



## Viewing Discussion Guide

## INTRODUCTION TO THIS GUIDE

In this guide you will find:

- Active engagement opportunities in conjunction with **THE RIGHT TO REMAIN** film
- Discussion Questions
- Links to resources to learn more

Please note: **THE RIGHT TO REMAIN** is recommended for high school-aged students, college-aged students, and general adult audiences. The film contains strong language and depictions of violence. It is recommended that children under 12 not view the film.

There are many ways to engage with the film series and the topics and themes it explores.

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

Facebook (@therighttoremainfilm)

Twitter(@trtrfilm)

Instagram (@therighttoremainfilm)

**TWEET AND POST ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM** while watching **THE RIGHT TO REMAIN** using the following hashtags:

#TheRightToRemain

#TRTRFilm

#ChangeMustComeTRTR

**Tune in** on June 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm for a Zoom panel discussion with the cast and crew of the film hosted by the Columbus Museum of Art.



## WHY WE MADE THIS FILM:

The goal of this film series, as is the goal of all the work we do in the areas of art and education, is to move people from inspiration to action to outcomes. Actions and outcomes begin with thoughtful reflection, consideration, and discussion.

It is important that watching this film series is not just a powerful *moment*, but rather a contribution to the powerful *movement* towards justice for **all** in our communities, our country, and our world.

This can be reinforced by discussing and debriefing the film series with friends, families, colleagues, and / or classmates. We encourage you to use this guide after each episode and after watching the entire series.

As you are engaging in discussion, remember to listen and to be open-minded. Be prepared to ask follow up questions if need be. If someone has taken the time to watch the film series, they deserve to have their thoughts and feelings heard. They also deserve to feel safe in sharing. Remember, the goal of the film, just like the goal of the discussion, is to contribute to creating a world where every single person knows that they are safe, they are valued, and they are necessary.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

*What did you learn from this episode / film series that you didn't know before?*

*What scenes or characters in this this episode / film series did you find to be the most impactful?  
How and why?*

*What were some of the important themes or messages in this this episode / film series?*

*What is systemic racism and / or what are examples of systemic racism that we see today?*

*Why is it hard for some people to accept / believe that systemic racism still exists?*

*Who all does systemic racism affect? How and why?*

*Why is it hard for some people who don't feel they are affected by systemic racism to speak up about it or against it?*

*As a result of watching this episode / film series, what are you as an individual willing to do new, better, or differently? How and why?*

*As a result of watching this episode / film series, what can we as a group do new, better, or differently?  
How and why?*

*As a result of watching this episode / film series, what can we as a community do new, better, or differently? How and why?*

*As a result of watching this episode / film series, what can we as a country do new, better, or differently?  
How and why?*

## WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

In an attempt to provide guidance for White allies seeking guidance about how to effectively engage to advance the attainment of racial equity, the following five—and evolving—list of recommendations is below. Please see second page for mostly free resources to learn more.

(Adapted from *HOW BLACK LIVES MATTER ALLIES CAN ADVANCE RACIAL EQUITY*, June 2020)

*“The beauty of anti-racism is that you don't have to pretend to be free of racism to be an anti-racist. Anti-racism is the commitment to fight racism wherever you find it, including in yourself. And that's the only way forward.” –Ijeoma Oluo*

- 1. RE-EDUCATE YOURSELF WITH THE “HARD” HISTORY OF THE BIRTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF OUR NATION AND CURRENT ISSUES OF RACIAL INEQUITY.** Absent People of Color and their contributions, this country and the American way of life would not exist. Learn about the social constructs of race and racism—both individual and structural—which fully and factually explain where we are and how we got here. When White people and other allies see “incidents” of police brutality, Black people see an unbroken and historical pattern of brutality and fatality which has existed since before the establishment of this nation. This understanding, and a working knowledge of our country’s oppressive history, is key to charting a course forward. There is no need for guilt for where we are today. However, each of us bear responsibility for meaningful change; particularly our White allies who have the power to change the system.
- 2. HOST CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR FRIENDS, FAMILIES, AND COLLEAGUES ABOUT RACE, RACISM; WHY RACIAL EQUITY IS IMPORTANT WHY YOU; AND WHY EACH OF US IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DISMANTLING AND CORRECTING IT WHEREVER IT IS FOUND.** White people and other allies may be more comfortable first having these conversations with those who share their racial or cultural identity. This is especially true for those who may be unaware of their racist perspectives, actions, and inaction until it is brought to their attention. White entitlement and privilege allows White people to go through life virtually free from oppression, enabling them to be unaware of its current impact because they do not experience systemic racism first-hand. Therefore, it is critically important to take advantage of all teachable moments by pointing out racism and racially inequitable outcomes; both individual and systemic.
- 3. SPEAK UP AND OUT PRIVATELY / PUBLICALLY ABOUT RACIAL INEQUITIES YOU WITNESS OR AWARE OF.** Choosing not to speak up or act perpetuates and strengthens the status quo. If you see something, say something. When you know better, do better.
- 4. SEEK TO UNDERSTAND BEFORE BEING UNDERSTOOD.** Continue to educate yourself. Listen to People of Color describe their lived experiences with racism. Ask people of color how to support them. Ask questions for understanding. Always follow-through for we are stronger together.
- 5. USE YOUR PRIVILEGE AS A PLATFORM TO MAKE ROOM FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD.** Each of us have spheres of influence. Sharing/using your platform to raise awareness and spark action is key to realizing a racially just society.

## MOSTLY FREE ARTICLES/RESOURCE LIST

*(by no means is this list exhaustive)*

### ARTICLES

- **Privileged**, Kyle Korver, <https://www.theplayerstribune.com/en-us/articles/kyle-korver-utah-jazz-nba>
- **Teaching Hard History Report**, <https://www.splcenter.org/20180131/teaching-hard-history>
- **Teaching Hard History Quiz**, <https://www.splcenter.org/data-projects/how-much-do-you-know-about-american-slavery>
- **400: An Afrikan Epic**, Dr. Mark Lomax, II, <https://marklomaxii.com/400-an-afrikan-epic>
- **400: An Afrikan Epic Curriculum**, Dr. Melissa Crum, <https://www.mosaiceducationpress.com/> (not free)
- **The 1619 Project**, Nikole Hannah Jones, *The New York Times Magazine*, <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/08/14/magazine/1619-america-slavery.html>

### VIDEOS

- **Banished: American Ethnic Cleansings**  
<https://www.pbs.org/independentlens/banished/forsyth.html>
- **Why "I'm not racist" is only half the story,** Robin D'Angelo, <https://youtu.be/kzLT54QicIA>
- **Joaquin Phoenix Delivers Powerful Speech After Leading Actor Win for Joker**, EE BAFTA Film Awards, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hAhOFSfc4Ls>
- **Jesse Williams' BET 2016 Award Acceptance Speech**, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=orXogk3euMA>
- **The Making of Ferguson**, The Economic Policy Institute, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Jy6hUBj6is>
- **13<sup>th</sup> Full Feature Documentary**, Ava Duvernay, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=krfcq5pF8u8>
- **Race Matters: America in Crisis**, PBS, <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/watch-live-race-matters-america-in-crisis-a-pbs-newshour-special>

### BOOKS

- **Blood at the Root: A Racial Cleansing in America**, Patrick Phillips
- **Invention of the White Race**, Theodore Allen
- **Just Mercy**, Bryan Stevenson
- **Learning to be White**, Thandeka
- **Racecraft**, Karen Fields and Barbara Fields
- **The Color of Law**, Richard Rothstein
- **The Color of Money**, Mersha Baradaran
- **The New Jim Crow**, Michelle Alexander
- **White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Race**, Beverly DiAngelo
- **White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide**, Carol Anderson
- **White Trash: The 400-Year Untold History of Class in America**, Nancy Isenberg
- **Stamped From the Beginning**, Ibram X. Kendi

### Websites

- Black Lives Matter Movement <https://blacklivesmatter.com/>
- Southern Poverty Law Center <https://www.splcenter.org/>
- Equal Justice Center <https://eji.org/>