

## FAST FACTS



Varies



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## How to Show a Social Justice Film: Make Your Program Count

### Things to consider when selecting the film:

- What type of movie do I want to show? A documentary? A feature film?
- Is there a theme or activity that my students might relate to or find interesting? (prom night, soccer theme, travel abroad, etc.)
- Is there a specific topic I want to address with my students?
- After you answer some of these questions, now it's time to find your movie! You can look at the list of movies and check out trailers for the films right on the Residence Life website! Once you find one you want to show, contact Diane Schaller at [schaller@life.arizona.edu](mailto:schaller@life.arizona.edu) to request the movie.

### Planning the Program:

- How are you going to market the movie you chose?
- How are you going to advertise for the event?
- Would theming the program be appropriate? For example, for *Prom Night in Mississippi* you might want to throw a prom night in your hall complete with invitations and sparkling grape juice.
- How could the film be paired with another activity: Watch *Murderball* and then go watch a UA wheelchair rugby game!

### Preparing for the Program:

- Watch the movie and take notes!
- Be sure you are familiar with the topics the film depicts and feel comfortable leading a processing session.
- If you are not familiar with the topics the film depicts, do your research! Contact the Coordinator of Social Justice Education if you need help.
- Prepare some discussion questions you can ask the participants.

### Executing the Program:

#### 1. Before the Film

- Before you start the film, make sure to give a brief introduction to the movie
- Mention why you picked the movie you chose
- Mention some of the themes that are addressed in the film
- Ask students to take notes for a discussion session after the film
- You may also want to have some prompt questions on handouts for them to jot notes down on while they watch the movie
- You can also ask student to write some discussion questions while watching the movie for processing after the film

#### 2. During the Movie:

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- Take notes about students' reactions to specific scenes in the movie. What were students reacting to? What scenes were they not reacting to that you thought they would?
- Don't be afraid to pause the movie at certain scenes and have discussion about themes/issues that come up in the film at that time. It may be best to have a list of prepared questions to ask.

### 3. After the Movie:

- Make sure to lay some ground rules of respect before getting into a discussion.
- A good way to do this is to ask students to come up with their own ground rules.
- If conversation starts regarding the movie, allow it to happen. Make sure the conversation is appropriate and do your best to keep the conversation on topic.
- After some conversation initiated by students, you can continue with some processing questions below, questions you created and questions students wrote while watching the film.

### Processing Questions:

- What are your initial reactions to this film?
- What scenes if any surprised you?
- Whose story is told in this film? Whose story is not told?
- Why do you think this film was made?
- Why do you think we watched this film today?
- Can you relate to any of the characters in the film?
- What have you learned from watching this movie?
- Does this film relate to your own life experiences?
- Does this film relate to observations you've had at the UA?
- What offices/resources does UA offer related to the issue presented in this movie?

### Additional Discussion Questions:

- How did this activity make you feel?
- What did you observe as you were doing the activity?
- Did anything surprise you?
- What have you learned from this activity?
- Has this activity changed your perspective of others?