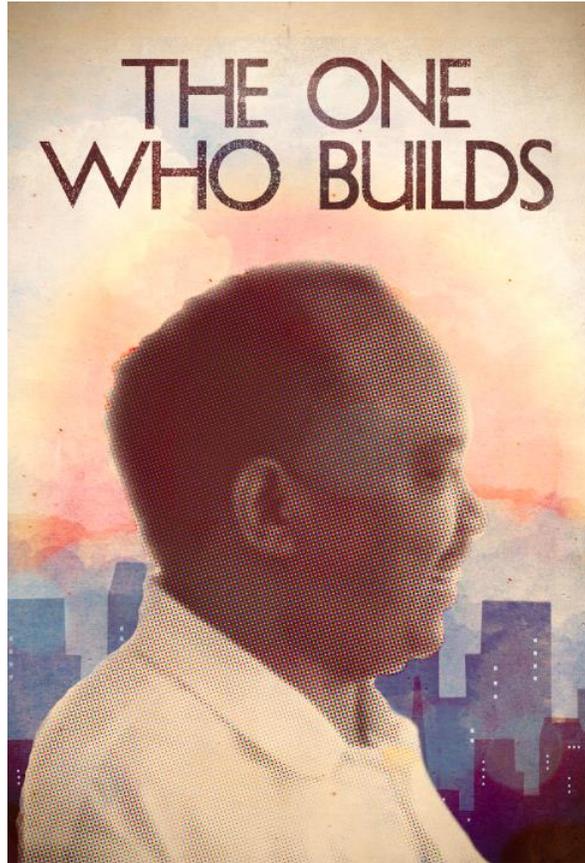


FILM DISCUSSION GUIDE



Before viewing the film:

1. Do you know of anyone who has moved to the United States from another country? Why did they move here? Can you think of reasons why someone might need to move from their country to another?

2. How many languages do you speak? How might you feel if you moved to a country where you don't speak the language?

During the Film:

Identifying Characters

Match the character with the appropriate description:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ___ Dr. Omer A. Omer e | a) Case manager who shops for home goods for newly arriving families |
| ___ Raleigh Bailey d | b) Parents of the family immigrating from Kenya with the aid of the North Carolina African Services Coalition |
| ___ Sister Gretchen Reintjes g | c) a friend from the Suleiman's village |
| ___ Lola Olafintuyi a | d) Director, Center for New North Carolinians |
| ___ Gai 'Daniel' Ajak Riak f | e) Director of North Carolina African Services Coalition, Inc. |
| ___ Haroun and Shifa Suleiman b | f) Case manager, one of the Lost Boys from Southern Sudan |
| ___ Issack c | g) Refugee Advocate who speaks very highly of Omer |
| ___ Moeyad and Mihad i | h) Butanese refugee |
| ___ Khem h | i) Son and daughter of Omer and his wife Nadoya |

Comprehension Questions

1. How many of North Carolina's citizens are refugees?

2. Greensboro, North Carolina has been a center for refugees for hundreds of years starting with the Montagnards from what country?

3. What does Raleigh Bailey say in complimenting Omer?

4. Lola understands the immigrant experience in a personal way. Why?

5. Name at least 6 items that Lola purchases for the Suleiman family?

6. Gai came to the united states through a refugee program organized by the UN. Who picked him up at the airport? Briefly describe that experience.

7. When Omer lived in Sudan, what was his career? Did he enjoy his job? Explain why or why not.

8. Why does Omer choose to greet every immigrating family at the airport?

9. Why does Omer explain the locks and smoke alarm in the Suleiman's new home?

10. What sport does Moeyad want to play? What do Omer and Nadoya say in response to this?

11. Omer discusses the identity and languages in his family. Describe his concerns for his children and name one way that they address these concerns.

12. What do Omer, Moeyad and Mihad dress as for halloween? What is unique about this year's trick-or-treating compared to previous years?

13. Omer takes a Muslim family shopping to help them feel comfortable in the United States. Name two places that visit and the purpose of each.

14. Why do Omer and his family move into a larger home? What is the theme of Moeyad's room?

15. What desire does Khem express to Omer? How does Omer respond?

Post-Viewing Discussion Questions:

1. Several characters in the film shared a common experience, which led to their desire to work for the North Carolina African Services Coalition. Discuss what

this common experience might be and how it helps them to do their jobs more successfully and with more passion.

2. Raleigh, Sister Gretchen, Lola and Gai discuss Omer's abilities as a leader. What were some of these abilities? Why are they effective? Can you think of more characteristics that denote good leadership? Do you have them?
3. Omer discusses his life in Sudan under a dictatorship. What are some elements of his experience that differ from the life we live here in the United States? Using your prior knowledge decide which common governmental political structure (i.e., democracy, communism, dictatorship, monarchy, etc.) is the best and which is the worst? Why?
4. We see several immigrant families represented this film, including that of Omer and his wife.
 - (a) What do you think might be the positive and negative experiences that the children in these families will experience when moving to the United States? Consider the reasons that they left their native countries as well as their abilities to communicate in English.
 - (b) What might help children to make this transition?
5. The film ends with an explanation of the meaning of Omer's name. What does his name mean? How is the meaning of his name significant to the film and his career?



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