many plaintiffs are taking advantage of the court system. Many people share your concerns.

Mr. Smith, it takes a lot of courage to speak up in a courtroom full of strangers and disagree with a legal principle. Many people feel the same way you do.

Dr. Duppledorf, many people believe that police officers should be believed more than other witnesses. There's good reasons for thinking so.