DCT’S SOCIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE
YOUTH CHATS TALKBACK STARTER QUESTIONS AND SUMMARIES

WATER GUN SONG

Summary

- Importance of family rules & values and being able to protect, practice and reason about it in different situations. (“We can’t play water guns in our house because”)
- Respecting yours and other choices. (Mom feels uncomfortable with the idea of Guns.)
- The biases associated with guns and people of color.
- Breaking our biases towards people of color and others. Each individual you meet and interact has a different life story. Don’t paint everyone with the same brush.
- Look deeper to understand the other. People of color are more than just their color. (Obama is more than just its color. Right?)

Questions for Parents, Teachers & Youth Leaders

What was your initial reaction to the play?
What were your young people’s responses?
What were your fellow adult’s responses?

What stood out to you most?

What do you think your child or students will remember most?

Have you had discussions about race relations with your adult peers?
Why or why not?

Have you had discussions with young people about the issues in this play?
Why or why not?

Do you think the mother in the play was being reasonable?

Have you, as a parent/youth leader, feared for a young person’s life because of their race?

What do you want your child or your students to take away from the play?
Questions for kids:

Have you ever talked to your parent(s) or an adult about the issues in this play?

What do you remember most?

Why do you think Sam’s mom was scared for Sam to play with water guns?

Do you think Sam’s mom was being fair to Sam?

NOTHING RHYMES WITH JUNETEENTH

Summary

- Using your talent to educate people. (Rap, art, music, drama)
- Importance of Juneteenth in the history of Civil Rights- Liberation Soldiers.
- Knowing your history and celebrating it in the contemporary context.

What was your initial reaction to the play?

How many of you knew about (or have not heard of) Juneteenth before this presentation?

If yes, when and/or where did you learn about it? School? News? TV? Friend?

If no, what stood out to you the most? Do you think this should be taught in school?

How much impact do you think that may have had on future generations?

How did the father help his daughter with her homework assignment? What kind of parenting example did he portray?

What message do you think the playwright wanted to get across?

#MATTER

Summary

- It is difficult to have RACE conversations.
- We have different experiences that define our narrative/lens on RACE.
- Clarifying doubts and biases is a healthy way to handle differences.
- Meaning making is an interesting phenomenon and happens at many levels. (What you write, read and mean)
- ‘Black Lives Matter’ is an effort to highlight the systemic racism in our country.
• Difference between ‘Tolerance’ and ‘Acceptance’. (Cole ‘accepted’ Kim but might be ‘tolerating’ the Black RACE. This was not ‘tolerated’ by Kim even though she ‘accepted’ Cole as a friend. This was a breaking point in their relationship)

• A healthy society respects & accepts the diversity prevalent in its social fabric.

What was your initial reaction the play?

What do you understand ‘Black Lives Matter’ to mean?

What do you understand 'All Lives Matter' to mean?

In your mind, are they in conflict? Can you support both ideas?

Does the real intent get lost in the conflict?

DCT NEEDS YOUR FEEDBACK

So that we can have a complete accounting of this initiative, we would be grateful if you would send the following details to family@dct.org after your session is over:

1. Name of Group

2. Date of Event

3. Number of Adults Participating

4. Number of Youth (under 18) Participating

5. Name of Ambassador(s) from your session who will be a part of the DCT-Led Event on March 11th at 7PM

6. Any takeaways or other comments