

Student Activity



Topic

Experience with
Law Enforcement,
Legal System



Competency

Social Awareness,
Relationship Skills



Grade Band

High School

Darion

Darion discusses issues involving law enforcement in his community and his own family's experiences with incarceration. He talks frankly with his mother about their experiences and how they shaped him. In an effort to better understand policing in his community, Darion goes on a ride-along with a police officer.

Conversation Starters and Writing Prompts

The conversation starters and writing prompts following each video are designed to help youth understand their own mirrors and windows and how their perspectives, feelings and behaviors influence how they see and feel about themselves and others. Please review the **Defining US Facilitator Guide** for a full explanation of design, suggested implementation, and best practices using the videos and prompts.

How Do We See?

1. How does Darion describe his neighborhood?
2. Have you had experiences that are similar to Darion's? Why or why not?
3. How does Darion describe his father?
4. Darion's mother says that many of the youth in their community are "doing great things...no one sees it". Why do you think she says this?
5. What does Darion hope to learn riding with police in his community?
6. How would you describe police in your community? How does that compare with how others may describe police in their community? Explain.

What Do We Feel?

1. What are some of the differences between how Darion feels about his father and his mother? Explain.
2. What are some of Darion's motivators?
3. What motivates you to make positive changes in your community?
4. Darion describes how he sees police by saying "You have your eye on me because I don't look like you do, if I were another race that might not happen". How does it feel to be singled out because of race?
5. Do you think Darion was surprised by the comments of the officer in the video? Why?
6. Were you surprised by any of the comments made by the officer in the video? Explain.

How Can We Change?

1. Why do you think Darion says, "The relationship between law enforcement and people of color needs to change"?
2. What actions can be taken to improve the relationship between law enforcement and people of color or other marginalized people in your community?
3. Describe what you think Darion learned from his ride along.
4. If you had the opportunity to go on a ride along, what questions would you ask? Why?
5. Describe the connection between law enforcement and structural racism.

Deeper Look: Define and Discuss

- Law enforcement
- Community
- Racial profiling
- Race relations
- Extended family
- Systematic racism
- Narrative regarding people of color
- Stereotypes