



As you plan your event, brainstorm ideas for post-film discussion that will engender respectful dialogue. To help you get started, consider the questions below.

1. Police Sgt. Bill Cario says, “I don’t think that any of us that were in there feel anybody needs to know specifically what we saw. Emotionally, I think the world needs to know, to understand it.”
 - **What do you think Cario means when he says this? Do you agree?**
 - **What role do emotional reactions play in the national conversation around mass shootings and gun violence?**
2. The families and friends of students and teachers killed at Sandy Hook Elementary School share their experiences of grieving and honoring the lives of their loved ones.
 - **What surprised you about individuals’ varying experiences of grief? Of healing?**
 - **Did hearing a chorus of voices from *Newtown* change your understanding of the tragedy?**
3. Laurie Veillette, a volunteer EMT on duty the day of the shooting, describes the terror that set in when she first recognized the scale of the tragedy.
 - **How do you think experiencing violence is traumatic for those who survive?**
 - **What are the ways in which a shooting impacts the whole community, not just those present to witness the tragedy or those who lost a friend or family member?**
4. Newtown’s Msgr. Robert Weiss says, “We’re not going to let the darkness overwhelm us, but the darkness is there.”
 - **How are the people in Newtown, individually and collectively, forging a path forward despite their grief?**
 - **Do you think understanding the “darkness” can inform the healing process?**
5. In the film, we never hear the shooter’s name mentioned.
 - **Why do you think the filmmakers chose not to focus on the perpetrator?**
 - **How is this framing different from news coverage of the shooting?**
6. David Wheeler says, “When I look at this event, I see these dominoes, each of them very specific, that had to line up that way, that morning, to happen the way they did here. And when I look at that, all I see are the spaces in between where somebody, somewhere along the way, could have stopped the next domino from falling.”
 - **What measures might have prevented the Newtown tragedy?**
 - **In terms of preventing gun violence in your school or workplace, what measures would work best in your community? Why?**