

Talk Back Questions Following The Ville & The Hill (A Sampling)

1. Why do we still struggle with racism in America?
2. How can we change and improve race relations in St. Louis?
3. Why did Ferguson happen? How many of you have been to either Ferguson, The Ville of the Hill? What were your impressions? Living in St. Louis, do you feel isolated from the Ferguson crisis?
4. What makes St. Louis unique? St. Louis is made up of different historical neighborhoods. Is that good or bad in your opinion? Is St. Louis racially segregated?
5. Is it possible to have true equality and justice for all as recited in The Pledge of Allegiance?
6. What are your reactions to our performance? Do you think it was a true depiction of what is happening in St. Louis?
7. How can the lessons from the Civil Rights Movement be applied to current conversations about racial profiling and police brutality?
8. Do you feel the “Black Lives Matter” protests and “We Have To Stop Killing Each Other” are a new chapter in the Civil Rights Movement?
9. Discuss the criticism that some have towards the “Blacks Lives Matter” sign? Don’t all lives matter?
10. Did the events surrounding the shooting of Michael Brown and the choke-hold death of Eric Garner, and the long list of killings of unarmed African Americans by police create a ‘Selma moment’ akin to the national outrage after Bloody Sunday?
11. What are some of the similarities/differences between Selma and Ferguson?
12. What do you think you can do as an individual to change attitudes and perceptions based on fear, intolerance, and ignorance?
13. What lessons can younger and older activists learn from each other about fighting for justice?
14. When protesting and working for peace seems to be in vain, do you ever feel like calling it quits? What motivates you to keep pressing on?
15. When non-violent solutions seem not to work, should individuals sometimes adapt a more societal view of resolving violence with violence? What helps you to remain non-violent in a violent world?
16. What role should prayer play in the non-violence movement?
17. What lessons can be learned from the movie Selma regarding the need to be persistent in getting political leaders or police to speak and act on particular issues?
18. What sort of legislation or policy can be put in place for real change? Cameras in police cars? More black police officers? Discuss new ideas for fairness and equality?

19. How are you answering the 'call' to participate in movements that do not directly impact you?
20. What are the causes of racism? Discuss other types of racism in history. Is racism getting better or worse?
21. Do you agree that "racism is taught"?
22. Can you think of any films that deal with racism?
23. Do you think that some films promote racial stereotypes? If so, which ones?
24. Do you think as a country we have become immune to black on black crime?
25. Is there a type of war being fought in our inner cities?