
Circle of Sisterhood 101

Documentary Viewing Guide

One World. One Sisterhood. ®



Please use this document as a documentary viewing discussion guide. The goal of a documentary viewing should be to both bring awareness to the huge need to remove barriers to education for girls and women worldwide and to engage more people in supporting the work of the Circle of Sisterhood Foundation.

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Advanced Prep Checklist

These steps should be completed by the host organization or individual, prior to the documentary screening:

- ✓ Become familiar with the Circle of Sisterhood by visiting our website.
- ✓ Identify what resource materials to use and/or have available at your event.
- ✓ Familiarize yourself with the impact CofS is having around the world. Check out the impact area of our website: <https://circleofsisterhood.org/our-reach/>
- ✓ Determine the type of discussion you want to have: large group, small group, or both.
- ✓ Determine which questions you would like to use for group discussion based on the film's content and your overall goals for the event.
- ✓ Outline how the documentary ties to the mission of the Circle of Sisterhood Foundation.
- ✓ Prepare a brief introduction to set the stage for your viewers, including your efforts to be part of the solution to the global crisis in girls' education. A sample is provided below.

Sample Introduction at documentary viewing:

Thank you for joining us to view (documentary title). Before we get started, I would like to share some information with you about why we have chosen to support the Circle of Sisterhood Foundation. Since 2010, sorority women across the U.S. and across affiliation have joined together through the Circle of Sisterhood to uplift girls and women from poverty and oppression by removing barriers to education around the world. With more than 100 million girls out of school worldwide – there is so much to do. And as one of the most educated communities of women in the world, sorority women and their circles of influence have stepped up to be a part of the solution to the global crisis in girls' education. We will further discuss the issues presented in the film and how they relate to our work to support the Circle of Sisterhood after the viewing.



Post-Screening Checklist

These steps should be completed by the host organization or individual immediately after the documentary screening:

- ✓ Provide comment on the philanthropic aspect of removing barriers to education for women and girls. A sample message is included on page 4 under Group Discussion Outline.
- ✓ If moving to small groups, be sure they all have appropriate materials for discussion (ex. Discussion questions on a handout, pens. Etc.).
- ✓ After the discussion, be sure to collect verbal feedback from participants.
- ✓ Follow up with participants to engage further in the work of the Circle of Sisterhood Foundation.
 - These folks may have been:
 - passionate participants,
 - interested in fundraising,
 - people with energy and ideas, etc.
- ✓ Prepare an after-action report to analyze the event by identifying strengths/outcomes, as well as identifying potential areas of improvement. Consider the following details of the screening:
 - What entity hosted the event?
 - What documentary was screened?
 - How many people attended?
 - How many fraternal groups were represented? Were groups or individuals outside of fraternities and sororities present?
 - What ideas or themes resonated with participants?



Group Discussion Outline

Script for use directly after the documentary viewing:

As a community/group, we have chosen to support the Circle of Sisterhood Foundation, a U.S. charity that works “to leverage the collective influence of sorority women to raise financial resources for entities around the world that are removing educational barriers for girls and women facing poverty and oppression.”

When 70% of out-of-school youth in the world are girls, and only 7% of the world’s population has a college degree, don’t we as educated women have a responsibility to help our less fortunate sisters? What better way to do that than by removing barriers to education? And a little bit of money goes a long way in some parts of the world. These are average costs across several underdeveloped countries:

- \$0.24 can buy a notebook and a pencil.
- \$3.30 can buy a noon meal for one student for an entire school year.
- \$7 can buy a set of textbooks.
- \$13 can pay a full year’s tuition.
- \$29 can buy a complete school uniform.
- So, \$53 equates to giving a girl a full year of schooling with everything she needs: tuition, books, uniform, and school lunch every day.

Transition to Group Discussion

Group Discussion:

Instructions to facilitator: If necessary and depending on size of the group, divide into smaller groups to ensure that people can hear one another and share their perspectives. Or if the group is smaller than 25-30, focus the attention of the larger group and give instruction on how to best participate. Walk through the discussion questions decided on prior to the event within the allotted time frame. Remember not to rush the conversation or push your own ideas/reactions. Share that you will allow as many people to speak as would like to within the allotted timeframe. Suggest that people limit their observations to 1-2 minutes and encourage broad participation of group members.

After some discussion, ask the group(s) to brainstorm ideas for how to

- (1) continue to create awareness and
- (2) raise funds to remove barriers to education.



Group Discussion Outline (cont.)

Use the framework below:

1. How can we create awareness...
 - Within the sorority community
 - Within the campus community
 - Within the local community
2. How can we raise funds...
 - Within the sorority community
 - Within the campus community
 - Within the local community

Either return to the large group for final messages or dismiss the participants from their small groups. Allow for a brief period of idea sharing in the large group, either by asking groups to share 1-2 ideas they had, or capturing those thoughts via chart paper, group notes, or crowdsource application like a QR code, Google Form, or Teams Survey.

If there is a Circle of Sisterhood team/committee on campus, invite them to talk about upcoming events and encourage the large group to add them to their calendars. Encourage your audience to spread the word and invite others to participate in your efforts to help remove barriers to education for girls and women around the world, using the sample statement below.

Program conclusion/final message:

Each individual sorority raises tremendous amounts of money and provides thousands of service hours to domestic charities every year. That won't change. The Circle of Sisterhood is a way for ALL sororities to stand together, across affiliation, to have a global impact for women that desperately need our help. Greek letters don't matter, the fact that we are college-educated sorority women does.

Here's how you can get involved... (share what your organization plans to do to support the Circle of Sisterhood and provide your audience with details on how they can get involved).



Group Discussion Questions

General Discussion Questions:

- What is the overarching message of the documentary? How would you convey what you saw to family and friends?
- What is the most valuable thing you learned from viewing the documentary?
- Of the women and girls featured in the documentary, is there one whose story affected you the most? Why?
- How are gender discrimination and poverty portrayed in the documentary? How are these issues different from your experiences? How are they the same?
- Why do you think women and girls are disproportionately affected by poverty?
- Why do you think so many cultures do not want to educate girls?
- Why is the empowerment of women and girls an effective way to address global poverty?
- Are there women in your life who exemplify women's empowerment? What makes them powerful? How do they uplift others?

Undergraduate Specific Discussion Questions:

- How do these issues affect you as a sorority woman?
- How can raising awareness of these issues complement your chapter or community's current service/philanthropic initiatives?
- What can you do to keep the conversation going in your own chapter or community?
- Do you believe the founders of sororities could relate to our efforts to remove barriers to education? How?

Alumnae Specific Discussion Questions:

- How do these issues affect you as a sorority alumna?
- If you are a mother, what were your reactions as you watched the stories?
- How could supporting the Circle of Sisterhood Foundation complement the good philanthropic work you are already doing as an organization?
- How could a connection to the Circle of Sisterhood Foundation be included in your alumnae group activities?
- What can you do to keep the conversation going in your alumnae association? How can you partner with undergraduate chapters in your area that are involved in this important work?
- Do you believe the founders of sororities could relate to our efforts to remove barriers to education? How?

