



Silent No More Screening
DISCUSSION GUIDE

SAMPLE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Opening Questions

- If you were going to tell someone what the main message of this film was, what would you say?
- What scene from the documentary most affected you, and why?
- Did anything in the film surprise you?
- What is the significance of the film's title?

Additional Questions

- What can we do as a community to reduce the epidemic of missing and murdered Indigenous women?
- Raise of Hands: How many of you have experienced or know of someone who has experienced what happens in the film?
- Did you see anything familiar in the film? What do people in your community have in common with the people featured in the film?

Closing Questions

- Complete this sentence. This documentary is important to me because...
- What is one thing you learned from this discussion that you wish everybody knew?
- What are you going to do to make a change?
- What resources do we have in our community to address these issues? And, what resources do we need for our community to address these issues?

FACILITATOR TIPS

Emotional topics make for excellent discussions. By their very nature, those same topics can evoke passionate exchanges as people experience deep emotions and defend strongly held beliefs. As a facilitator, you can channel that passion into a productive dialogue by creating an atmosphere in which all participants feel safe, encouraged, and respected. Here's how a facilitator can encourage that kind of participation:

Be clear about your role.

Being a facilitator is not the same as being a teacher. A teacher explains and helps people learn specific information. In contrast, a facilitator remains neutral, moving the discussion along without imposing his or her views on the dialogue.

Establish Language Ground Rules.

Encourage everyone to speak only for themselves and not generalize or presume to know how others feel. Reinforce a climate of respect with the language you use to pose questions. For example, when addressing an issue, you can ask what people think. But when speaking about a person, avoid appearances of being judgmental by asking “What did you learn from [insert name]?”

Ensure that Everyone has an Opportunity to be Heard.

Be clear about how people will take turns or indicate that they want to speak. Plan a strategy for preventing one or two people from dominating the discussion (e.g. using go-rounds, a talking stick, etc.).

Prepare yourself.

Understand your own “hot-button” issues. View the film before your event and give yourself time to react so you aren't dealing with raw emotions at the same time that you are trying to facilitate a discussion.