

LAST CHANCE

A FILM BY PAUL ÉMILE d'ENTREMONT

**VICTIMS OF HOMOPHOBIA
SEEK ASYLUM IN CANADA**

Immigration and
Refugee Board
of Canada



Commission de
l'immigration et du statut
de réfugié du Canada

ABOUT THE FILM

Last Chance (2012) tells the stories of five asylum seekers who flee their native countries to escape homophobic violence. They face hurdles integrating into Canada and fear deportation while anxiously awaiting a decision that will change their lives forever.

RECOMMENDED AGES: 15+

This film is best suited for secondary students in Grades 10+, as it often deals with difficult subject matter.

SUBJECT AREAS

Civics/Citizenship – Human Rights

Diversity/Pluralism – Identity

Social Studies – Canadian Politics and Government

Social Studies – Canada in the World Today

Geography – Human Geography

PREVIEWING THE FILM

It is important to preview a film before screening it for your students. While previewing **Last Chance**, make a list of discussion questions that may be pertinent to your students and that will encourage reflection. Keep track of words, terms, concepts and scenes that may need context. Also, note that this film contains subject matter that may make some viewers feel uncomfortable. We recommend informing your students that this content is part of the film before you watch it with them.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- A** Why do you think discrimination exists?
Use examples to illustrate your points.
- B** Have you ever experienced or witnessed discrimination?
On what grounds did this discrimination occur? If you were to experience it or witness it in the future, what actions do you think could be taken in response?
- C** Have you moved to Canada from another country, or do you know anyone who has? How can we, as Canadians, be more welcoming to immigrants and refugees from other countries?
- D** On what other grounds can people from other countries claim refugee status?

GLOSSARY

Citizenship: Refers to the country of which a person is a citizen. A person may have more than one country of citizenship, or they may be stateless; that is, they may have no citizenship. Citizenship is acquired by birth or naturalization.

Deportation: The act of transporting someone from his/her/their country; banishment.

Discrimination: Differential treatment based on a personal characteristic that has an adverse impact on an individual or group. Examples of personal characteristics include race, ancestry, place of origin, skin colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, family status or disability. Discrimination robs people of their dignity and their ability to fulfill their capabilities. It is important to note that any person or group can discriminate, and any person or group can be the target of discrimination.

Homophobia: The irrational fear or hatred of, aversion to, and discrimination against homosexuals or homosexual behaviour. There are many levels and forms of homophobia, including cultural/institutional homophobia, personal homophobia, interpersonal homophobia and internalized homophobia. Many of the problems faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people stem from homophobia and heterosexism.

Homosexual: A person who is sexually attracted to members of their own sex.

Human rights: The basic rights and freedoms that all people are entitled to regardless of nationality, sex, national or ethnic origin, race, religion, language, or other status. Human rights include civil and political rights, such as the right to life, liberty and freedom of expression; and social, cultural and economic rights, including the right to participate in culture, the right to food, and the right to work and receive an education. Human rights are protected and upheld by international and national laws and treaties. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) is the foundation of the international system of protection for human rights. It was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948. The 30 articles of the UDHR establish the civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights of all people. It is a vision for human dignity that transcends political boundaries and authority, committing governments to uphold the fundamental rights of each person.

Humanitarian or compassionate grounds: A criterion of immigration law; often invoked in cases of unusual, undeserved or disproportionate hardship caused to a person seeking consideration.

LGBT: An umbrella term referring to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community. In use since the 1990s, the term LGBT is an adaptation of the initials L.G.B., which had started replacing the phrase “gay community” in the mid-to-late 1980s as many within the community felt it did not accurately represent all those to whom it referred.

Refugee: Someone who has been forced to flee his or her country because of persecution, war, or violence. Refugees seek asylum (or protection) in another country.

Sexual discrimination: Discrimination on the basis of gender, sex, sexual orientation, etc.

Transgender: A word that applies to someone who doesn't fit within a society's conventional notions of how a woman or a man is supposed to look or act. For example, the word transgender may be used to describe someone who was assigned the female gender at birth but later realizes that this label doesn't accurately reflect who they are inside. This person may now live life as a man, or may feel that their gender identity can't be truly summed up by either of the two options we're typically given (male or female). They might feel that their identity lies between those two options, that it is both male and female, or that it exists outside the two-gender system entirely (neither male nor female).

Travel visa: An endorsement made by an authorized representative of one country, allowing the passport holder entry into or through the country issuing the visa. Different types of visas include travel, work, and study visas.

RESOURCES

- A** Canada's Immigration and Refugee website:
cic.gc.ca/english/refugees
- B** Egale: Human Rights Trust:
egale.ca
- C** Transgender Basics Video:
youtube.com/watch?v=UXI9wOPbBXY
- D** CAEO (Canadian Association for Education and Outreach) Quebec:
caeoquebec.org/about-caeo
- E** Educator Kits for LGBT Education:
mygsa.ca/educators/lesson-plans-resources/4781
- F** Additional Definitions as found at:
mygsa.ca/content/terms-concepts

RELATED NFB FILMS

- A** *Everybody's Children*
nfb.ca/film/everybodys_children
- B** *My Prairie Home*
nfb.ca/film/my_prairie_home
- C** *Where I Belong*
nfb.ca/film/where_i_belong
- D** *Welcome to Canada*
nfb.ca/film/welcome_to_canada
- E** *Who Gets In?*
nfb.ca/film/who_gets_in
- F** *24 Days in Brooks*
nfb.ca/film/24_days_in_brooks
- G** *Opre Roma: Gypsies in Canada*
nfb.ca/film/opre_roma_gypsies_in_canada