

“Piece to Peace”
Pullman Peace Playground Project Documentary
Discussion Guide Questions – Film Screenings



About and Purpose.....	2-3
Discussion Style	
Formats.....	3
Facilitating and Moderating.....	3
Discussion Questions	
Questions for All Audiences.....	3-4
Questions for Students.....	4
Questions for Community Members and Partners.....	4
Calls to Action.....	4-5
Contact Us.....	5

|| ABOUT AND PURPOSE ||

About the Pullman Peace Playground Project

“Piece to Peace” is a documentary about how the Pullman community located on the south side of Chicago led the charge to address the on-going violence that challenged their neighborhood after decades of disinvestment. Pullman native, Sherman Scullark became tired of the extreme violence in his neighborhood that at times, even made it unsafe to walk his kid to school. He decided to bravely go over territory lines and initiate a truce with a rival group that would put an end to gun violence in Pullman. This led to several months without any shootings, bringing much needed peace to the residents.

After almost a year without violence in Pullman, Scullark and members of Chicago CRED (Creating Real Economic Destiny) were motivated to find other ways to lift up the community. And what they desired most was for kids to have a safe place to play in their community. Arne Duncan, Chicago Cred managing partner and former Secretary of Education reached out to KaBOOM!, and with the support of Chicago White Sox and Chicago Parks District, the residents of Pullman built a new playground that serves as a safe neighborhood gathering space and a symbol for a brighter future for the community.

Sadly, the truce ended at the end of the summer in 2019. This brings to light the harsh reality that the communities we work with are experiencing some of the most challenging inequities in our country. It also shows the urgency to support those who want to create positive outcomes for kids.

Every kid needs a safe place to play. And the work continues on to demonstrate the value of people putting differences aside to put kids first, and how communities can lead the change they want to see for their own bright futures.

Purpose of the Film Screenings and Discussions

The “Piece to Peace” film screenings and discussions are designed to stimulate dialogue around identifying and addressing the pressing issues in underserved communities. The event is intended to inspire advocates from communities like Pullman that have a desire to create

change in their neighborhood. The audience should leave having a better understanding of the pressing issues impacting their community and how they can serve as an advocate for change.

|| DISCUSSION STYLE ||

Formats

There are two different formats that you can choose from to structure your post-screening discussion. You have the option of blending or improvising each of them.

- *Panel Discussion* – a discussion with a panel of experts and key leaders from the community or surrounding communities.
- *Traditional Q&A* – questions pre-written and/or randomly selected from the audience for the panel, film participants or event hosts.

Invitees

- *Audience* – general public, community members, parents, corporate community engagement staff, etc.
- *Panel Discussion and Q&A* – local city officials, state representatives, youth activists, community leaders, organization/foundation/nonprofit leaders and staff, etc.

Facilitating and Moderating

The role of a facilitator and/or moderator should help provide structure and guidance for all discussions and Q&A's during the event. Please select someone who will keep the audience engaged and support the panel throughout the discussion. Key responsibilities include:

- Introduction and welcome
- Moderate Q&As for audience
- Call on audience for questions for the panel
- Understanding of the film
- Follow discussion and provide questions
- Closing discussions and provide remarks

|| DISCUSSION QUESTIONS ||

Here are some questions that can help guide your Q&A and discussion. Feel free to edit or incorporate your own list of questions.

Questions for All Audiences

- What are some other ways local organizations can be engaged in working with underserved communities?
- What did you learn from the film?
- What community challenges did Pullman face and how did they come together to address those issues?
- What similarities did you see in Pullman vs. your own community?
- What are some unique challenges in your community that you can address?

- What resources are available in your community that could help address the challenges?

Questions for Students

- What are some ways that you can help make your community safer?
- Is there anyone famous/well-known that you know that has given back to their community? In what ways are they helping the community? What is the outcome of their work?
- If you could pull together a community project for your neighborhood, what would it be and how would it bring people closer together or make the community safer?

Questions for Community Members and Partners

- What are some pressing issues that you think can be addressed if your community worked together to create solutions?
- What do you think hinders a community from taking the lead in creating change in their own neighborhood? And what can be done to address those barriers?
- How do you see yourself taking action in helping your community come together in creating change in your neighborhood?
- How can we be more supportive in helping our local communities?

|| CALLS TO ACTION ||

For Audience

Community

- Contact your local representative and setup a meeting to discuss the issues impacting the safety and growth of your community and residents
- Start a closed Facebook group on social media and invite your community to join and engage in dialogue on how to solve a neighborhood challenge
- Create or contribute to a monthly community newsletter to keep residents updated on neighborhood happenings, events, etc.
- Attend or create community meetings to understand the concerns impacting residents

Youth

- Look for local volunteer opportunities in your neighborhood and/or community and invite your community members.
- Organize or participate in a fundraiser that will benefit your community and its members (Ex. Book drive for high school kids, lemonade stand to help clean up the neighborhood, car wash to plant trees, etc.)
- Become a mentor to a younger kid or kids
- Organize a neighborhood clean-up day

Corporate/Nonprofit/Foundations

- Connect with community leaders to better understand how your organization can better serve their community and local initiatives
- Highlight a local community in an internal newsletter/communication piece

For Hosts

- Share a survey (print or online) before the close of the event to get feedback from the audience and panel
- Follow-up with panelists and special guests to continue cultivating relationships for future discussions that can continue to support community needs

|| CONTACT US ||

Lead:

Tamara Grider, Director of Strategic Communications
KaBOOM!

tgrider@kaboom.org | (O) 202-464-6196

KaBOOM!
4301 Connecticut Avenue, Suite ML-1
Washington DC, 20008

