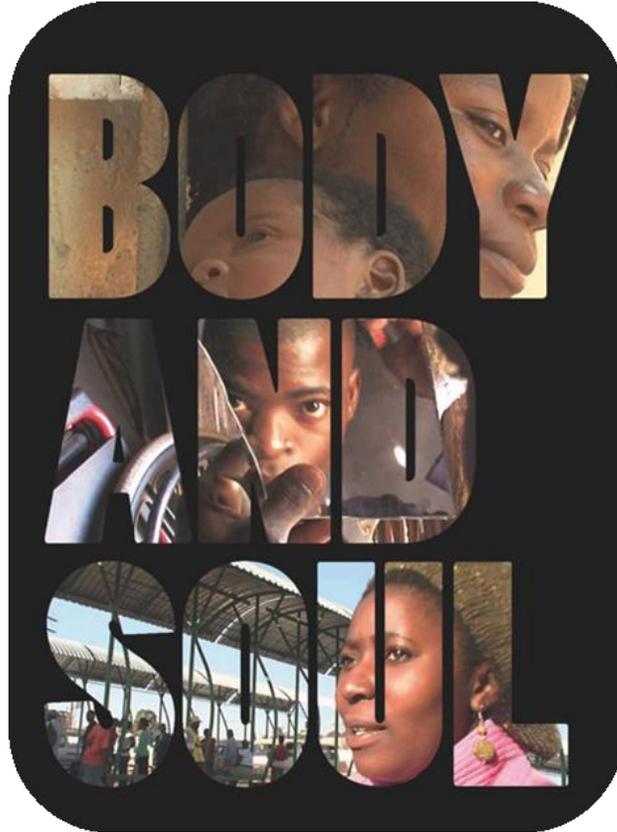


FILM DISCUSSION GUIDE



Before viewing the film:

1. How do you define 'handicap'?

2. What are some problems that a person with a physical disability might experience? Consider how the disability may affect their lives at home, work, school, and socially.

During the Film:

Identifying Characters

Match the character with the appropriate description:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ___ Victória Massingue c | a) 22 year old woman, missing both legs |
| ___ Mariana Tembe a | b) Victoria's Aunt |
| ___ Vasco Covane d | c) 31 year old woman, missing left arm |
| ___ Domingos and Norma Tembe g | d) 24 year old man, malformed feet |
| ___ Filomena Fernandes Dias b | e) Victória's "adoptive" mother |
| ___ Reginaldo Mondlane,
Celso Chambule, Ana Lucia Mhula,
Lucrécia Manjate f | f) Mariana's friends |
| ___ Angela Dias e | g) Mariana's parents |

Comprehension Questions

1. Under what conditions did Victória and her "adoptive" mother meet? What did she learn?

2. Victória is involved in what event along with many other women with various disabilities? What is the purpose of this event?

3. Why does Mariana's father compare her to a plant?

4. What do people assume when they see Victória, a physically disabled woman, is pregnant? What is her response?

5. When people ask Mariana how she showers and dresses herself, how does she respond?

6. What must Vasco wear in order to go into town?

7. What job did Vasco have when he first moved in with his brother? Why did it end?

8. Why has Mariana been asked to leave stores? How does she respond?

9. How did Vasco learn his trade? Be detailed.

10. Name two of the three things that Vasco did in order to open his business?

11. What regular experience has Victória had when she enters stores to shop? What similar experience has Vasco had? How did Vasco respond?

12. What are the opinions of Mariana's parents regarding sending disabled children to school?

13. How does Mariana get to the upper floor of her school? What is her secret weapon in achieving this task?

14. Victória is a student in a University. Her native language is Xitswa. What new skill has she learned and for what career is she training? Is she looking forward to beginning her career?

15. Why does Mariana have trouble in love?

16. What has Victória named her daughter? How was the name chosen?

17. What did Vasco use his loan from ADEMO, the Mozambican Association of the Disabled for? What did he use his own money to purchase? What are his dreams for his future? What is Marian's dream for her future?

18. What activity do Mariana, Victória and Vasco do together?

Post-Viewing Discussion Questions:

1. Choose one of the following quotes and discuss. How does the quote make you feel? Do you agree with it? Is there a problem that needs to be solved? If so, how? Is the quote limited to the experiences of a person with a physical disability?
 - a) Regarding her pregnancy, Victória: "This is the affirmation of my identity as a woman."
 - b) Regarding humiliation in the streets and in stores, Mariana: "Why can I not enter? Am I not a person?"
 - c) Victória: "If I present myself badly, they will receive me badly. But If I present myself with my head held high as a person, they will receive me as a person...if I'm already worried about it, it will defeat me psychologically."
 - d) Regarding being spoken poorly of, Vasco: "A disabled person must have the courage not to take harsh words to heart."
 - e) Mariana's friends discussing the social stigma of befriending a disabled person: "...but I think that people should first be concerned about the feelings they have towards the person."
2. Victória says the following of her "adoptive" mother: "If I am a woman, it is because she taught me to be a woman. If I hold my head up high, it's because she taught me that I should hold my head up high. If I know how to take a bath to get clean, it's because she told me 'Victória, being poor is not the same as being dirty.'" Do you have someone in your life with whom you can credit the wonderful person you are? Explain.



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License. Created by the [Kansas African Studies Center](#) at the University of Kansas.