

The BME Committee for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
presents

Community Discussion

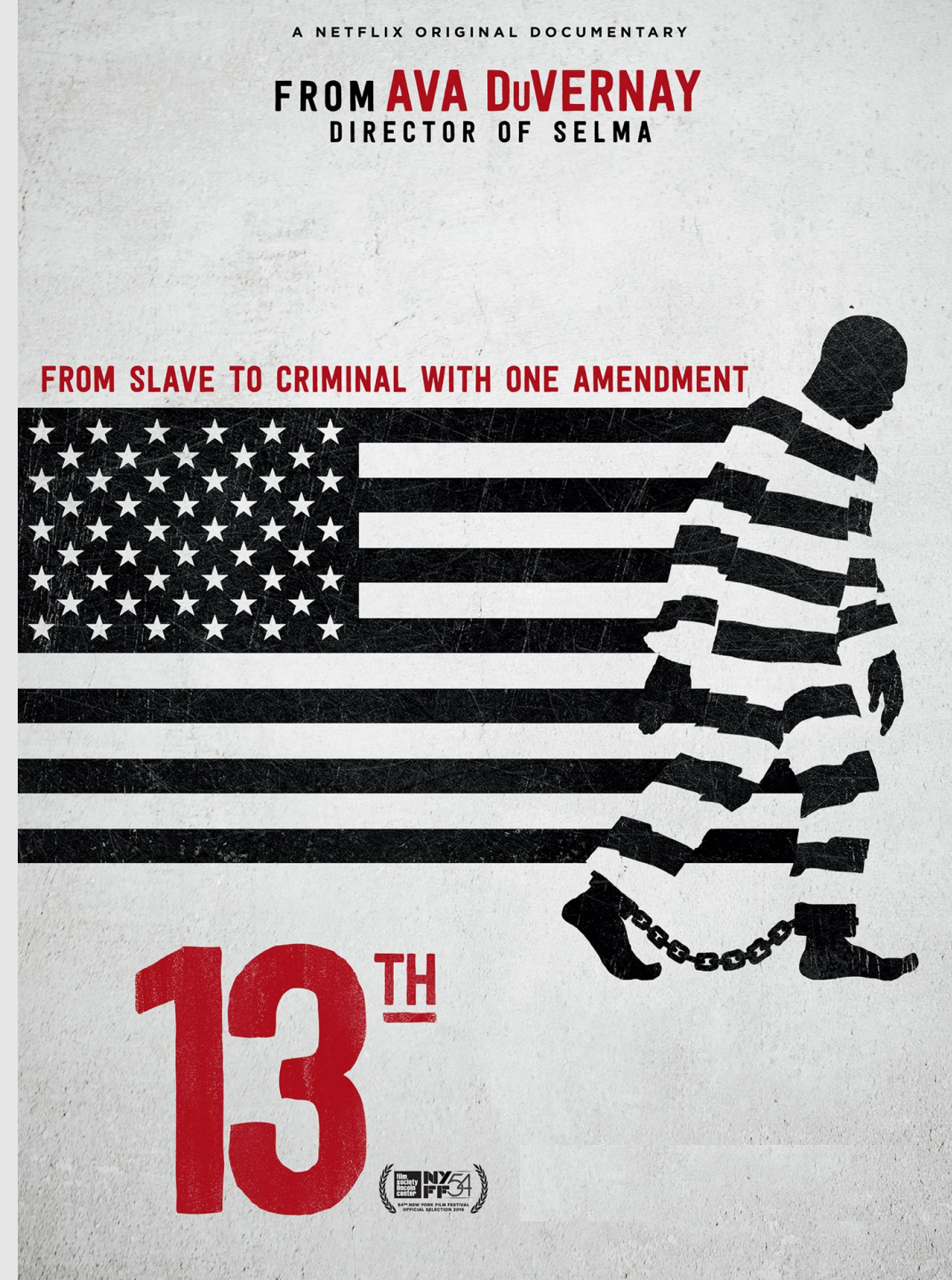
Moderators:

Ketsia Zinga, BME SEAS '21

Prof Elizabeth Hillman, BME

3 – 4:00 pm Structured Discussion

4 – 4:30 pm Continuing informal
discussions for those who wish to stay



Today in 1963: The March on Washington



Dr Martin Luther King Jr gave his “I Have a Dream” speech.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=smEqnklfYs>

<https://2020march.com/watch/>

Discussion Overview

1. Initial Reactions and Impressions
2. History of systemic racism in the US
3. Role of media and government in writing history
4. Criminality and mass incarceration
5. Post-reflection
6. Systemic racism in other structures (informal discussion)

10 minutes per topic

Community Guidelines

- Listen respectfully, without interrupting.
- Listen actively and with an ear to understanding others' views. (Don't just think about what you are going to say while someone else is talking.)
- Be mindful and respectful when engaging with others' thoughts. Critique ideas, not individuals.
- Commit to learning, not debating. Comment in order to share information, not to persuade.
- Avoid blame, speculation, and inflammatory language.
- Allow everyone the chance to speak.
- Avoid assumptions about any member of the class or generalizations about social groups. Do not ask individuals to speak for their (perceived) social group

What were your initial reactions when watching the film? What stood out? What were you surprised by?

Did the film give you any new perspectives on the origins of systemic racism in the US?

How have systems of oppression evolved and been perpetuated at different scales?

The film highlighted how films and media can shape public opinion, and how history can be taught and retold in different ways.

How can we resist and reshape these influences on culture?

What are the promises and limitations in including diverse voices?

The film exposed how crime ‘crack downs’ and incarceration have perpetuated racial injustice.

How is popular perception of criminality tied to policing and the mass incarceration of black men?

How can the system be reformed in the face of massive political, financial and private interests? What are actions that can be taken at the individual’s level?

Having watched and discussed the themes in 13th, what are some of your opinions or views that were challenged?

How do you see yourself moving forward from this discussion?

What are some other areas/examples of systemic racism in the US?

How are they different and similar to mass incarceration and policing?