

#StayHomeWatchTogether

Discussion Guide



Powerful Films with Collective Action

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#StayHomeWatchTogether: The Rescue List (2018)

(80 minutes|Documentary|POV) Directors: Alyssa Fedele, Zachary Fink

“I feel like there is one particular child, somewhere, that I need to rescue. Until that child is rescued, I will continue doing this work.” - Kwame, *The Rescue List*

Connecting with #StayHomeWatchTogether: Why watch *The Rescue List* now?

The Rescue List offers an important story for us to connect to the themes of friendship, belonging, and survival, and may be of use as you think about:

- The importance of learning about an issue through the personal accounts of others
- How critical the bonds of friendship are especially in times of crisis and need
- Global inequities and how to increase our collective consciousness to include the realities of modern-day slavery particularly in a time of global pandemic

Film Summary

In a hidden safehouse in the Ghanaian forest, social workers help two children recover from a childhood enslaved to fishermen on Lake Volta - the largest man-made lake on Earth. But their story takes an unexpected turn when their rescuer embarks on another rescue mission and asks the children for help. *The Rescue List* charts the unfolding drama of these rescue operations alongside a stirring portrait of the boys' recoveries as they prepare to return to their families. The film depicts a moving story of friendship and courage that transcends the trope of victimhood, exploring what it means to love and to survive.

Engage & Connect

Before Watching THE RESCUE LIST - Connect using these prompts before watching:

- What do you know about modern slavery in the world today?
- Why does it continue to exist and increase in numbers?

After Watching THE RESCUE LIST - Prompts to use as guideposts for post-screening:

Take a moment to reflect on the stories of Kwame, Peter and Edem. They are complicated. In Ghana, where *The Rescue List* takes place, there are 100,000 people living in modern slavery. Of these, 18,000 are children enslaved to fishermen on Lake

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Volta. Many of the children are trafficked by families living in extreme poverty who believe they are sending their children to a better life.

- How does this depiction of modern slavery differ from your previous perceptions?
- How did your understanding of how and why children are trafficked change?
- Friendship, recovery, reunification, and education are all central themes in the film. How do you think each fits into the solution path for ending modern slavery?

Take Action Now

Here are four actions you can take right now to join the fight to end child slavery

1. KEEP THE BOYS IN SCHOOL: [DONATE TO THE CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND](#)

We've set up a GoFundMe campaign to provide scholarships for the three boys featured in The Rescue List. The scholarship will cover the cost of primary and secondary school, plus additional annual necessities such as school supplies, books, and clothing.

2. HELP RESCUE MORE CHILDREN: [DONATE TO CHALLENGING HEIGHTS](#)

It costs about \$1,000 to rescue each child and approximately \$2,500 for their 6-9 month rehabilitation & reunification. Challenging Heights' goal is to rescue 150 children per year until they end child slavery in Ghana by 2030. Can you help them reach this goal?

3. [TAKE THE SLAVERY FOOTPRINT QUIZ](#)

How many slaves work for you? Discover your personal connection to slavery with this in-depth quiz, then challenge your friends and family to do the same. Share your results on social media with the hashtag #RescueListPBS to raise awareness around the pervasiveness of modern slavery. What can you do to lower your slavery footprint?

4. [SHARE THE FILM WITH THE TEACHERS IN YOUR LIFE](#)

Our partners at POV have created a downloadable standards-aligned lesson plan with accompanying streaming video clips to make The Rescue List available as a tool for educators. Have an idea for bringing the film into your community or classroom? We'd love to chat! Email us at screenings@collectivehunch.com or sign up for our newsletter [on our website](#).

For more information about modern slavery, [visit The Rescue List resources page](#).

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