

## Defining US

## Saul A.

- Grade Level: High School
- **DU Theme:** CRE, Immigration, Restorative Practices
- SEL Competency: Responsible Decision Making, Social Awareness, Self-Awareness

Facilitator may wish to use reflection questions with students individually or in groups. Below is a possible adaptation for a group activity.

## ACTIVITY

In the video, we see that Saul is involved in a play where he tells about the difficulties he has faced as a gang member. The part of the play that we see in the video shows Saul and the other cast members taking turns doing what is called a monologue, or a dramatic speech by an individual to the audience (in a soliloquy the actor is alone and speaking to himself/herself).

Using your knowledge of the students, split into groups of 2 or 3 students. Students will create a short monologue about a social situation. Below are situations that Saul talks about in the video, the facilitator may use these or create others if she/he wishes. It is okay to give more than one group the same situation; often the different ways that student groups will express the same situation can allow for meaningful discussion. Each of these is designed to help students to empathetically consider the perspective of others. The boy who was attacked and hit with the ball bat having to tell about his experience when he is being treated in the hospital.

Saul telling about his experience acting in a play that about his own life experiences.

Saul's mother telling a friend about Saul coming to the United States, leaving a gang and deciding to get a job rather than going back to the gang lifestyle in the United States.

Saul describing why a paycheck for money earned is so much better than money earned by selling drugs.

Saul telling about why he was so afraid about being asked to be involved in drive-by shooting.

## Saul telling the reasons why he joined and then left the gang.

Give students a few minutes to write their monologues and then have each group read theirs aloud. Encourage students be as dramatic and real as possible given the relatively short amount of time to prepare (this could also be used to extend into the next meeting).