

Defining US

Darion Grade Level: High School DU Theme: CRE, Mentorship SEL Competency: Responsible Decision Making, Social Awareness, Self-Management

Facilitator may wish to use reflection questions with students individually or in groups. A possible adaptation for a group activity is provided below.

Darion is a student producer with the Defining US project and has been involved in the production of the documentary video.

ACTIVITY

Ask students to think about Darion's perception of law enforcement. What are some of the experiences Darion had with the police at an early age?

Split students into groups of three or four. Have them consider what it would be like to be producing a documentary film about law enforcement in their community.

One of the most important things for producers and writers to come up with is a list of questions to ask people who they interview. For example, Darion asks the officer, **"What made you want to be part of the police force?"** We see Darion being surprised by laughing when hears the answer from the officer.

Have students discuss the following question with their small group.

If you were producing a documentary, similar to Darion, in your hometown what questions would you ask a police officer on a ride-along?

Ask probing questions to encourage groups to think critically about questions they might ask. Encourage students to think about why someone who has had negative experiences with law enforcement might decide to become a police officer.