

# 12 neighbors Discussion Guide

## Week Six: Understanding Systems of Injustice

### Pre-Film Question

Prior to the film, discuss this question:

- **What is justice?**

Consider discussing various perspectives on justice including restorative, retributive justice, or justice as fairness. Is fairness toward those who are marginalized included in the definition of justice?

Watch the "Understanding Systems of Injustice" episodes, 6A + 6B

### Discussion Questions

1. Discuss any initial thoughts, impressions, or takeaways from the film?
2. Shaun Loney says, "At the same time on the reserves, the government was working equally hard to take the Indian out of the economy." The rules were all set up to benefit outside companies and to suppress local economy. And, "what happened after that, is we had all these refugees. Economic refugees." How do the current systems continue to lock certain people out of the economy and how do we change that?
3. Discuss any insights or observations you had about the connection the film made between:
  - (a) food insecurity and health
  - (b) poverty and dysfunction (alcoholism, abuse, crime, unemployment)
  - (c) loss of culture and poverty of identity
  - (d) colonialism and exclusion from economic opportunity
  - (e) racial discrimination and poverty

4. Systemic issues are hard to solve. Food insecurity and Indigenous justice issues are long standing problems. What do you think of the solutions proposed in the film?

*Shaun says, Build Inc. "Does what I believe to be Canada's defining issue: connecting the people who most need the work to the work that needs to be done."*

*Jerry says, "The government has to take down the barriers to employment for all people."*

*Syma says, "This is a community space first, and a service provision space second. And I think there is a lot of dignity in that approach, about centering the conversation around community."*

*Syma says, "Everybody has the right to good food. Everybody has the right to fresh food. And we want to make sure that there's a space in our community members lives where they are reminded of that,"*

5. Discuss the traditional food pantry/bank system. In what ways is it helpful? In what ways is it harmful and why?
6. How does being aware of systems that keep people stuck in poverty, help us to change our behavior to not reinforce these systems? How does becoming aware of systems that privilege and benefit you—while keeping others stuck in poverty—change your thinking about our own privilege?
7. How do we as ordinary people, affect systemic change?

## Assessment

Assess your own lifestyle: Are there ways in which you might be perpetuating or participating in a system of injustice, perhaps unknowingly? Are there things you can do differently? What role have our institutions played in perpetuating systems of injustice? Are there things it can do differently?

## Action

It's hard to influence a system if you don't yet understand it. This week, educate yourself about a particular unjust system that you are curious about. We have included book and film resources on the following pages.

# Resource List on Systems of Injustice

There are many more resources and systems of injustice out there, and often these different "systems" are heavily interwoven, but here is a place to begin:

## Charity & Philanthropy

### Films

Poverty Inc. Michael Matheson Miller. 2014.

### Books

Toxic Charity: How Churches and Charities Hurt Those They Help (And How to Reverse it), Robert D. Lupton.

Walking With The Poor: Principles and Practices of Transformational Development (Revised and Expanded Edition), by Briant L. Myers

Charity Detox: What Charity Would Look Like if we Cared About Results, Robert D. Lupton. Against Charity, Julie Wark and Daniel Raventos

When Helping Hurts, Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert

Philanthropy in America: A History, Oliver Zunz

Do Good Better, William MacAskill

The Givers: Wealth, Power, and Philanthropy in a New a New Gilded Age, David Callahan

## Child Care

### Films

A World Without Orphans, Dianne Becker (2015)

The Dying Rooms, Kate Blewett and Brian Woods (1995)

Children of the Cradle - Documentary on Romanian Orphan Adoption- KTVK, Eric Blumer (1991)

Mother India, Raffaele Brunetti (2011)

A Girl Like Her, Ann Fessler (2012)

Foster Shock: Failing Florida's Children, Mari Frankel (2016)

Tashi and the Monk, Andrew Hinton and Johnny Burke (2014)

Our America with Lisa Ling-Children of the System (2014)

China's Lost Girls with Lisa Ling, Allan Mayers (1985)

The Drop Box, Brian Ivie (2015)

Dark Matter of Love, Sarah McCarthy (2012)

Feeling Wanted, Yasmin Mistry (2015)

Stuck, Thaddaeus Scheel (2013)

We Are Together, Paul Taylor (2008)

Wo Ai Ni (I Love You) Mommy, Stephanie Wang-Breal (2010)

Tough Love, Stephanie Wang-Breal (2014)

Children Underground, Edet Belzberg (2001)

### Books

To the End of June: The Intimate Life of American Foster Care, Chris Beam.

Silent Tears: A Journey of Hope in a Chinese Orphanage, Kay Bratt.

Orphan Justice: How to Care for Orphans Beyond Adopting, Johnny Carr.

The Brightness of Stars: Stories of Adults who Came Through the British Care System, Lisa Cherry.

The Lost Daughters of China: Adopted Girls, Their Journey to America, and the Search for a Missing Past, Karin Evans.

The Girls Who Went Away: The Hidden History of Women Who Surrendered Children for Adoption in the Decades Before Roe V. Wade, Ann Fessler.  
One Child: The Story of China's Most Radical Experiment, Mei Fong.  
China's Hidden Children: Abandonment, Adoption, and the Human Costs of the One-Child Policy, Kay Ann Johnson.  
Romania's Abandoned Children: Deprivation, Brain Development, and the Struggle for Recovery, Charles A. Nelson, Nathan A. Fox, and Charles H. Zeanah.  
Home Away From Home: The Forgotten History of Orphanages, Richard B. McKenzie.  
Romania for Export Only: The Untold Story of the Romanian Orphans, Roelie Post.  
Abandoned For Life: The Incredible Story of One Romanian Orphan Hidden From the World : His Life. His Words, Izidor Ruckel.  
Orphans of the Living: Stories of America's Children in Foster Care, Jennifer Toth

## Wealth Inequality

### Films

Living on a Dollar, Chris Temple, Zach Ingrasci and Sean Leonard (2013)  
Requiem for the American Dream, Kelly Nyks, Peter D. Hutchison, Jared P. Scott (2015)  
The Divide, Katharine Round (2011)  
Inequality for All, Jacob Kornbluth (2013)  
Park Avenue: Poverty, Power, and the American Dream, Alex Gibney (2012)  
Roger & Me, Michael Moore (1989)  
Banks and the Poot, Morton Silverstein (1970)  
American Dream, Barbara Kopple (1990)  
Inside Job, Charles Ferguson (2010)  
Capitalism: A Love Story, Michael Moore (2009)  
Down and Out in America, Lee Grant (1986)

### Books

The Spirit Level: Why Greater Equality Makes Societies Stronger, Kate Pickett and Richard Wilkinson.  
The Great Divergence: America's Growing Inequality, Timothy Noah  
The Divide: American Justice in the Age of the Wealth Gap, Matt Taibbi  
Global Inequality: A New Approach for the Age of Globalization, Branko Milanovic  
Inequality, Tony Atkinson

## Education

### Films

It's About to Get Uncomfortable: Education in America, Matt Beaudreau, TEDTalks (2015).  
Race to Nowhere, Vicki Abeles and Jessica Congdon (2010)  
Waiting for Superman, Davis Guggenheim (2010)  
Dropout Nation, Frank Koughan (2012)  
On the Way to School, Pascal Plisson (2013)  
Girls of Diraja, Deborah Rick (2010)  
School of my Dreams, Deborah Rick (2012)  
Girl Rising, Richard E. Robbins (2013)  
Omarina's Story, Mary Robertson (2014)  
Separate and Unequal, Mary Robertson (2014)  
Survivor's Remorse: When a Black Kid Receives a White Education, Kandice Sumner, TEDTalks (2016).

## Books

Hope Against Hope, Sarah Carr.

Savage Inequalities, Jonathan Kozol

The School Revolution: A New Answer for Our Broken Education System, Ron Paul.

I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World, Malala Yousafzai.

## Fashion and Clothes manufacturing

### Films

Machines, Rahul Jain (2016)

The True Cost, Andrew Morgan (2015)

### Books

The Dirty Side of the Garment Industry: Fast Fashion and Its Negative Impact on Environment and Society, Nikolay Anguelov.

Threads: Gender, Labor, and Power in the Global Apparel Industry, Jane L. Collins.

Fashion and Sustainability: Design for Change, Kate Fletcher and Lynda Gross.

Advocacy Across Borders: NGOs, Anti-Sweatshop Activism and the Global Garment Industry, Shae Garwood.

The Power to Choose: Bangladeshi Garment Workers in London and Dhaka, Naila Kabeer.

Naked Fashion: The New Sustainable Fashion Movement, Safia Minney.

Making Sweatshops: The Glocalization of the U.S. Apparel Industry, Ellen Israel Rosen.

Slaves to Fashion: Poverty and Abuse in the New Sweatshops, Robert Ross.

To Die For: Is Fashion Wearing Out the World?, Lucy Siegle.

Fugitive Denim: A Moving Story of People and Pants in the Borderless World of Global Trade, Rachel Louise Snyder.

## Food

### Films

A Place at the Table

We Feed the World, Eric Wagenhofer (2005)

Thought for Food, Max Maloney and Oscar Verpoort (2013)

Dive! The Film, Jeremy Siefert (2009)

Food Chains, Sanja Rawal (2014)

Food Inc., Robert Kenner (2008)

Fresh, Anna Sofia Joanes (2009)

The Future of Food, Deborah Koons (2005)

Just Eat It: A Food Waste Story, Grant Baldwin (2014)

Unbroken Ground, Christ Malloy (2016)

### Books

The American Way of Eating: Undercover at Walmart, Applebee's, Farm Fields and the Dinner Table, Tracie McMillan

The Stop: How the Fight for Good Food Transformed a Community and Inspired a Movement, Nick Saul

Stuffed and Starved, Raj Patel.

Enough: Why the World's Poorest Starve in a World of Plenty, Roger Thurow and Scott Kilman

The No-nonsense Guide to Food, Wayne Roberts

The Politics of Food: The Global Conflict Between Food Security and Food Sovereignty, William D. Schanbacher

American Wasteland: How America Throws Away Nearly Half its Food (And What we Can do About it), Jonathan Bloom

The Urban Food Revolution: Changing the Way we Feed Cities, Peter Ladner  
Diet for a Hot Planet: The Climate Crisis at the End of Your Fork and What You Can do About it, Anna Lappe  
WASTE: Uncovering the Global Food Scandal, Tristram Stuart

## Health & Healthcare

### Films

Bending the Arc, Kief Davidson and Pedro Kos (2017)  
Money-Driven Medicine, Andrew Fredericks (2009)  
Escape Fire: The Fight to Rescue American Healthcare, Susan Froemke and Matthew Heineman (2012)  
Sicko, Michael Moore (2007)  
The Waiting Room, Peter Nicks (2012)  
Fix It: Healthcare Tipping Point, Vincent Mondillo (2015)

### Books

Health Inequality: An Introduction to Concepts, Theories and Methods, Mel Bartley.  
Just Medicine: A Cure for Racial Inequality in American Health Care, Dayna Bowen Matthew.  
The Great Escape: Health, Wealth, and the Origins of Inequality, Angus Deaton.  
The Health of Nations: Why Inequality Is Harmful to Your Health, Ichiro Kawachi.  
The Health Gap: The Challenge of an Unequal World, Michael Marmot.  
"The richer you are, the better your health- and how this can be changed." Michael Marmot, The Guardian, 2015.

## Housing

### Films

Hidden and Homeless, BBC (2016)  
Tent City, Rick Charnoski and Buddy Nichols (2004)  
A Matter of Place, Bill Kavanagh (2013)  
Us & Them, Krista Loughton and Jennifer Abbott (2015)  
Dispossession: The Great Social Housing Swindle, Paul Sng (2017)  
Vancouver: No Fixed Address, Charles Wilkinson (2017)

### Books

Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City, Matthew Desmond.  
The New Urban Crisis: How Our Cities Are Increasing Inequality, Deepening Segregation, and Failing the Middle Class—and What We Can Do About It, Richard Florida.  
Hobos, Hustlers, and Backsliders, Teresa Gowan.  
Tell Them Who I Am: The Lives of Homeless Women, Elliot Liebow.  
How to Kill a City: Gentrification, Inequality, and the Fight for the Neighborhood, Peter Moskowitz.  
The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America, Richard Rothstein.  
The Geography of Opportunity: Race and Housing Choice in Metropolitan America, William Julius Wilson.

# Human Trafficking

## Films

Very Young Girls, Nina Alvarez (2008)  
Not My Life, Robert Bilheimer and Richard Young (2011)  
Born Into Brothels: Calcutta's Red Light Kid, Zana Briski and Ross Koffman (2004)  
Call + Response, Justin Dillon (2008)  
Black Gold, Mark Francis and Nick Francis (2006)  
The Price of Sugar, Bill Haney (2007)  
The Whistleblower, Larysa Kondracki (2010)  
Invisible Slaves, MTV's Exit Campaign, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fccUP6ew4BE>  
The Dark Side of Chocolate, Robin Romano and Miki Mistrati  
Tricked, John Keith Wasson and Jane Wells (2013)  
Sewing Hope, Derek Watson (2014)

## Books

Disposable People: New Slavery in the Global Economy, Kevin Bales  
Understanding Global Slavery, Kevin Bales  
The Slave Next Door: Human Trafficking and Slavery in America Today, Kevin Bales and Ron Soodalter  
Not For Sale: The Return of the Global Slave Trade and How We Can Fight It, David Batstone  
A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of Boy Soldier, Ishmael Beah  
Escape from Slavery: The True Story of My Ten Years in Captivity and My Journey to Freedom, Francis Bok  
Child Sex Trafficking in the United States, Jeff V. Higgins and Christopher M. Brady  
Not in My Town: Exposing and Ending Human Trafficking and Modern-Day Slavery, Dillon Burroughs and Charles Powell  
First Kill Your Family: Child Soldiers of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army, Peter Eichstaedt  
Be the Change: Your Guide to Freeing Slaves and Changing the World, Zach Hunter  
Escaping the Devil's Bedroom: Sex-Trafficking, Global Prostitution, and the Gospel's Transforming Power, Dawn Jewell  
Sex Trafficking: Inside the Business of Modern Slavery, Siddharth Kara  
Girls Like Us: Fighting for a World Where Girls Are Not for Sale, an Activist Finds Her Calling and Heals Herself, Rachel Lloyd  
Sold, Patricia McCormick  
A Promise to Nadia, Zana Muhsen  
Enslaved: True Stories of Modern Day Slavery, Jesse Sage  
Somebody's Daughter: The Hidden Story of America's Prostituted Children and the Battle to Save Them, Julian Sher  
A Crime So Monstrous: Face-to-Face with Modern Day Slavery, E. Benjamin Skinner

# Immigration

## Films

After Spring, Ellen Martinez and Steph Ching.  
The Resettled, Alan Thompson (2016)  
4.1 Miles, Daphne Matziaraki (2016)  
Chasing Asylum, Eva Orner (2016)  
Fire at Sea, Gianfranco Rosi (2016)

## Books

Seeking Refuge: On the Shores of the Global Refugee Crisis, Stephan Bauman.  
A Long Way Gone, Ishmael Beah.  
Living on the MArgins: Undocumented Migrants in a Global City, Alice Bloch and Sonia McKay.

Voices from the 'Jungle': Stories from the Calais Refugee Camp, The Calais Writers.  
 Christians at the Border: Immigration, The Church & The Bible, Daniel R. Carroll.  
 Undocumented: How Immigration Became Illegal, Aviva Chomsky  
 Just Work?: Migrant Workers' Struggles Today, Aziz Choudry, Mondli Hlatshwayo.  
 Looking to London: Stories of War, Escape and Asylum, Cynthia Cockburn.  
 A Suitable Enemy: Racism, Migration, and Islamophobia in Europe, Liz Fekete.  
 Migration in Political Theory: The Ethics of Movement and Membership, Sarah Fine and Lea Ypi.  
 We Wish to Inform You That Tomorrow We Will Be Killed With Our Families, Philip Gourevitch.  
 Border Watch: Cultures of Immigration, Detention and Control, Alexandra Hall.  
 Safe Haven?: A History of Refugees in America, David W. Haines.  
 The New Odyssey: The Story of the Twenty-First Century Refugee Crisis, Patrick Kingsley.  
 The Refugees, Viet Thanh Nguyen.  
 The Next Evangelicalism: Freeing the Church from Western Cultural Captivity, Soong-Chan Ran.  
 Goodbye Sarajevo, Atka Reid, Hana Schofield.  
 Borderline Justice: The Fight for Refugee and Migrant Rights, Frances Webber.  
 Welcoming the Stranger: Justice, Compassion & Truth in the Immigration Debate, Matthew Soerens and Jenny Hwang Yang.  
 The Oxford Handbook of Refugee and Forced Migration Studies, Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh.

## Prison & Justice System

### Films

13th, Ava DuVernay (2016)  
 Girlhood, Liz Garbus (2003)  
 The Thin Blue Line, Errol Morris (1988)  
 Kids for Cash, Robert May (2014)  
 Slavery by Another Name, Douglas Blackmon (2012)

### Books

The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness, Michelle Alexander  
 Slavery by Another Name, Douglas Blackmon  
 The Exonerated: A Play, Jessica Blank and Erik Jensen  
 Newjack: Guarding Sing Sing, Ted Conover  
 Are Prisons Obsolete?, Angela Y. Davis  
 Gates of Injustice: The Crisis in America's Prisons, Alan Elsner  
 Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison, Michel Foucault  
 Chokehold: Policing Black Men, Paul Butler

## Race & Inequality

### Films

Dark Girls, D. Channsin Berry and Bill Duke (2011)  
 White Like Me, Tim Wise/Media Education Foundation  
 Whitewashed: Unmasking the World of Whiteness, Mark Patrick George (2013)  
 Clouds of Autumn, Trevor Mack and Matthew Taylor Blaise (2015)  
 I am Not Your Negro, Raoul Peck (2016)  
 We Were Children, Tim Wolochatiuk (2012)  
 Muffins for Granny: A Documentary, Nadia McLaren (2006)  
 Indian Horse, Stephen Campanelli (2018)  
 Stolen Children: Residential School Survivors Tell Their Story, CBC (2015) <http://www.cbc.ca/television/posts/stolen-children-residential-school-survivors-tell-their-stories>



## Books

The Hidden Cost of Being African American: How Wealth Perpetuates Inequality, Thomas M. Shapiro  
The Color of Wealth : The Story Behind the U.S. Racial Wealth Divide, Meizhu Lui, Bárbara Robles, Betsy Leondar-Wright, Rose Brewer, and Rebecca Adamson, with United for a Fair Economy  
White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son, Tim Wise  
Dear White People: Letter to a New Minority, Tim Wise  
Why are all the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria: And Other Conversations About Race, Beverly Daniel Tatum  
Why I am no Longer Talking to White People About Race, Reni Eddo-Lodge  
White Rage, Carol Anderson  
Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America, Ibram X. Kend  
Between the World and Me, Ta-Nahisi Coates  
Slavery by Another Name: The Re-Enslavement of Black Americans from the Civil War to World War II, Douglas A. Blackmon  
Citizen: An American Lyric, Claudia Rankine  
Indian Horse, Richard Wagamese  
They Came for the Children: Canada, Aboriginal Peoples, and Residential Schools, The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada  
Unsettling the Settler Within: Indian Residential Schools, Truth Telling, and Reconciliation in Canada, Paulette Regan  
Residential Schools, With the Words and Images of Survivors, Larry Loyie, Wayne K. Spear and Constance Brissenden  
They Called Me Number One: Secrets and Survival at an Indian Residential School, Bev Sellars  
Inconvenient Indian, A Curious Account of Native People in North America, Thomas King  
The Comeback, How Aboriginals Are Reclaiming Power And Influence, John Ralston Saul

## Violence & Poverty

### Films

Cidade de Deus (City of God), Fernando Meirelles and Katia Lund (2002)  
The Blood is at the Doorstep, Erik Ljung (2017)  
Shell Shocked, John Richie (2013)  
Private Violence, Cynthia Hill (2014)  
The Hard Stop, George Amponsah (2015)  
Crips and Bloods: Made in America, Stacy Peralta (2009)

### Books

Locust Effect: Why the End of Poverty Requires the End of Violence, Gaury A. Haugen  
Economic Gangsters: Corruption, Violence, and the Poverty of Nations, Ray Fisman  
Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion, Gregory Boyle  
Barking to the Choir: The Power of Radical Kinship, Gregory Boyle