DIGITAL DISCUSSION GUIDE

REST IN POWER
THE TRAYVON MARTIN STORY

EPISODE THREE: JUSTICE FOR GEORGE
THEME: What does society’s approach to safety policies reveal about its values?

Discussion: Aug 13 at 7pm PT / 10pm ET
Watch along on Paramount Network or BET

Join our Twitter Chat during the broadcast: #TrayvonMartinStory

TWITTER CHAT FEATURED GUESTS:
• Bree Newsome, artist & activist, @BreeNewsome
• Fresco Steez, BYP100, @thepalmtreepapi
• Jonathan Jayes-Green, UndocuBlack, @JayesGreenJ

DESCRIPTION: The Opportunity Agenda has partnered with Paramount Network to examine the theme of safety and what values are enforced in its name. This guide is meant to assist viewers in processing the content of the Rest in Power: The Trayvon Martin Story docuseries and to spread awareness about the intersection and impact of racism on safety.

QUESTIONS:
1) Episode 3 of Rest in Power: The Trayvon Martin Story opens with a story of Emmett Till’s mother, whose teenage son was brutally beaten and murdered by white supremacists in 1955. How does Trayvon Martin’s murder fit into that history?
2) Florida’s Stand Your Ground law makes it legal to kill someone if it is an act of self-defense. What are the implications of this law in a society where Black people are treated as if they are inherently dangerous?
3) Gladys Zimmerman, George Zimmerman’s mother who has Afro-Peruvian roots, said in a TV interview, “We don’t see color. We are colorblind.” What does this belief reflect about society’s views on race and privilege?
4) Despite his ethnicity, we see White supremacists adopt Zimmerman as one of their own for his actions. What ideas around safety do the White supremacists use in support of Zimmerman?
5) A Tampa Bay Times investigation showed that a person accused of murder is more likely to be set free in Florida using a Stand Your Ground defense if the victim is Black. What similarities have you seen in other criminal justice scenarios?
6) Throughout the trial Trayvon is blamed for his own death and the case is argued before a jury designed to be predominantly White. What does this jury selection reveal about the trial system in this country?
7) How are you working to make equal justice a reality?