

Resources approved by the Women and Justice Task Force

Miss Representation Discussion Guide

Miss Representation unpacks how the media objectifies women and examines the effect of this powerful medium on young men and women growing up. Using interviews of young people, as well as public figures such as Condoleezza Rice, Katie Couric, Rachel Maddow, Cory Booker, and Gloria Steinem, the film explores the depiction of women in mass media and questions its relation to female leadership in areas such as the film industry and government.

The task force watched the film as a group and found the discussion so valuable that they are inviting others to discuss it as well. Feedback can be shared through the task force's email address: womenandjustice@elca.org.

This [discussion leader's guide](#) and [participants' questions for discussion](#) can be downloaded and are appropriate for a variety of church groups, including youth groups and men's groups! In the guide, the film is split into three parts to make for short, but effective discussion sessions. Each session begins and ends with Scripture and prayer and explores one aspect of the relationship between gender and media consumption. It provides questions for discussion about the issues that concern your group and can serve as a catalyst for further reflection and action in your community.



The DVD is available through some local libraries, can be ordered through iTunes or online, viewed on Netflix or borrowed from your synod's resource center.

Half the Sky Discussion Guide



The award-winning work related to *Half the Sky* has been popular and discussed broadly across the United States. It reveals the stories of women and girls in ways that have moved many as both an evocation of compassion and a call to action. The book and the subsequent movie open eyes to the depth of individual and systemic problems that are particularly gender-based: the problems affect women and girls more than they affect men and boys. The project encourages compassion and action as crucial responses to addressing the effects of patriarchal social systems. The ELCA Task Force on Women and Justice: One in Christ is providing a brief guide to *Half the Sky* as a means from a perspective of faith to enter the discussion and respond to the call for compassion and action. Download it [here](#).

Human Trafficking Curriculum Series

Human trafficking, the second largest and fastest growing illegal trade in the world, is modern-day slavery wherein people are in bondage through fraud, force or coercion. According to the U.S. Department of State and the organization Free the Slaves, between 12.3 and 27 million people are trafficked worldwide at any time. That's approximately the total population (27 million) of Texas and Louisiana. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes estimates the total revenue of human trafficking to be \$32 billion. That's roughly the gross domestic product of Guatemala. Human trafficking is currently the second most profitable illegal trade, just behind drug trafficking. Within this vast trade in human lives, women and girls account for 70 to 80 percent of all humans trafficked worldwide. Therefore, the ELCA not only attends to ending human trafficking and caring for survivors, it also addresses root causes of trafficking, such as poverty, hunger, and sexism.

The curriculum series developed by ELCA staff members provides 6 one hour-long sessions that educate beginners on the facts of human trafficking and how we as Lutherans can respond to the call to affect change in the systems that allow human trafficking to continue. Access the sessions [here](#) under the Human Trafficking tab.