PARK EAST HIGH SCHOOL
Purpose, Preparation, Pride

Name: _____ Date: _____

Selma (2014) Film and Civil Rights Discussion Questions

1.Was "negotiate, demonstrate, resist" the right strategy for the Civil Rights Movement? Was there also a place for the tactics of Malcolm X and the Nation of Islam?

2. What should a nonviolent movement do in the face of violence? Is violence ever justified in a movement that describes itself as "civil disobedience"?

2. In the film, a New York Times reporter asks King if his movement is really nonviolent if it is "inciting violence." What do you think?

3. What would Dr. King think about the state of race relations today in America? What would he think about President Obama? What would he say about the 2016 presidential race?

4. Why do you think the film, at the very least, emphasized the antagonism between Johnson and King? Was this unfair to Johnson's legacy? Did it make the film more interesting?

5. Does the knowledge the King was an adulterer change your opinion of him? Where is the line between personal and private for public figures?

6. What can individual citizens do today to fight against racism?