**Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Ghosts of Mississippi**

1. Describe the images at the beginning of the film. What thoughts do they evoke?

The images at the beginning of the film evoke a feeling of sadness and horror because they show the murder of Medgar Evers.

2. What is the theme of President Kennedy's speech on the radio?

The theme of JFK’s speech on the radio is about the need for equality and civil rights for African American in the United States.

3. Describe the scene before the trial. Did anything in particular surprise you?

The scene before the trial that was surprising was the governor of Mississippi shaking hands with the man being tried for assassinating Medgar Evers.

4. Why does the DA's office start looking into the Evers case again in 1989? What was the stated reason? The real reason?

The DA's office start looking into the Evers case again in 1989 because of pressure from his widow and various civil rights organizations.

5. Describe the circumstances surrounding the first two trials of Beckwith according to Mrs. Evers and the SCLC?

The circumstances surrounding the first two trials of Byron De La Beckwith were 2 all white male jury’s and the amount of racism that existed at the time.

6. Why is DeLaughter's wife upset with his decision to pursue the case?

Mr. DeLaughter's wife was upset with his decision to pursue the case because she was afraid it would make her look bad.

7. What problem does DeLaughter keep running into when he talks to the former witnesses?

The problem he runs into with former witnesses is they are all dead or they are willing to lie for the defendant.

8. What does the vandalizing of Delaughter's car say about society?

The vandalizing of Delaughter's car is an example of how intolerant society is about race.

9. "This country may be legally segregated but emotionally we'll always be segregated." Respond to this quote.

Please state YOUR opinion!!!!!

10. Why is the former FBI informant afraid to testify in the case?

He is afraid to testify because of his fear or retribution by the KKK.

11. Why did the DA's office want to bring on another prosecutor in the Evers case.

They wanted to bring in another prosecutor into the Evers case because of political pressure.

12. Why was the official court transcript of the original case given over by Mrs. Evers a turning point in the case?

The official court transcript was needed to secure the testimony of the original witnesses in the case who may have died.

13. Describe the events of the case that unfolded following the discovery of the transcripts.

1. Mr. DeLaughter gets remarried
2. Byron De La Beckwith is charged with Medgar Evers murder
3. The third trial begins

14. Why does Medgar Evers brother not want to attend the trial?

His brother doesn’t want to attend the trial out of fear of what he will do to the defendant.

15. "No matter how many civil rights laws you pass; you'll never be able to legislate how people think." Respond to this quote.

Please state YOUR opinion!!!!!

16. If you were in Mr. DeLaughter's situation, would you put your family in danger to fight for a cause you believed in? Why or why not?

Please state YOUR opinion!!!!!

17. "You'll never get 12 people to convict me of killing a [black man] in the State of Mississippi." Respond to this quote. What does it show?

Please state YOUR opinion!!!!!

18. What does the verdict show about society? Is the age of racism over? Explain.

The verdict shows that it’s possible to convict a white man of killing a black man in the state of Mississippi.

Discussion Questions

1. Evidence of racism. Give examples from the movie.
2. "You'll never get 12 people to convict me of killing a [black man] in the State of Mississippi."
3. "No matter how many civil rights laws you pass; you'll never be able to legislate how people think."
4. The vandalizing of Delaughter's car
5. What stereotypes did you see in the movie? Give specific examples.
6. DeLaughter demonstrates a lack of trust of Mrs. Evers
7. Various comments made by Byron De La Beckwith throughout the film.
8. You saw segregation in the movie. Give examples of both *de jure* and *de facto* segregation.

De Jure – Legalization of integration and other civil rights laws passed during the 1960’s

Dec Facto – Blacks and whites voluntarily socializing and voluntary segregation by race

1. Even many years after the passage of the Civil Rights legislation of the 1960s, we saw institutionalized discrimination. What is this and give examples from the movie as evidence.
2. Bring in another prosecutor into the Evers case because of political pressure
3. The governor of Mississippi shaking hands with the man being tried for assassinating Medgar Evers.
4. 2 all white male jury’s in the first 2 trials
5. Is what happened to Medgar Evers a hate crime? Explain.

It was a hate crime because Medgar Evers was killed for being an African American civil rights activist.

1. Explain how each sociological theory (functionalism, conflict, symbolic interactionism) would view the events of the movie. Give examples from the film.

Sociological theory would view this film as example of society changing its belief or norms overtime in order for justice to be finally served.