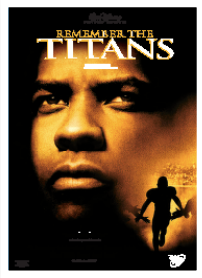




REMEMBER THE TITANS



Synopsis

When the school board in the town of Alexandria, Virginia, is forced to integrate an all black school with an all white school, the very foundation of football's great tradition is put to the test. Herman Boone, a young black coach, is hired to replace a white man with several years' seniority as head coach of the T.C. Williams High Titans. As America struggles through some of her most turbulent years of anti-war protests, civil rights marches and demonstrations of all kinds, the time for change has come to Virginia and to the Titans.

Discussion Questions

- Explain and describe the relationships between Coach Yoast and Coach Boone. Why do you think they regard one another in the way they do? How does their relationship change over time? Why? Have you ever experienced a similar relationship?
- Sometimes Coach Boone's methods seemed extreme. Do you feel that his methods were too harsh? Have you ever had a teacher, coach or mentor who pushed you in a similar way? Did you feel like this was an effective way to motivate you?
- Consider the time period in which the movie took place. How was each demographic group affected by the tension in their town? In what ways did the shared experience of the tension help them overcome the racism that existed?
- Have you ever been part of a team or group that experienced conflict? Did you manage to get past it? If so, how did you overcome the conflict? What did you learn from it?
- What civil rights issues still exist in the United States today? Keep in mind civil rights do not necessarily just concern race issues.



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Activities

- Research the background of the Titans' mascot. What is a titan? Does this mascot represent what the school and team are about? How?
- This film was based on a true story. What would you say to the players or the coaches if you could? Write down these thoughts in the form of a letter, not one that you would necessarily send, but one that you feel like you could send to these real people.

Get Involved

Through struggles and successes, the characters in the film created an awareness of the necessity of civil rights in their community and beyond! The film itself is evidence of the widespread, national impact of the characters' experiences. It is important to recognize that civil rights issues are not completely resolved in the United States. Remember that civil rights are not only an issue of race, and that these issues extend across our national borders as well.

Contact a human rights organization to find out how you can help advocate for everyone's civil rights.

- Amnesty International: www.amnesty.org
- Human Rights Watch: www.hrw.org
- Human Rights Campaign: www.hrc.org



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