

Movie Reflections

Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom

The remarkable life of South African revolutionary, president and world icon Nelson Mandela (Idris Elba) takes centre stage. Though he had humble beginnings as a herd boy in a rural village, Mandela became involved in the anti-apartheid movement and co-founded the African National Congress Youth League. His activities eventually led to his imprisonment on Robben Island from 1964 to 1990. In 1994, Mandela became the first president of democratic South Africa.

Mandela was a controversial figure for much of his life. He gained international acclaim for his activism. Widely regarded as an icon of democracy, social justice, reconciliation and peace building. He received more than 250 honours — including the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993 which was awarded jointly to Nelson Mandela and Frederik Willem de Klerk “for their work for the peaceful termination of the apartheid regime, and for laying the foundations for a new democratic South Africa.”

[Apartheid - was a system of institutionalised racial segregation that existed in South Africa and South West Africa (now Namibia) from 1948 until the early 1990s.]

Parental Note: WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW

Parents need to know that Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom is a biopic about the South African leader Nelson Mandela, and includes some disturbing violence. We see riots in the streets, with military shooting citizens, people being set on fire, and wounded, bleeding children. Winnie Mandela is handled roughly, abducted, thrown into prison, slapped around and generally mistreated. Nelson kisses and has sex with three women, two of whom he marries, though no nudity of any kind is shown. There's some rare language including a brief use of "f--k" and one use of "s--t." Teens may be inspired by it to look further into Mandela's remarkable life.

Peace Keeping

Mandela was driven to take action by the presence of injustice all around him in South Africa through Apartheid regime [See notes above on Apartheid].



Discuss what injustice you currently see around you.

How does this make you feel and why?

Mandela during many long years in prison never lost hope that he would experience equality for the people of South Africa and that he would know peace in his time.



Discuss what hopes you have for the injustices we currently see in the world today.

Do you feel your voice counts and your actions can make a difference?

At the end of the film we see Mandela urge people to take the path of peace.



In what ways can you work for peace where you are today, name some steps (even if they are small) you can take to be a peace maker.

Visit [16personalities.com](https://www.16personalities.com) and take the free short personality test to explore more how you make your mark as you.

"I am only one; but still I am one. I cannot do everything; but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do." ~ Edward Everett Hale