

“WE THE PEOPLE”

The Return Home - Program #4 (Length: 14:07 Min)

Viewers may want to discuss what they're thinking/feeling before & after suggested discussion questions.

Suggestions for Discussion:

1. What kind of fears did the Japanese American internees bring back with them on their return home?
2. How were their feelings of shame, depression, guilt and sadness reinforced when they encountered their neighbors or teachers? Positive/negative?
3. What was behind the way some teachers used their returning students to support them? What was behind other teachers that belittled them? What values were reinforced? Discarded?
4. As a result of their difficulty finding jobs at home, what fields of work did many enter?
5. What were the prospects of people starting their business all over again when they returned?
6. What were some of the reasons why Japanese American families were welcomed back into society?
7. What role does church and religious institutions play regarding marginalized people excluded from society? Why?
8. During the time of the incarceration there were many good people who did not speak up about the injustice that was happening. Why did this happen?
9. What were the psychological effects on Japanese American adults and children after being imprisoned?
10. Imagine you are back home. You are on your street in front of your home. Are there people living there now? Where are you going to live? How will your parents support you?

People to Research:

Lawson Sakai
George Takai
Dr. Kay Ryugo
Reiko Nagumo
Gloria Imagire

Photos to Discuss:

Business with “sold” signs
“Japs Go Home”
Japanese American stored furniture and clothing scattered
Internees waiting behind barbed wire fences to be released