

“WE THE PEOPLE”

PROGRAM #7 - COULD THIS HAPPEN AGAIN?

Length: 20:35

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. Do you believe something like the Japanese American incarceration could happen again? Please explain.
2. Do you think the reasons for the incarceration of Japanese Americans, (racism, fear mongering, and failure of political leadership) are still alive today? Why? Why not?
3. Are we doing anything, personally, or in our community, to address these causes? Is it enough? Why? Why not?
4. Has social media and or mainstream media influenced your attitudes toward people different than you? How can this happen?
5. How do you research media sources that are based on fact and not personal interpretation or hearsay? Please share.
6. What might happen when community members involve themselves in everything from bake sales to food banks, to school boards, to mayors, and beyond? Why?
7. What suggestions do you have or can imagine, that could inspire greater citizen involvement in democracy?

See page 2 for more discussion topics.

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

Documents to Research:

- Preamble to the Constitution of the United States
- 13th and 19th Amendments to the Constitution
- Abraham Lincoln's address to students at Lyceum
- George Washington's fears about political parties

People to Research:

Francis Biddle

John J. McCloy

Earl Warren

Sec. of Navy Frank Knox

Theodor Seuss Geisel

Henry L. Stimson

Lucy Burns

Alice Paul

Possible Follow-Up Activities:

1. What are some of the ways that American news media can contribute to or defuse racism or fear mongering? Perhaps your group might view a news program and discuss it.
2. Who are some of today's politicians in the US who seem to understand and speak out about the failure of political leadership? What are they saying? Show some video clips of them and talk about why viewers support or not support them.
3. Further ideas?