



Lesson 4

Get Started - Finding An Issue Of Interest

Finding Inspiration & Motivation in the Story of One Film & its Filmmaker

Objectives

After this lesson, students will be able to:

- Envision themselves as filmmakers who act as a megaphone to tell a story that they feel must be shared.

Overview/Purpose:

In preparation for taking informed, creative action, students will study one documentary film and the story of its development.

Guiding Questions:

- What human rights issues am I compelled to learn more about?
- Why do I feel compelled to learn about specific issues?
- What compels me to take action and how can I be a megaphone to tell the story?

Recommended Time:

90 minutes

Common Core State Standards:

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.2](#)

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.3](#)

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.7](#)

Materials:

["Birth of After the Fall: HIV Grows Up"](#) - Kathy Treat's story

[Film: After the Fall: HIV Grows Up](#)

[After the Fall Curriculum Guide](#)

[Dying to tell the Story](#)

Technology Required:

1. Computer with internet access and projection capability or television with DVD player

Lesson Design:

- Explain to students how film is one medium that has an incredible power to touch us, transport us, and motivate us.
- Read producer Kathy Treat's story, "The Birth of After the Fall: HIV Grows Up." Discuss the following quote, "I left that trip with one image— a megaphone. I wanted to be a megaphone so that a larger audience, perhaps even the world, could hear this story—the one that they, themselves, were telling. This is where the idea of the documentary first came to be."



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- Select certain focus questions from the [After the Fall Viewing Guide](#) for students to consider during and after viewing.
- Show the [film trailer](#) or the first few minutes of the film. Using selected focus questions from the [After the Fall Viewing Guide](#), model writing a response including collected information, thoughts, feelings, and questions in response to the question.
- Show the entire film as students take notes on their thoughts/ observations about the story.
- Discuss the impact that both Kathy Treat's story and the film has on them as viewers.
- Students reflect on how Kathy's story, the film and the people presented in it may inspire them to be a megaphone as well.