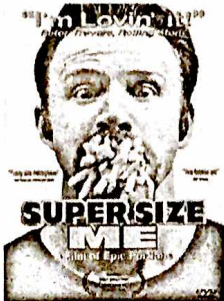


Documenting our Community:
Ethical Arguments and Moral Dilemmas

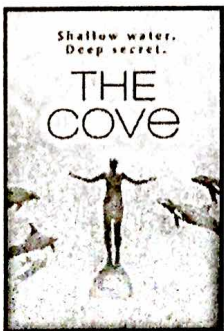


We have now watched three powerful documentary films on various topics of ethical debate. **Our next project will be to create our own short documentary films on the ethical and moral dilemmas we face on a daily basis in our own community.**



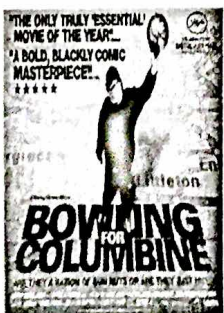
***Supersize Me*, by Morgan Spurlock**

Do fast-food companies have a responsibility to provide healthy food to their customers?



***The Cove*, by Louie Psihoyos**

Is it right to kill animals for profit?



***Bowling for Columbine*, by Michael Moore**

Should restrictions be placed on gun ownership?

Step #1: Topics

Together we will make a list of topics that we think should be addressed about issues of ethics and morality that we face on a daily basis here at North Shore H. S. Note: The topics we choose should also have significance to the larger community as well. Each film will propose one realistic change students can make to address the identified problem.

Structure:

- 1. Identify a problem (something that happens that you think is NOT right in our school community – ie Students cheat on tests.)*
- 2. Present the topic in question form (ie Why do students cheat on tests?)*
- 3. Explain & explore topic through interviews, statistics, etc. (Find students/teachers/parents, or other members of the community, who can talk about this topic)*
- 4. Explain how the topic is relevant to the rest of society (Where else in the world do you find evidence of cheating?)*
- 5. Propose one way students can take action to solve the problem (Propose an alternative way for teachers to measure how much students have learned)*

Step #2: You're hired!

Everyone will write a letter of application to Mrs. Davison for the job they would like to have (see job descriptions below). Mrs. Davison will assign jobs and try to give everyone a position they are happy with.

***Director:** The director controls all creative aspects of the film. This person provides the “vision” for the film.*

***Producer:** Helps the director with casting (finding the people you want to interview, etc.), logistics & post-production. Works closely with the director to help make sure the film gets made.*

***Editor:** This person takes all the film and audio clips and arranges them in iMovie to create the film. This person will create a “storyboard” for the film.*

***Writer:** This person writes the script for the film (any explanations that need to be made, any questions that need to be asked).*

***Creative Director:** This person is in charge of the soundtrack for the film and any visuals necessary (photo stills, artwork, etc.) .*

Step #3: Pitching the concept

All films need approval before filming begins. Mrs. Davison will act as the director of the production company and the director must present the initial concept to her in order to “green-light” the project.

Step #4: Lights! Camera! Action!

Time to get to work. As a group, you will make plans for filming your documentary. **NOTE:** The school has a few cameras, but the easiest and best way

to complete filming will be to use your own digital recording devices (phones, cameras, etc.). Discuss your plan with Mrs. Davison.

Step #5: Editing

Time to make your film look good. This is also where you will think about the techniques used to make any persuasive argument.

<i>Ethos</i>	<i>Pathos</i>	<i>Logos</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have you proven in your film that you know what you are talking about? - Do you have personal experiences to share? - Can you do research to help prove your point? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How will you appeal to the emotions of your audience? - Will you make them laugh, cry, get angry? - How will you use music & images to do that? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have you clearly presented the problem you have identified? - Have you explained why you think it's important? - Have you explained how this topic affects people? - Have you tested out your movie on a friend to make sure they understand it?

Step #6: Film Festival

Four films from the Ninth Grade Experience will be selected by NGE teachers to appear in an NGE film festival in June. Awards will be given and all NGE students will attend.

