



MAKING CONNECTIONS...

A Chair for My Mother By: Vera B. Williams

As caretakers of young people, making connections and continuing the conversation is helpful to developing critical thinking skills and extending compassion. This includes helping us broaden our understanding of how issues of immigration, race, incarceration, gender, and more are linked to sexual violence. This connection is crucial when thinking about how to keep our communities safer and work towards a future free from harm.

"A Chair For My Mother" is a timeless, childhood classic about a little girl and her close knit family. After a fire had burned down her childhood home, she experiences what it means to show resilience in the face of trauma and the power of community and familial relationships. As her grandma and mother save up for a new chair, she recounts how her community from neighbors to family come together to make sure they have housing and furniture.

The resilience behind rebuilding is one that is seen in various communities and within families. It is also about safe adults and how kids feel comfortable rebuilding with their loved ones and community. When young people have a strong network of multiple safe adults, at least 5, they are able to ask questions and get information about the world around them. When it comes to sexual violence, the more safe adults a young person identifies, people that are respectful of boundaries, ask consent, and are open to questions, the safer the young person will be.



RESILIENCE
EMPOWERING
SURVIVORS
ENDING SEXUAL
VIOLENCE



CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION...

1 What makes you feel safe? What makes you feel loved and cared for?

What is community? Who is a part of your community?

2

3 How can you support your community? What would you give to your friend or neighbors if they lost their home?

When you have a hard moment that makes you feel bad or sad, what do you need? A safe touch? Someone to tell you it will be okay? What makes you feel better?

4

5 Do you think the girl will feel better now that she lives in a new apartment? Do you think she might be afraid of another fire? (Question to talk about trauma and healing)

