Name: Period: Date:

AP Human Geography - Lost Boys of Sudan

Part I

1. What purpose are the “Lost Boys” leaving the Sudan for America?
2. What are some of the stark differences in America from their lives in Africa?
3. At the 35 minute mark they mention that many refugees come and create community together. Many immigrants to a country do that. What are the advantages and disadvantages of that?
4. What roll do the Americans play in their lives? (give a couple examples)

Part II

1. What are the comparisons that the Black Africans make with the Black Americans?
2. What role does religion play for the Lost Boys?
3. What struggles do they face in America?
4. Did they accomplish their purpose in leaving Sudan for America? Why or why not?

The genocide in the Darfur region of Sudan is the most recent violent episode in a country where a 20-year civil war has killed an estimated two million people and displaced more than four million. The Dinka tribe has been hardest hit. **Lost Boys of Sudan** follows two young Dinka refugees, Peter and Santino, through their first year in America. As small boys, Peter and Santino lost their families to the war and were forced to flee their homes. Along with 20,000 other boys, they wandered hundreds of miles across the desert seeking safety. After a decade in a Kenyan refugee camp, nearly 4,000 "Lost Boys" have come to the U.S. as part of a refugee resettlement effort. Peter and Santino set out to make new lives for themselves in Houston and in Kansas City. Their struggle asks us to rethink what it means to be an American.

*How Are Peter and Santino and the Other Lost Boys Now?*

**Santino Majok Chuor** has left the factory night shift and Texas and recently relocated to San Jose, CA. He has enrolled full-time in community college with a generous scholarship from one of the film's viewers. Santino did successfully pass his drivers test. Since coming to the U.S., he has discovered that siblings he had not heard from for many years are still alive and living in other African refugee camps. With Santino’s financial support, one of his brothers has gathered the family and is working to take them back to their home village in Yirol. Santino has traveled a great deal with the film participating in media interviews, school screenings and panel discussions in New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Indianapolis and Dallas.

**Peter Nyarol Dut** graduated from Olathe East High School in June of 2003. He is currently a student at Green Mountain College in Vermont with a full scholarship. Along with his studies, Peter is happily playing basketball again. Since the film’s release Peter has participated in meetings with the Congressional Refugee and Human Rights Caucuses, the State Department’s Bureau of Population, Migration and Refugees, the Kansas State Board of Education and CARE.

**The Lost Boys Group** The “Lost Boys” group was resettled all across the U.S. there are Sudanese youth in nearly every state. Some of the largest groups are in Phoenix, Atlanta, Boston, Dallas, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Chicago, Salt Lake, **Houston**, Dallas, Seattle, San Diego, Kansas City, Richmond, Nashville and Louisville. The “Lost Boys” are strong individuals rather than a homogenous group, so it is impossible to give an update on them all. But as a whole the group is doing well, connecting more with their communities and finding the educational opportunities they are so focused on. Two of the young men who worked with us as translators on the film have enrolled this fall at the prestigious universities, Stanford and American. They are among many Sudanese youth finding academic success. Unfortunately, the successes are accompanied by heart-breaking stories of “Lost Boys” who have been victims of violence in the U.S. The “Lost Boys” are survivors and we are convinced that they will make the most of the opportunities America has to offer them and in the process make this a better country.

More research:

<http://www.lostboysfilm.com/index.html>

<http://www.pbs.org/pov/lostboysofsudan/>

<http://www.hrw.org/doc/?t=africa&c=sudan>

<http://www.ushmm.org/genocide/>

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/inatl/galleries/sudan/>

<http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/publications/ar/report.cfm?id=4420&cat=activity-report&ref=tag-index>