

LA VOZ DEL PUEBLO

ADDRESSING HUMAN RIGHTS IN HONDURAS DOCUMENTARY SCREENING

Screening *La Voz del Pueblo* is free and a great way to educate your community, parish, or classroom about the human rights crisis in Honduras. Hosting a screening is a way of starting larger conversations and serves as a springboard for taking action.

HOW TO HOST LA VOZ DEL PUEBLO

1. Decide on Your Audience/Invite Them to the Screening:

Audience members could include your family, friends, parish committee, fellow immersion participants, classroom—the options are endless!

2. Register Your Screening

Fill out a short registration form online, so we can track the screenings and follow up with you.

igsol.net/lavozregister

3. Watch *La Voz Del Pueblo*

The documentary can be streamed for free online at igsol.net/lavoz

If you need a hard copy DVD, email Ignatian Solidarity Network at info@ignatiansolidarity.net. Please allow up to 2 weeks for shipping.

(see next page)

ABOUT

The most violent country on the planet isn't halfway across the globe; it is a 2.5 hour flight from Houston. Most U.S. citizens are at best dimly aware of the bloodshed that is the defining feature of present-day Honduras. Last summer, 2014, Honduran children surfaced on the southern U.S. border by the tens of thousands, prompting a Texas congressman to decry this "invasion of our nation."

Likewise, protesters in California met the young immigrants with angry slogans like "return to sender!" But did protesters have any understanding of the situation these youth were escaping? The violence they'd be thrown back into if they were indeed "returned to sender"?

La Voz Del Pueblo is an 18-minute documentary that explores the difficult and violent Honduran reality through the perspective of journalists at the Jesuit-run radio station, Radio Progreso.

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HOW TO HOST LA VOZ DEL PUEBLO (CONT'D)

4. Discuss the Documentary

Since documentary screenings are a starting point for conversations, make sure to have one! Suggested discussion questions have been provided on page 3 of this packet, and you are encouraged to come up with some of your own.

5. Take Action

Join the Ignatian Solidarity Network and U.S. Jesuit Conference in sending postcards to Congress to advocate for more humane policies toward Central America. Encourage your participants to sign 3 postcards: one for each Senator and one for their Representative. The postcards are free and available at: igsol.net/lavozpost

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who Should Host a La Voz Del Pueblo Screening?

Anyone!

When Should I Host My Screening?

If you are streaming the documentary, you can host it at any time. However, if you are requesting a hard copy of the DVD, please allow 2 weeks for shipping.

Where Can I Learn More About Radio Progreso?

The Radio Progreso website and livestreams of their shows are located at www.radioprogreso.hn.net

You can also view Padre Melo's powerful keynote at the 2014 Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice at bit.ly/iftj14coto



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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Padre Melo, director of Radio Progreso, says in the film “I feel my mission is to work with my brothers and sisters to shine the glory of God in the midst of barbarism.” Has there been a time in your life when you have had to shine a light in the darkness? If so, what did it take? How can you continue to try to shine the glory of God in the midst of barbarism?

2. Currently, 46.6% of Honduran land is being used for mining projects, most of which are completely financed by transnational capital. The percentage could grow to 65.8% if all pending contracts are approved. What effect do you see this having in Honduras, especially in the small rural communities where the mining is taking place?

3. As the woman Jennifer interviewed at the youth program in San Pedro indicated, many people in Honduras are confronted daily with ugly realities of the state’s inability and unwillingness to provide basic protection. In the face of these challenges and the brutal daily realities facing children in gang controlled neighborhoods, tens of thousands of children and families have been forced to migrate beyond Honduras’ borders to seek safety. What should the response be from Honduras’ more stable neighbors in the region, in particular the U.S. and Canada?

4. Over 2/3 of Hondurans live in poverty and over half live in extreme poverty. What effect does the extremely high level of poverty have on the country and its future?

5. Between 95-98% of crimes go unpunished in Honduras. What effects do you believe impunity has on the country and local communities?

6. In 2015, the U.S. has pledged to provide \$1 billion in economic, social, and security aid to Central America. How can you, your school, community, and/or parish advocate to make sure the funding goes toward promotion of human rights and not the militarization of Central America or efforts to force people to remain in unsafe circumstances?

Learn More about *La Voz Del Pueblo*

Please visit igsol.net/lavoz or email Ignatian Solidarity Network at info@ignatiansolidarity.net to learn more about Honduras and the work of the Society of Jesus and their partners.

