Again, Together

Link to film on YouTube

"Again, Together" is a film created in partnership with Ronald L. Jones, bringing stories from communities across Houston that have been impacted by environmental racism — namely redlining, segregation, underinvestment, exposure to pollution, gentrification, inequitable disaster recovery resources and freeway development. For more, please visit onebreathhou.org/environmentalracism/

Discussion prompts and questions for talking about the film as educators or community leaders

Whose story or stories did you connect with most and why? This question can be used to learn more about the experiences of people present, their relationship to environmental racism and experiences in Houston.

What visuals do you remember most from the film and why? This question can begin a discussion about the physical environment of Houston. Look for answers that identify the prevalence of pollution sources to spark conversations about the role they play in harming the health and safety of communities.

What did Dr. Bullard and his student researchers identify about where waste was placed in the city? How did this begin to define "environmental racism"? Use this question to talk about the enormous and unequal burden placed on Black and Latino communities. This question could also help to begin a discussion on the definition of environmental racism or provide a chance to point out the role of Black-led research and community organizing that responded to these impacts.

What issues did freeway construction present for 5th Ward residents? This question could prompt further research into where Houston freeways have historically been placed and which communities they've divided. It also can lead to the ongoing fight to keep the expansion of Interstate 45 from further destroying communities.

Based on what you saw in the film, what is "redlining"? What does the film tell us happened after a neighborhood was labeled "hazardous"? Use this question as an opportunity to talk further about redlining as race-based discrimination and disempowerment.

Why was it important that Mark Anthony and Doris were able to connect with other neighbors who were trying to get help to fix their homes damaged by Hurricane Harvey? This question can open up conversation about the power of

community-led organizing and change as well as the power of organizing that is led by those most impacted by the harm they're seeking to end.

What do you think the film refers to when it talks about "cumulative impacts" of environmental racism? This question should lead to discussion about the compounding effects of being from a community of color, especially one that has experienced race-based neglect, disinvestment, and environmental and health violence stemming from decisions made by the government and other institutions of power. It could also bring up conversations about COVID-19 and its effects on communities hit hardest by air pollution and stifled health access.

What does it take for change to happen? This question can start a conversation about direct advocacy, community organizing, voting, politics and/or policy change, and the roles of each in the work of transformative change. Use this question to transition to a conversation about change for each individual or group participating in the discussion.

To request a showing for your community group or classroom, please contact <u>stories@onebreathhou.org</u>

Other related materials

- History of Environmental Racism and more from Dr. Bullard
- <u>28-33 Cite 93</u> "The Mountains of Houston Environmental Justice and the politics of garbage (Cite Magazine)
- Map shows racist government policies that contributed to conditions for Houston cancer clusters [Opinion] (Houston Chronicle)
- What is environmental racism? (One Breath Partnership)
- Stay home, work safe? Environmental racism complicates that for many Houstonians (One Breath Partnership)
- In Houston's Sunnyside, overburdened from decades of discrimination, you learn to provide for yourself (One Breath Partnership)
- I-45 Expansion: Health Impact Assessment and Community Organizing
- Assessment of the Occurrence of Cancer Supplemental Assessment Houston, Texas 2000-2016 January 4, 2021