



'63 BOYCOTT

SCREENING GUIDE
FOR PUBLIC TELEVISION STATIONS AND
THEIR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

PRESENTED BY:



FUNDED BY:



WATCH '63 BOYCOTT ON WORLD CHANNEL

PREMIERES FEBRUARY 25, 2019 ON LOCAL, USA
STREAMING ONLINE AFTER BROADCAST
<https://worldchannel.org/episode/lusa-63-boycott/>



ABOUT THE FILM

On October 22, 1963, more than 250,000 students boycotted the Chicago Public Schools to protest racial segregation. Many marched through the city calling for the resignation of School Superintendent Benjamin Willis, who placed trailers, dubbed 'Willis Wagons,' on playgrounds and parking lots of overcrowded black schools rather than let them enroll in nearby white schools. Combining unseen archival 16mm footage of the march shot by Kartemquin founder and filmmaker Gordon Quinn with the participants' reflections today, '63 BOYCOTT connects the forgotten story of one of the largest northern civil rights demonstrations to contemporary issues around race, education, school closings, and youth activism.

DISCUSS WITH VIEWERS ONLINE AT:



FB.COM/WORLDCHANNEL
FB.COM/63BOYCOTT



TWITTER.COM/WORLDCHANNEL
TWITTER.COM/63BOYCOTT



INSTAGRAM.COM/WORLDCHANNEL
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WORLD

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*We were out to disrupt.
We were out to inform.*

- CHARLES SMITH, a Chicago organizer for CORE (Congress of Racial Equality)



FILM MAKERS



GORDON QUINN, DIRECTOR

Quinn is the Artistic Director and founder of Kartemquin Films, a 53-year-old media organization, and the 2007 recipient of the MacArthur award for Creative and Effective Institutions. His documentaries include *HOME FOR LIFE*, *GOLUB*, *HOOP DREAMS*, *THE NEW AMERICANS*, and many more.

RACHEL DICKSON, PRODUCER

Dickson is an independent filmmaker, journalist, Spanish translator/interpreter, and the Supervising Producer of The School Project, an in-progress cross-platform media project about the effects of school closings on the past, present, and future of public education in Chicago.



TRACYE A. MATTHEWS, PRODUCER

Matthews is a historian, curator, filmmaker, and the Associate Director of the Center for the Study of Race, Politics and Culture at the University of Chicago, where she served as a Mellon Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in 2004-2005.



“ Even as a young person, I could see a difference in the quality of the environment and the resources.

- JILL WILLIS, an elementary school student in Chicago in 1963

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Pose these questions to those that watch **'63 BOYCOTT** with you or answer them online at the hashtags **#63BOYCOTT** and **#WORLDBHM**.

1. In the opening scenes of **'63 BOYCOTT**, the filmmaker shows a mix of archival footage from the 1960s alongside contemporary footage of recent demonstrations. How did you feel seeing these images presented together? What did these images convey?
2. What were the concerns raised by parents and organizers about the quality of education for Chicago's Black children in 1963? Have you heard any of these concerns expressed in recent education-related strikes?
3. What factors contributed to segregated neighborhoods and schools in Chicago? Do you see these or other factors affecting your neighborhoods today?
4. What organizing tactics did you see advocates use in the film? Do you think these tactics are effective in a contemporary context? Why or why not? What other tactics do you see being used today to bring about change?
5. How did the 1963 boycott advance equality for students in Chicago? In what ways did it succeed?
6. What challenges do Black students face now? How are they similar and/or different than the challenges faced in 1963?
7. What issues are you or other Black members of your community organizing around today? What do you want to see change?



HOST A VIEWING EVENT

You can host a **'63 BOYCOTT** viewing event for your friends and family in your living room, co-workers or classmates at your school, or parents and advocates in your organization. Here are three ways to screen the film—along with key steps to hosting a successful event:

- Invite people over to tune into the broadcast premiere on WORLD Channel February 23rd (check local listings to confirm your station's airtime).
- Stream the film online for a small audience after broadcast at <https://worldchannel.org/episode/lusa-63-boycott/>.
- Request a copy of the film from the filmmakers to host a public screening at: <https://kartemquin.com/films/63-boycott/events/request>.

STEP 1: PLAN AND SECURE

1 month prior to the event

- Review this guide, and familiarize yourself with the film.
- Determine your audience, and plan your guest list.
- Find a space with the proper audio/visual equipment to screen the film and plenty of room for your audience.
- Plan any refreshments or food you'd like to serve at the event.
- Consider partnering with other organizations or guest speakers to help plan your event.

STEP 2: REACH OUT AND PROMOTE

2-4 weeks prior to the event

- Finalize your guest list and start inviting!
- Create an invitation with an RSVP link, such as a Facebook event.
- E-mail an announcement about the event to your guest list.
- Consider creating a paper invitation or promotional flyer to share with partners, guest speakers, or others.

STEP 3: PREPARE AND FINALIZE

1 week prior to the event

- Confirm the number of chairs, tables, and any A/V equipment needed at your venue, as well as any refreshments or food being served.
- Do a test run on the equipment that you'll use to screen the film.
- Gather materials for any activities and/or resources you'd like to have at the party.
- Prepare a welcome to your guests to deliver before the viewing begins.
- Send out reminders to everyone you invited.

STEP 4: SCREEN AND DISCUSS

Day of the event

- Screen the film and lead a discussion using the questions included in this guide.
- Take photos, upload them to social media, and tag @63Boycott and @WORLDChannel in your posts.
- Make sure to thank your guests, partners, and speakers for participating.



“I’ve never forgotten that people marched for me to get where I am.”

- SANDRA MURRAY, a high school student in Chicago in 1963 that went on to become a research scientist

LINKS

<https://worldchannel.org/episode/lusa-63-boycott/> - the film page for ‘63 BOYCOTT created by WORLD Channel for its broadcast premiere on Local USA. The film will be streaming online at this link following broadcast.

<http://63boycott.kartemquin.com/> - the film page created by the filmmakers at Kartemquin Films, which includes additional ways to get involved in the production of the film.

<https://kartemquin.com/films/63-boycott/events/request> - a request form to screen ‘63 BOYCOTT in your community.

<https://worldchannel.org/collection/black-history-month/> - find more **Black History Month programs** and resources from **WORLD CHANNEL** throughout February online and on social media at the hashtag #**WORLDXBHM**.

