



**RUN
FOR
HIS
LIFE**

Run For His Life

A film by Sebastian Sdaigui

Discussion and Resource Guide

for Community and Youth-based Screenings



Run For His Life Youth Discussion Guide

Thanks for taking advantage of a great opportunity to change hearts and minds about the criminal justice system. You're joining a huge team of people across the country screening the award-winning short film, RUN FOR HIS LIFE. By choosing to screen RUN FOR HIS LIFE, you are now part of a nationwide social impact campaign that utilizes Pete Monsanto Jr.'s story to educate, engage, and activate the public around the importance of maintaining the ongoing relationship between children and their incarcerated parents. After your screening, we invite you to use the following themes and questions to prompt meaningful discussion among your friends, family, and community.

Maintaining Bonds Between Children & Their Incarcerated Parents

- Looking at the relationship between Pete Jr. and Pete Sr., in your opinion, what are some of the hurdles a child might experience with limited access to their parent(s) because of incarceration? How do you think the COVID-19 pandemic, which has increased restrictions on in-person visitation, has exacerbated these hurdles?
- Many incarcerated people lack access to cellular devices and computers. What do you think are some of the struggles that a child might come across while trying to communicate with their incarcerated parent?
- After watching Run For His Life and seeing the close relationship between Pete Jr. and Pete Sr., did this confirm or deny your assumptions about the relationship incarcerated parents have with their children?

The Importance of Fatherhood

- Run For His Life highlights the 30+ years that Pete Jr. and his father have been in contact despite Pete Sr.'s incarceration. How do you think Pete Jr.'s relationship with his father impacted his life? In your opinion, how does this show the importance of having a parental figure in your life?
- Pete Jr. stated that he wanted to live a clean life and finish the NYC Marathon in honor of his father. How does Pete Sr.'s example of parenting confirm or deny your assumptions about fatherhood?
- According to the U.S. Department of Justice, 92% of parents in prison are fathers. What social factors do you think contribute to this high statistic? What are the implications for a community that is lacking male figures due to incarceration?



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Mass Incarceration & Its Effect on Families

- With almost 5 million children who have had a parent who was incarcerated, it is likely that you know someone who is directly impacted. How can you support the people in your lives that have an incarcerated parent?
- Can you think of organizations in your community that can help you support the children of incarcerated parents in your life? What can you ask them to do? How do you ensure that directly impacted children are included in the conversation if they wish to be?
- According to The Sentencing Project, Black children are 7.5 times more likely and Hispanic children are 2.6 times more likely than White children to have a parent in prison. What do you think about this statistic? What do you think can be done to address this racial disparity? Can resources, policy changes, or community-based organizations make a difference?
- After 30 years, Pete Sr. has been reunited with his family through compassionate release. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and reforms in the criminal justice system, more families are being reunited. What challenges do you think someone might face helping an incarcerated parent reintegrate into modern culture?

The Future of the Criminal Justice System

- Seeing the increasing amount of content protesting police brutality and the criminal justice system, what other ways can social media (Instagram, TikTok, Twitter, etc.) impact the conversation on reforming the criminal justice system?
- How can Generation Z learn about the criminal justice system? In what ways can it engage in reforming the system? How can partnerships between different generations be instrumental in achieving criminal justice reform?
- After watching Run For His Life, what do you want for the future of the criminal justice system? What can you do to achieve this future?

Thank you for screening the film and being a part of the impact campaign!

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