*13th –* DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What was your initial reaction after watching *13th*?
2. Have you ever been directly affected by any of the issues presented in the film? If so, how?
3. A) If you are American, do you remember any of the political policies being put into place that has led to a rise in the prison population? Who promoted these policies?

B) If you live outside of the United States, what similarities and/or differences did you observe between the political policies of your country and what is happening in America as presented by *13th*?

1. Have you ever had to confront direct or systemic racism in your life? If so, how were you affected?
2. What is your opinion on the film’s argument that people have been subconsciously conditioned to fear black men by the words and images presented by the media?
3. How knowledgeable are you on the concept of social privilege? Do you ever reflect upon the systematic privileges you may or may not experience because of race, gender, age, class, sexual orientation, religion, physical/mental abilities, etc.?
4. What do you think about the present state of the American prison system? If you live elsewhere, what do you think of the prison system in your country in comparison?
5. The film argues that there is a direct link between American slavery and the modern American prison system. What is your opinion of this argument?