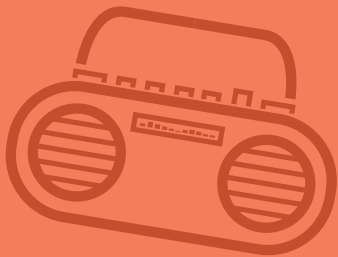


WHAT IS WORTH KN WING ABOUT MAKING PUBLIC APPEARANCES IF YOU ARE UNDER 18?

Here's what you
should read
when
you are invited to...



Speak to the
media.



IS THERE A VIDEO SHOOTING AT YOUR SCHOOL?

YOU ARE ABOUT TO BE INTERVIEWED FOR ONLINE AUDIENCES?

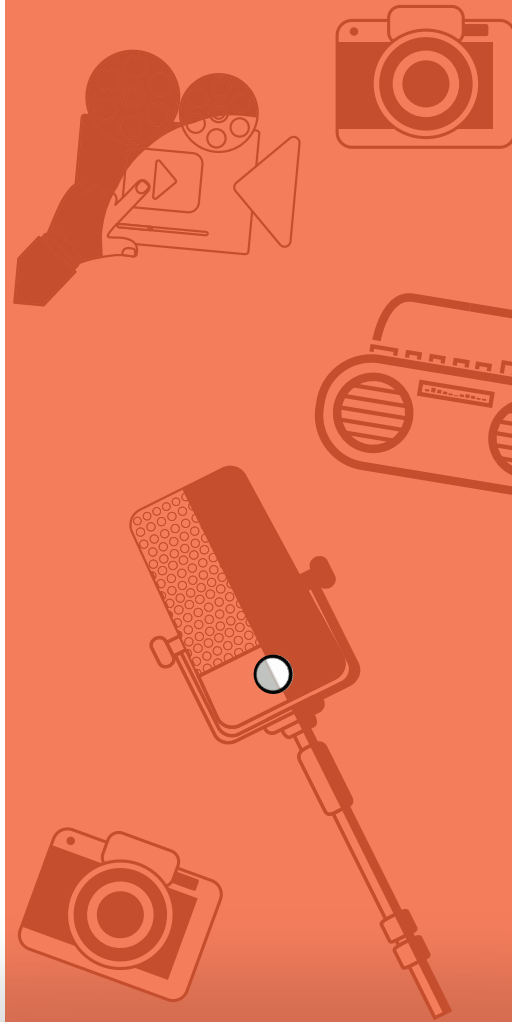
ARE YOU MAKING A STATEMENT TO A TELEVISION NETWORK, RADIO OR PRINT OUTLET?

ARE YOU PREPARING FOR A PUBLIC SPEECH?

Making a **public speech** in front of a live audience or **appearing** on TV is an awesome opportunity! Also, **it's quite alright if you feel a bit nervous** about it.

We made **this pamphlet** to **guide you in preparing** and help you **make the most of this opportunity**.

It is essential that you are **well-prepared** when you make a public appearance. This is a chance which requires that you take **responsibility for others**. You need to make sure that no one would be harmed. Be aware that **you are entitled to tell your opinion** and can duly expect to be listened to.



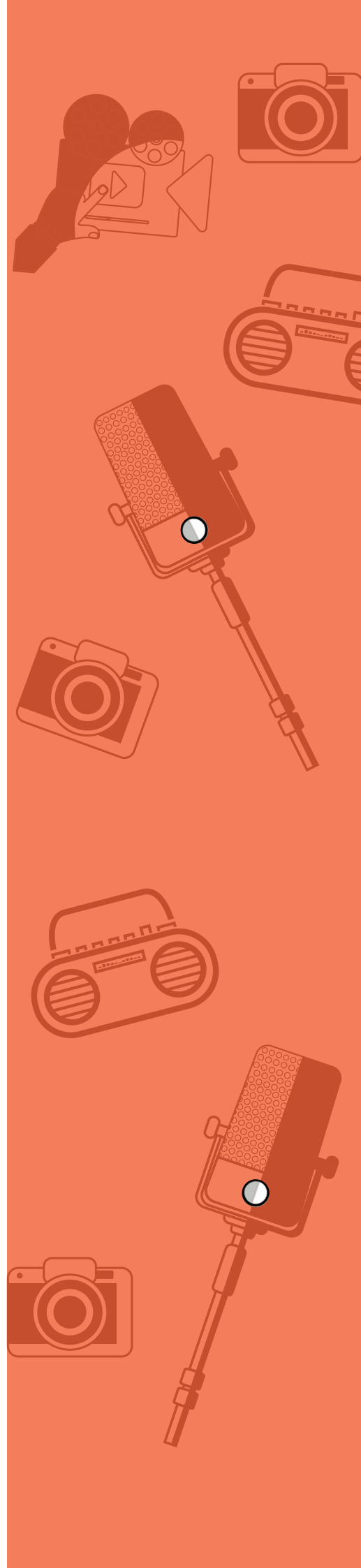
I. WHEN IS IT OKAY TO ACCEPT AN INVITATION FOR A PUBLIC APPEARANCE?

1. Each opportunity sounds exciting, but is the audience really interested in you?

- Take a moment to consider **what is the real purpose** of your public appearance. Are you invited to be the cuteness factor in the show, or are they really **interested in your opinion**?
- A public appearance may entail grave consequences, so make sure you **only take this opportunity** if you have your own agenda with it. Say Yes only if you feel strongly **about the subject** and if you are deeply involved with it..

2. You are free to decline a request for a media appearance.

- You deserve to get all the relevant **information** to make an informed **decision** about whether to participate as a speaker.



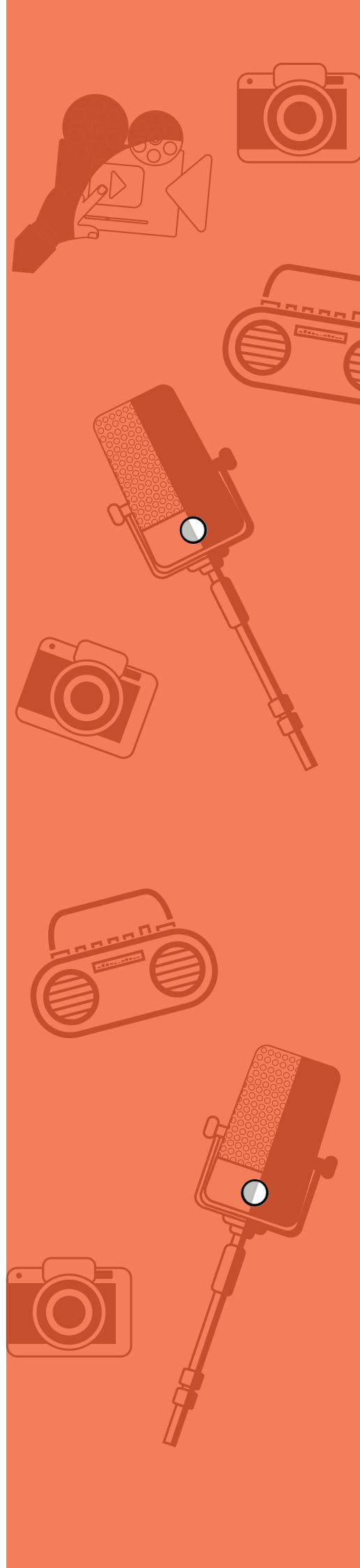
- If you have an adult to accompany you, **make sure to discuss** in advance the purpose and procedure of the interview and the future uses of the final media products. This will help you gauge whether you really need this opportunity.
- Any new invitation for a public appearance sounds cool at first, but no matter how proud it makes you, you need to heed your conscience **if it tells you** it is not a fitting role for you or you would just be part of the props. In this case respectfully **decline the opportunity**. Remember that you will not suffer any detrimental consequences if you say No.

3. Make a conscious choice.

- Consider your connection to the subject and **how you are affected by it** in your school or private life.
- Consider **what a public appearance entails**. How will you be affected by the fact that you may have large publicity and the recording will be available for others for an indefinite time in the future.

4. You need parental consent under 18.

- If you are under 18 years of age, you need the **written consent** of your legal guardian (parent or guardian) to be able to participate in an interview or be recorded on video.



II. THINGS TO CONSIDER ONCE YOU HAVE AGREED TO A PUBLIC APPEARANCE

5. Don't hesitate to ask for help.

- You need **all the help** you can get during your preparation. Get someone, preferably an adult, to **discuss** the subject with and organize your ideas.
- Talk through together what questions may crop up during the interview. Consider **any stumbling blocks** you may encounter, e.g. topics that may make you feel uncomfortable or may flip you out.

6. Think about the message you wish to present.

- Prepare by jotting down a few ideas you wish to express. If there is anything that makes you lose your train of thought, or there is anything you cannot respond to, just **get back** to these stock ideas.
- Have a few **ready-made ideas** up your sleeve that you will talk about as a last resort if something doesn't go according to plan.

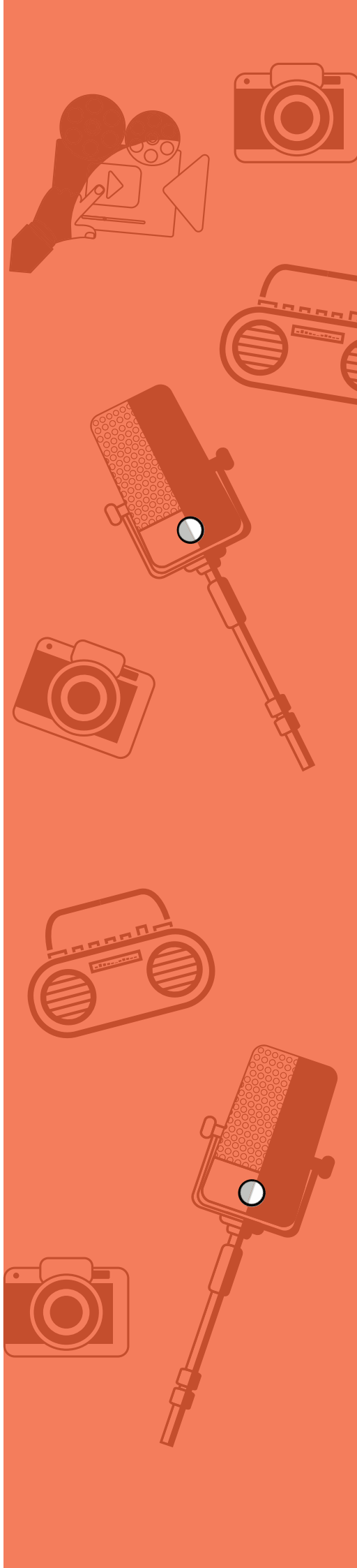


7. Consider what you will not discuss under any circumstances.

- Only say things that you firmly **believe in**.
- If there is anything you don't want to talk about, you have the right to **shy away** from discussing it even if you are explicitly asked about it.

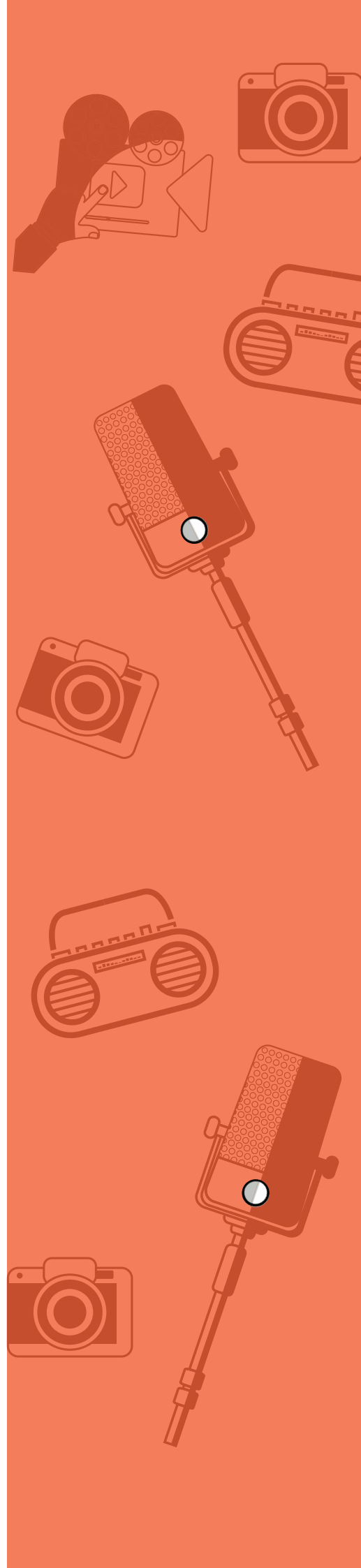
8. Think over the situations that would be uncomfortable or risky for you.

- Consider **what questions** or topics you want **to avoid**, e.g. because you deem them too personal or because you don't have the necessary experience or background.
- Consider what reactions of your interview partners would **knock you off** course, e.g. a disrespectful tone or provocations.
- Get prepared for such situations with some **ready-made stock responses** (see points 12-19), if possible, involving an adult in your preparation.



9. Dress in comfortable and appropriate clothes.

- Wear clothes that **make you feel good** about yourself and will be a comfortable fit both for sitting and standing. Think about what you would deem a fitting attire for the occasion as a member of the audience.
- Be aware that our choice of clothes affects our mood and confidence and **bears a message** for the audience.
- We recommend that you shy away from sexually or otherwise **provocative garments**, and blue, green or finely patterned items as they may interfere with the quality of the video.
- If there is **no video recorded**, e.g. a radio show or interview for a magazine, don't worry about your choice of clothes.



III. THINGS TO CONSIDER DURING YOUR PUBLIC APPEARANCE

10. Arrive in time.

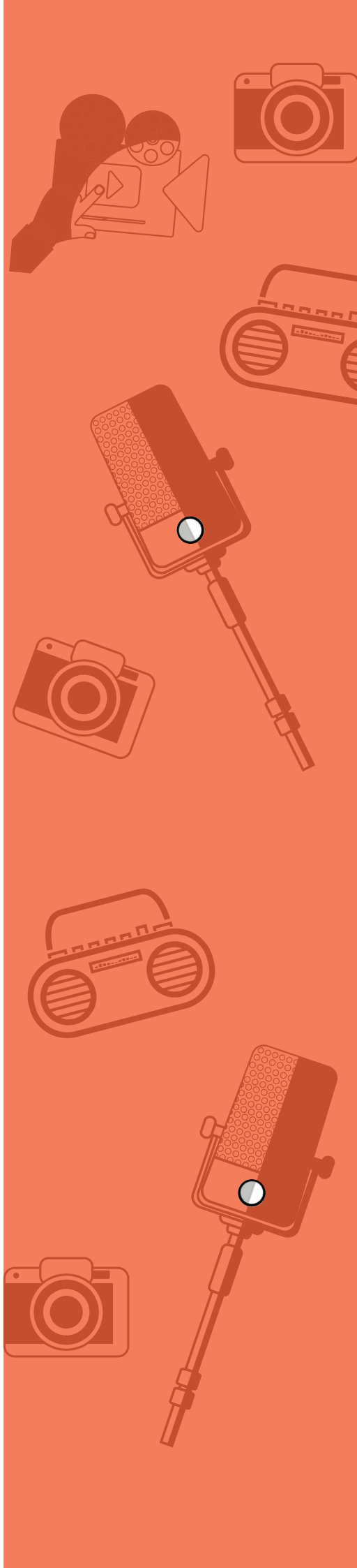
- Get started on time taking into account the **traffic situation**. It is best to arrive early so you won't be stressed about being late.

11. Get to know the host or moderator before the show.

- You will feel more relaxed if you get an opportunity **prior to the show** to ask the host questions about the procedure of the interview.
- Sometimes things may go awry. That's why it is essential that you **have an adult** to accompany you who you can rely on. Remember that every appearance is a chance to grow.

12. Use simple and clear sentences.

- Use **short sentences** as this will make the job of future **editing** easier.



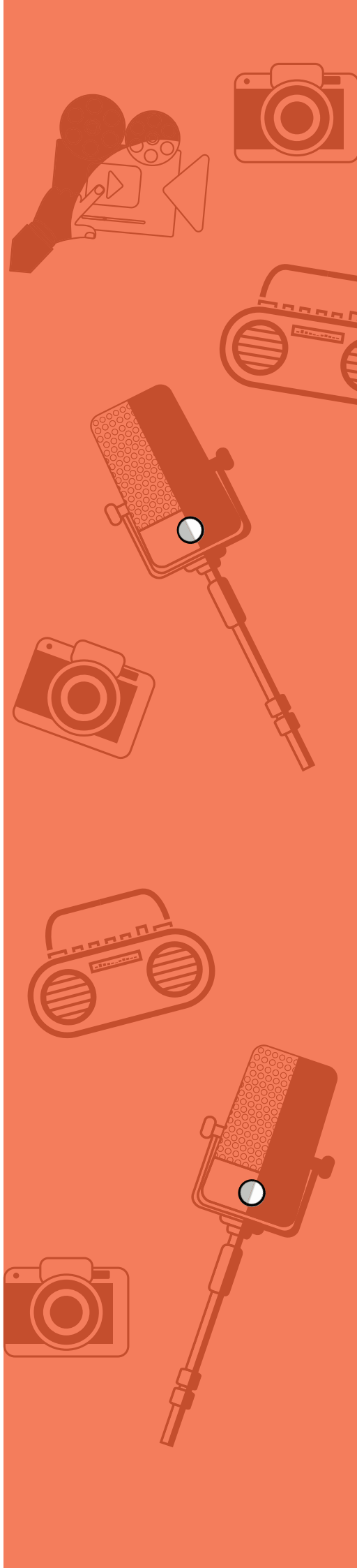
- Always respond with **full sentences** so that your utterance will make sense even if the question is cut from the video.
- Have in mind that **not everyone is familiar** with your topic and make your message comprehensible for all.

13. Be yourself and not an expert.

- Consider **what knowledge you have** access to that adult experts or commentators lack. Talk about your own experiences, opinions and that of your peer group, as you are invited to lend viewers an authentic **child perspective** on the subject.

14. Watch who you are talking on behalf of.

- If you proclaim to speak on behalf of "*children*", "*they*" or "*young people nowadays*", you won't be **authentic**. Avoid being too general in your wording, but **don't be too concrete**, either. Be vague enough so that your audience will not know if you are talking about yourself or your friends.
- You can start your utterances by saying "*the way I see it*", or "*what I can see in my school/neighborhood*".

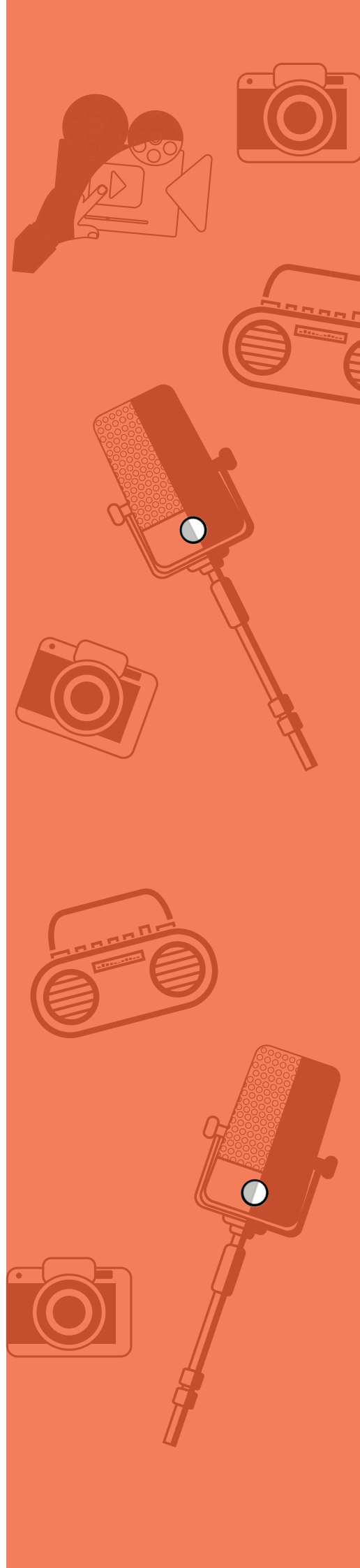


15. Tell them why you came.

- You may have only very little time or the interviewers may be digressing from the subject, so you end up not being able to say what you want. Keep focused **on your message**. After a brief response, feel free to turn the conversation in the direction you want, by using phrases such as *"this may make many think about ..."* or *"first, it's important to consider that ..."*

16. Keep in mind that in all cases the question reflects the quality of the interviewer's work!

- If you **can't or don't want to reply**, don't hesitate to switch the subject in your response, for example *"this is an important question, too, but first I think we need to clarify ..."* or *"I think first of all we should discuss ..."*
- You are entitled to decline answering a question. If it is being recorded, you can signal to stop the shooting and express that something is not right.
- There are situations when it's **best not to respond** to a question or comment.
- If you couldn't catch or don't understand a question, **feel free to ask** for clarification.

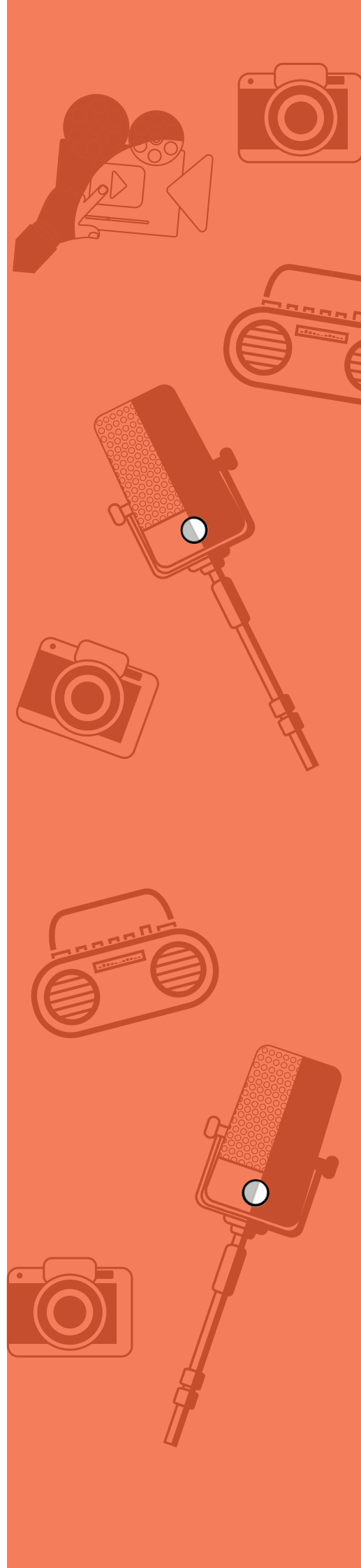


17. You have the same rights as a child during public appearances as in any other circumstances. No one has the right to belittle you.

- If you feel offended or provoked by the interviewer's question or comment, **express your discontent** about it, but do not go into an argument.

18. Viewers are interested in you, but this doesn't mean you should open up about your private life.

- Make sure that the information you share will respect your and your friends' **right to privacy**, so disguise them in your stories to make them unidentifiable.
- Avoid particulars and phrase your utterances like this: ***"Each time when ..."***, ***"What I can see in our neighborhood ..."***, ***"I've heard cases when ..."***, ***"You often hear stories of ..."***

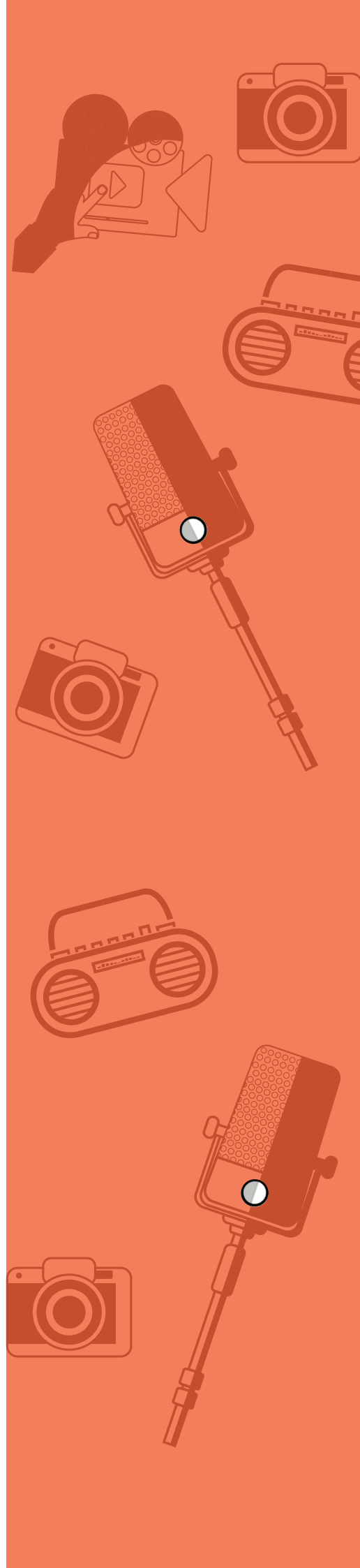


19. Anything you say can be turned into a headline.

- **Nothing** that you utter in a public appearance **can be made unsaid**, and **may be used** by the media.
- In most cases you will get a chance to **review** edited video material or written text. However, editors still have quite a bit of control over what will be highlighted or extracted from the entirety of the raw material.

20. Be polite and respectful.

- **You can take over** and have your say if there is a way to do that politely. It's best to jot down your ideas on the go, and wait until it's your turn to speak.
- If there are multiple parties to the conversation, tailor the length, content and form of your comments so as to **be respectful** of the others.



IV. THINGS TO CONSIDER AFTER YOUR PUBLIC APPEARANCE

21. Be proud of yourself.

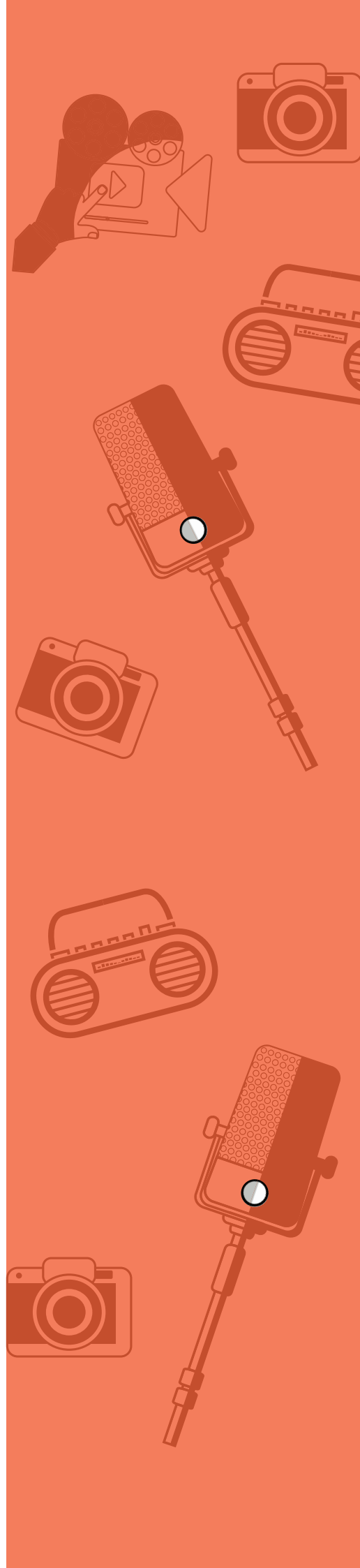
- Your preparation and public appearance both taught you a lot. Stash away the **good memories** and take the opportunity to **learn** from the challenges you coped with. Each time is a chance to practice.

22. You are not responsible if the final media product is worse than you expected.

- It is **up to the journalist** to create a quality piece of the raw material you contributed to.
- If you find something important being misrepresented or falsely reported, or you feel that your rights have been violated, **contact** the journalist or editor about it. You had better ask an adult to assist you with this.

23. Watch/listen to your recorded public appearance.

- No matter how hard it is to see ourselves on video or hear our voice, it is a priceless **opportunity to learn** from it.





HINTALOVON

Gyermekjogi Alapítvány

Find out more at our website:
WWW.HINTALOVON.HU

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2019

According to Section 2 of the law 2017 LXXVI HINTALOVON Child Rights Foundation is classified as an organization funded by foreign entities.

