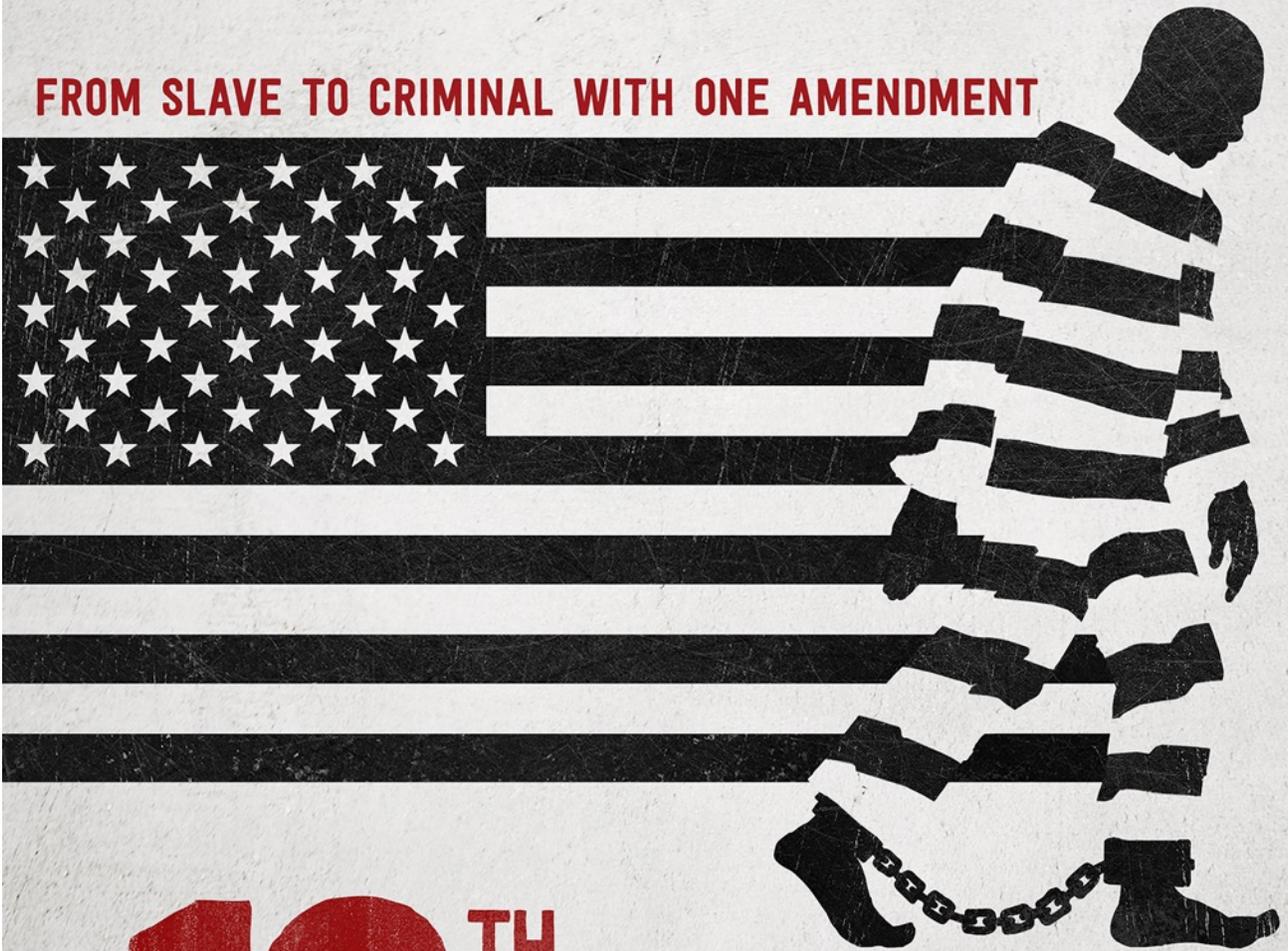


**NETFLIX**

A NETFLIX ORIGINAL DOCUMENTARY

**FROM AVA DuVERNAY**  
DIRECTOR OF SELMA

**FROM SLAVE TO CRIMINAL WITH ONE AMENDMENT**



**13<sup>TH</sup>**



**NOW STREAMING**

**DISCUSSION GUIDE**

# XIII Amendment

“Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.”

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## Discussion Questions

1. What are your initial reactions after watching the film?
2. The film discusses the power of the media in shaping people’s opinions and actions. For example, the use of the term ‘super predator’ in mass media resulted in an identity shift among people of color. Do you agree that media has a strong influence over the actions and opinions of society? What are some examples you can think from today?
3. What was the most surprising thing you learned from the film?
4. Did the film change any of your ideas about the prison system in America? Affirm any ideas you already had? If so, in what way?
5. Title cards in the film show the steep increase of the prison population from the mid to late 90’s until today. What was your reaction to these numbers?
6. “You can tell the story of white leadership in American and never mention the FBI one time, but you can’t tell the story of black leadership - not one - without having to deal with the full weight of the criminal justice system,” – do you agree or disagree?
7. The film brings about broad ideas about race relations and criminal justice in this country. How can you connect these themes to a personal experience?
8. Do you feel you have advantages or disadvantages based on your race, gender, sexual orientation, economic status or any other factors? How so? How have they impacted your life?
9. In a recent interview, Ava DuVernay says, “There’s good work to be done with folks simply re-assessing their own personal vies. Whether you go out and start a petition, or have some kind of formal dissent, or whether you change your own mind about the way that you are processing this stuff and behaving, all of that is good work. My hope is that the film affects folks on some level. I don’t have a preference as to how.” What has the film inspired you to do?

# RESOURCES FROM OUR PARTNERS:

\*red texts are hyperlinks

## Center for Media Justice

We are a national racial justice organizing hub that champions the media and technology rights of communities of color and America's poor. Through grassroots leadership and movement collaboration, we fight for the right to connect and the power to communicate in a digital age.

### [Digital Culture Shift Report](#)

Read this report on how the internet shapes social change, and how social change is shaping the internet.

### [Policy spying has got to stop!](#)

'Stingrays' are surveillance devices law enforcement agencies use to suck up sensitive, personal information from thousands of cell phones within range. [Sign this petition](#) asking for a ban on their use.

<http://mediajustice.org/>

## Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights

We are a coalition charged by its diverse membership of more than 200 national organizations to promote and protect the civil and human rights of all persons in the United States.

### [#JusticeReformNOW Postcard](#)

From arrest to release, people of color and low-income individuals are disproportionately over-represented throughout the criminal justice system.

The Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act will make the system work more fairly and efficiently and ensure that our communities are safe places for our friends and families. **Add your voice** to this campaign and tell Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell why you support the Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act of 2015.

<http://www.civilrights.org/>

# #Cut50

#cut50, an initiative of The Dream Corps, is a national bipartisan effort to smartly and safely reduce America's incarcerated population by 50 percent over the next 10 years.

## Ongoing Campaigns

By humanizing the narrative and pursuing transformative legislation, #cut50 is uniting the political machine of Washington DC, the financial reach of Wall Street, the innovation of Silicon Valley, and the cultural dominance of Hollywood to roll back the incarceration industry

<http://www.cut50.org/>

# Color of Change

As a national online force driven by over one million members, we move decision-makers in corporations and government to create a more human and less hostile world for Black people in America.

## Our Campaigns

Color Of Change is building a new, effective strategy for changing the rules society lives by, and ending the injustices Black people face.

**Join us.**

<https://colorofchange.org/>

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**#Watch13th**

**#13TH**

