

# **“WE THE PEOPLE”**

## **PROGRAM #4 - THE RETURN HOME**

**Length: 14:07**

### **Notes:**

*If a teacher is not present to keep the discussion flowing and on track, the use of a facilitator is highly recommended.*

*Depending on the specific audience and the facilitator, some questions could also include Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders.*

### **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 who had established a business, starting their business all over again when they returned? What about those starting a business for the first time?
6. What were some of the reasons why Japanese American families were welcomed back into society?
7. What roles do 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. What if there are people living in the home your family still owns? Why? Where are you going to live?

***After discussions have ended ask volunteer viewers what they are thinking/feeling.***

**People to Research:**

- Lawson Sakai
- George Takei
- Dr. Kay Ryugo
- Reiko Nagumo
- Gloria Imagire
- Les Ouchida

**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