

Image: 10 Years in Full Colour

DISCUSSION GUIDE

This Discussion Guide is a resource for event hosts who want to transform a great film screening into an engaging community event.

Discussions, panels and Q&As give everyone the opportunity to learn more about the issues raised in the documentary after the screening. Holding a discussion after the screening is a great way to engage your audience in the themes that are important to your community. This discussion can help to deepen understanding, to share perspectives on the issues raised by the film and even inspire people to take action.

Remember - If you plan a discussion, make sure you've got microphones (or the audience is small enough to hear without them) and chairs for guests/speakers. Set these out so the audience can see the speakers and feel part of the discussion.

In this document we will go through three types of discussions you can host:

- Panels with a moderator
- Guest speakers
- Audience discussion

Panels with a moderator

In this type of discussion, you can invite a number of different people to share their distinctive perspectives on the film and their own experiences.

You may want to invite 'experts' in your community, such as service providers, educators, youth workers, young people with lived experience, police, magistrates or local councillors.

The role of the moderator is to open up discussion (perhaps using one of our suggested questions) and to make sure that everyone on the panel's opinion or perspective is heard. If you like, you can also take questions from the audience.

Panel Checklist:

- [ ] Invite three or four panellists with a range of experience and knowledge of the relevant issues in your community. Include a variety of ages and be diverse in your choice.

- [ ] Provide them with information about the film - a link to the website and the press kit are a good start. Some may want to see the film in advance; in that case we can arrange a screening link.

- [ ] Give them a briefing of the event; who will be there, how it will run, how long the discussion will last and what questions the discussion is likely to focus on. Let them know if you need them to send an introduction/bio for the moderator to read, and if you want them to make a short statement at the beginning of the discussion.

- [ ] Choose a moderator who can keep the conversation moving. They should be well informed and a comfortable public speaker. Give them short biographies of each guest so they can introduce them and discuss in advance the areas you'd like to cover. Prepare questions in advance.

- [ ] The moderator can open the floor for audience questions. If you would like to do this, it's a good idea to have a set window for audience questions e.g. 20 minutes at the end.

Guest Speaker

You may want to invite just one speaker to talk about their experiences in relation to the issues and themes raised in the film.

Guest Speaker Checklist:

- [ ] We recommend that you keep the guest speaker's speech to 10 minutes, then open to the audience for questions (if the speaker has agreed to this).

- [ ] Make sure the speaker is briefed on the film, expectations of their involvement and role and how the event will run.

- [ ] Introduce the guest speaker with a short biography and let the audience know when they will be able to ask questions.

Audience discussion

The film will hopefully raise a wide range of emotions, questions, concerns and ideas from the audience. If you feel comfortable, you can act as the moderator to facilitate a healthy discussion with your audience. Alternatively you might like to ask someone else to moderate and help you navigate the discussion.

Audience Discussion Checklist:

- [ ] A good way to start the panel and audience discussion is with some specific questions for your speakers. You may like to prepare some yourself, or you can use some of the suggestions in the

next section.

- [ ] The questions in this guide have been developed with a range of audiences in mind, so make sure you tailor the questions to suit your speakers and audience.

Engaging Q&A sessions

An impactful Q&A session requires careful planning and preparation. Here are some tips to make your Q&A session engaging and informative:

- Set clear expectations: Let your audience know in advance that there will be a Q&A session after the film. Encourage them to think of questions they would like to ask and to stay for the duration of the session.

- Choose a knowledgeable moderator: Select a moderator who is well-versed in the subject matter of the film and who can guide the discussion in a productive direction. They should also be skilled at facilitating conversation and keeping the Q&A on track.

- Encourage participation for a more inclusive and diverse discussion: Make sure everyone has an opportunity to ask questions or contribute to the discussion. A good moderator is conscious of power and seeks to make the discussion an inclusive and diverse one.

- Start with open-ended questions: Begin the Q&A with broad, open-ended questions that allow for multiple perspectives and opinions. For example, "What did you think of the film?" or "What themes or issues stood out to you?"

- Be prepared with follow-up questions: Use follow-up questions to encourage more in-depth discussion. Ask the audience to elaborate on their initial responses or to explain their reasoning.

- Keep the discussion focused: Keep the Q&A on track by redirecting the conversation if it strays too far from the topic at hand. If one person is dominating the conversation, try to bring others into the discussion by asking for their input.

- Be respectful of all opinions: Encourage a respectful and open-minded atmosphere where all opinions are valued. If someone disagrees with another attendee's point of view, encourage them to explain their reasoning in a non-confrontational manner. If you foresee the potential for conflicting views, it might be a good thing to start the session with some ground rules centred in respect, listening and open-mindedness.

- End on a positive note: Close the Q&A session by thanking everyone for their participation and encouraging them to continue the conversation outside of the event.

Sample questions

- Were the challenges faced by the people in the film familiar?
- What are some of the challenges facing members in our community? What are some of the opportunities that could exist to improve this?
- There are lots of stereotypes about the people in the film, how do you think the film challenged these stereotypes?
- Do you have a different perspective on the issue?
- After watching this film, what do you think could be done differently?
- What are some of the people, services and support in your community who might be able to respond to these issues?
- What lessons do you think this film could have for your local community?
- What lessons do you think the film has for people in the sector?
- Do you think the film could be used in your own work? How?
- Is there anything you could start doing now to support this issue in your community?