



Newtown Documentary Sample Questions

1. We just watched three families whose children were killed at Sandy Hook Elementary School share their own stories of that day and the journey through loss that followed. **Each handles their grief, feelings and actions around the tragedy in different ways.** What do their stories tell you about the importance of resilience and hope? Which actions these families took after the tragedy did you find particularly inspiring? What do you wish you could convey to these families today?
2. In the Newtown documentary, we witnessed not only the grief of the families who lost their children, but also the collective grief shared by the entire Newtown community – neighbors, teachers, first responders and faith leaders. **The tragedy had a ripple effect in Newtown and beyond.** How has the Newtown tragedy changed you personally? How has it changed the community around you? How has it made you examine the role that you can play to build community and prevent gun violence?
3. In the documentary, one person talks about the guilt she feels because the shooter “went left instead of right.” Did you have similar feelings when you learned about the tragedy in Newtown? Did you ask yourself “why Newtown and why not my city/state?” **What do you think needs to happen to prevent the next Newtown and keep all of our communities safe from gun violence?**
4. One of the parents in the film looks at the tragedy and sees “**dominoes**” – each being very specific – that needed to line up a certain way the morning of 12/14 for the tragedy to happen as it did. More importantly, the parent also describes “**the spaces in between the dominoes**” where someone, somewhere along the way could have stopped the next domino from falling and maybe prevented the shooting from ever happening. Based on the film, what do you think those spaces could have been to stop the next domino from falling? How could someone – a parent, young person or community member – have helped prevent the tragedy? How do Sandy Hook Promise’s Know the Signs programs help increase the “spaces in between the dominoes?” *See [Sandy Hook Promise’s Know the Signs Guide](#) for more information.
5. After watching the documentary and hearing the dominoes analogy, do you believe that gun violence is preventable if people know the signs? **What actions will you take after watching the documentary to prevent gun violence in your community?** Will you join Sandy Hook Promise and Make the Promise tonight?