

# Chauvin Verdict Processing / 6A Advisory (4/21)

## Activity/Discussion Opening

With recent events, many or all of us have been hearing discussions and opinions about the murder of George Floyd (and countless other POC), the resulting court case and yesterday's Chauvin verdict. These all connect to a long, complicated history of systemic racism. While there's no way for us to touch on everything during advisory time, it's important that all of us are able to express our feelings and share our thoughts.

Please remember:

- We value and respect one another
- We are discussing sensitive, emotionally charged topics
- We may say something the wrong way (that harms other people) or share opposing views. We can welcome different perspectives and give space to influence people without pressure.

## Processing Exercise

1. Get a piece of paper or pull out your journal (and writing utensil)
2. Separate your page into quadrants (or you can use multiple pages)
3. In the corner of each section, write the follow headings (in small print to leave space for reflections)
  - a. **What have you heard about yesterday's court verdict** (and the background of the court case)? From home, friends, school, news, social media, etc.
  - b. **What do you know about yesterday's court verdict** (and the background of the court case)?
  - c. **How are you feeling at this moment** - based on what you've heard/read/experienced?
  - d. **What would you like to learn about the court case or verdict?**
4. Explain process: we will spend time reflecting on each of the following questions individually, and will have time to share with the group at the end. You may capture your thoughts with text, doodle or a personal story that is elicited.
5. After framing the activity, ask students how much time do they anticipate needing to respond to the 4 questions. Decide as a group how much total time.
6. Move through each question one at a time, pausing to reiterate, expand and offer other access points. Consider providing quiet background music.
7. Remind the group of shared norms and move through questions one at a time, giving all students a chance to share their reflections.

## Media Review

Review one or more of the following pieces of media to give more context:

[Van Jones CNN response](#) (VIDEO)

[HS student reaction on CBS News](#) (VIDEO)

[Verdict Summary - Time for Kids](#) (ARTICLE)

Encourage students to add their thoughts and feelings to their previous reflection. After viewing the video, revisit the above questions with students.

- What new information do you have now?
- How did what you heard or saw affect you? How have your feelings changed?
- What new questions do you have?

## **Closing Questions**

- What needs do you have at this moment?
- What plans do you have/can you make to answer some of the questions that came up?
- Who can you talk with to share your feelings and learn more?
- Who can you do personally to address the issues we discussed?

[Facing History Link](#)