



## Field Study Reflection & Film Roundtable Prep Worksheet

Film Subject: Ruby Bridges



### PART 1: Field Study Insights

1. What moment or place on the field study impacted you the most? Why?  
(e.g., Emmett Till Interpretive Center, MLK Memorial in Memphis, Civil Rights Room in Nashville)

The most impactful part of the trip for me was hearing about the 13 year old put on death row for being at a bus station. Learning about what happened to people and actually seeing it was dramatically more impactful. When I saw the man walking around the museum I just assumed he was there for the exhibit and was just your average guy. It made me realize how recent everything was because he was the same age as my grandad and how it was everyday people were effected.

2. Identify a story of courage or resilience you encountered that was not specifically about your film's subject. How did it challenge or reinforce your understanding of social justice? How did it make you feel?

The story of Glendora and its mayor wasn't specifically about Ruby bridges but it was filled with resilience. It reinforced the idea that its hard to move forward when you are seen as lower and never recognized. The town was directly connected to the Emmet Till story yet the national parks services didn't reconise them or the part they played. If they had then Glendora would've been protected instead it was up to the mayor to create this museum about Emmet till and he did. The town seemed trapped despite all the good they were trying to do. For example Glendora was a food desert, its 2025 but they were still over 10 miles away from the nearest fresh food grocery store.

3. What connections do you see between the music you encountered and the fight for social justice? How does the musical heritage of the regions visited reflect the struggles and triumphs of the communities?

Seeing the change of music throughout the decade it was cool to match them up to the changes in the civil rights movement. From music about a tough life to gospel and soul music being used to empower to more Black Power music in the later civil rights movement. It showed me how interconnected music and civil rights is to culture.

4. What connections do you see between a place you encountered and the fight for social justice that was NOT in your plan?

Before going on the trip I had decided that my call to action would be something like "look around you to see what everyday choices you could make to help the world". After the trip the call to action is "At the dinner table tonight bring up what you learned here today and start a discussion on what you could do to fight injustice." This is all because of the Nashville public library civil rights room. The women who worked with us during that time brought up how important it was people go there and learn and start conversations about it. It stuck with me and made me how Ruby Bridges does that. She didn't stop after she graduated instead she started a foundation, wrote books and carried on the conversation.



## PART 2: Your Story

5. What message do you hope the audience takes from your film?

I want the audience to realize how little they know or talk about civil rights and at their dinner table try to bring up what they learned from the film and start discussions on what they could do to fight injustice.

6. What brave choices can \*you\* and others make in your own community to stand up for something you believe in?

Talk about what we want to stand up for. When I was hanging out with my careers mentor (26 year old) and others my age last week I brought up my trip and started talking about the places I went and the people I learned about. What I realized is that most people only have a very basic understanding of the civil rights movement. No one knew who Emmet till or Medgar Evers were, most of the didn't know about Bloody Sunday or what the march on Washington was about. It made me realize how fortunate our class was to learn and experience what we did for this project and how something that we can do in our communities is just talk about it. To get people interested so that they will educate themselves and learn more, to start more conversations.

7. What do you still want to work on with your film?

I have an extension on my film so I still have a lot to do seeing as my weekend was more busy then I thought. My next steps right now is to revise the conclusion of my script to make it follow my call to action more.

### **PART 3: Connecting to YOU**

8. How has this field study and project influenced your perspective on activism and community engagement?

Before the project I thought of the civil rights movement as just a part of history. I had been told that it still effected us today but I never really put much thought into it, and thats the problem. It made me realize how many others must think that way. This project also made me realize how important grassroots activism is and how its just everyday people from a community who really make a difference when they band together.

9. Reflect on a moment during the field study that inspired you to consider your role in promoting social change.

When hearing the testimonies at the Mississippi civil rights museum it made me think about what I'm doing in my life and what more I could be doing. It reminded me of BCFP class last year and the 94 calls to actions and how part of that was our BCFP class. This made me think about what I could individually do for social change which lead me to asking that question in interviews I did later in the trip so I could learn more. This lead me to the idea of how important starting a conversation about hard topics is which is why that is now

10. Share a quote, lyric, or moment from the field study or your research that continues to inspire you. Explain its significance.

"We may not all be equally guilty, but we are all equally responsible for building a decent and just society" - Ruby Bridges. While I learned about this quote before going on the trip it kept playing over and over in my head during the field study. Just because we feel disconnected to the problem doesn't mean we should be.

#### **PART 4: Roundtable Ready**

A connection between your film's subject and a site visited:

In the National Civil Rights museum they had a lot of information to cover but they included a painting of Ruby Bridges and her story which helps me show how important it is.

An unexpected insight gained from creating your film:

That I honestly enjoy going to museums. I need up looking forward to the next museum because of how well made the first few were and how impactful they were with the people we met.

Ways in which your film's subject's story can inspire current and future generations:

Encourage them to fight injustice and create diversity.

A key message you wish to convey during the roundtable discussion:

I want to convey how important it is for us to have conversations about injustice. We can't make a difference if people don't know about it.