



CALL ME KUCHU

A FILM BY
KATHERINE FAIRFAX WRIGHT & MALIKA JOUHALLI-WORRELL

Call Me Kuchu

Malika Zouhali-Worrall & Katherine Fairfax Wright, 2012, 125 minutes



SYNOPSIS / OVERVIEW

This documentary film follows the stories of LGBTQ people in Uganda who are working to live freely and proudly under a government that deems homosexuality as illegal and punishable by law. *Call Me Kuchu* focuses on the late activist, David Kato, Uganda's first openly gay man who fought tirelessly for the liberation of his people. The documentary also reveals the role of the religious right-wing in the U.S. in promoting anti-gay agendas and messages across the Christian community of Uganda.

KEY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1, David Kato was known internationally for his LGBTQ activism, why is it important for LGBTQ people in the U.S. to know and learn about his legacy and about the struggles of LGBTQ people in other parts of the world?
2. What is the role of religion throughout the film? How does religion influence, both negatively and positively, the experiences of LGBTQ in Uganda?
3. How are the conditions that LGBTQ people in Uganda live under similar and/or different than those of LGBTQ people in the U.S.?
4. What was the most surprising aspect of the film? What insight did you gain about the struggle of LGBTQ people in Uganda?

KEY QUOTES TO USE

“They call me the rich one in the village. As if I’m rich--without power!”-David Kato

“So after 6 years, I come back here. I wanted to begin the fight to liberate our people.” -David Kato

“Friends may leave you, parents may leave you, family may leave you, but you stay with your strength. The strength is with you, and its you that makes things possible”-Noemi

“A Lutua Continua”

KEY SCENES TO USE

◇ One of the characters, Stosh, shares their painful story of how they became HIV positive and surviving suicide. Stosh then explains that they were supposed to “live for a purpose” and that they were going to share their story and “come out no matter what.” It’s a powerful scene that speaks to the importance of story-telling and becoming resilient as LGBTQ people-- At 29:00 mins

◇ Lou Engle, a white evangelical Christian from the U.S. speaks to a crowd of Ugandan people about “the homosexual agenda” that is supposedly hurting youth and schools in “America.” He speaks about Uganda needing to be a “symbol for righteousness” by condemning homosexuality-- At 32:00 mins

◇ The drag ball scene organized at Noemi’s house when everyone is being themselves and celebrating themselves by rejoicing with each other through the art of drag --at 1:00:00 hour

OPTIONAL: 201 KEY QUESTIONS

1. Despite the harsh conditions that LGBTQ folks in Uganda can live under, all of the activists in the film employed various forms of organizing and resistance. How did the activists challenge homophobia on social, cultural, legal and political levels. What were the different social, cultural, legal, and political organizing strategies?

2. How does White Supremacy & U.S. Imperialism show up in the film? How do these two systems and concepts support the homophobia and transphobia that exists against LGBTQ people in Uganda?

APPENDIX: LEGAL RIGHTS CHART

The purpose of this chart is to share out the legal information that we as SONG have so that everyone is in the KNOW and can feel confident about organizing a film screening or series in your town. Over the years, SONG has screened many films including, for example, MILK, through sources like Netflix many times; in our homes, at community events and in many other places. One thing we do know is that no matter the film or setting, SONG members should not use film screenings to do any form of fundraising—meaning, you cannot charge any form of entry fee when advertising the film or make any pitches to fundraise as a part of your screening. That being said—this chart provides a little more specific information about the screening rights to each film—many of which we’ve purchased through SONG. For any further questions feel free to contact SONG at takeaction@southernersonnewground.org

FILM	LEGAL RIGHTS	SUGGESTIONS FROM SONG
How To Survive A Plague	http://surviveaplague.com/watch http://www.rocoeducation-al.com/how_to_survive_a_plague	<p>i. SONG has purchased the legal rights to screen How to Survive A Plague! We purchased a public performance DVD which includes two versions of the film on one DVD (feature-length version as well as a one-hour version) as well as unlimited public performance rights, meaning that SONG can screen the film an unlimited number of times at any SINGLE location.</p> <p>ii. Contact SONG to get a copy a copy of the document that says we have the right to screen the film</p>
Tongues Untied	http://newsreel.org/video/TONGUES-UNTIED http://newsreel.org/nav/policypopup.asp?id=36 http://newsreel.org/nav/policypopup.asp?id=34	<p>i. SONG has purchased the legal rights to screen Tongues Untied! We are entitled to the screening rights for 3 years (til 2018) and you can reach out to us when you are ready to screen.</p> <p>ii. Contact SONG to get a copy a copy of the document that says we have the right to screen the film.</p>
MILK	http://library.movlic.com/	<p>i. You can find/order MILK from Netflix.</p> <p>ii. Reach out to a local organization, community center, public library or university to see if they have a copy of the film or if they would be willing to purchase the legal rights to the film, then make a plan accordingly.</p>
<i>Call Me Kuchu</i>	http://callmekuchu.com/hos-tascreening/	i. SONG has purchased the screening rights to Call Me Kuchu and we now have multiple copies available in our library. Reach out to us about getting a copy of the screening rights.
<i>Pay It No Mind</i>	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bo0nYv9QIj4	<p>i. Check back with SONG for more updates; we may or may not have purchased the legal rights to screen this film organizationally</p> <p>This film is on available on YouTube and for this reason mostly likely open for public screening with license. Check back again with SONG before formally screening.</p>

IGNITING THE KINDRED



A SOUTHERN LGBTQ FILM SERIES

TOOLKIT

Acknowledgments

We want to give a huge thanks and shout out to all of the SONG members who helped develop the content of this toolkit, select the films, develop discussion guides, and format and design the toolkit. This is truly a collective, regional love offering from our political family.

Questions?

Want to talk this out? Have suggestions or ideas? Want to tell us how it went?

Contact us at takeaction@southernersonnewground.org

www.southernersonnewground.org

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