

CRITICAL THINKING

RYAN SHECKLER

Use the following critical thinking questions to help foster an open, student-led discussion on the theme(s) discussed in this episode of The Harbor.

1. **RYAN'S PARENTS WERE EXTREMELY SUPPORTIVE OF HIS SKATEBOARDING THROUGHOUT HIS CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENCE.**

How supportive is your family of your hobbies and interests?

How has having their support benefited you and what you enjoy doing?

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2. **MANY OF US CAN RELATE TO THE EMOTIONS RYAN FELT THROUGHOUT HIS PARENTS' DIVORCE.**

Have you (or someone you know) been affected by a divorce or separation? How did this process make you (or them) feel?

What are some effective ways to cope with a traumatic experience like a divorce?

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3. **LIKE RYAN, THERE ARE NUMEROUS CHILDREN FROM DIVORCED FAMILIES WHO FEEL THAT THEY MAY BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR PARENTS' SEPARATION.**

MORE OFTEN THAN NOT, HOWEVER, THE CHILDREN ARE NOT THE ONES TO BLAME.

What are some other factors that you think may contribute to a divorce or separation?

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4. **TODAY, RYAN'S FAMILY MAINTAINS AN INCREDIBLE RELATIONSHIP WITH ONE ANOTHER EVEN IN SPITE OF HIS PARENTS' DIVORCE, REINFORCING HIS BELIEF THAT, "TIME HEALS EVERYTHING."**

Why is it important to give yourself time to heal from traumatic experiences?

Write down some examples of problems that can be resolved or lessened by time.

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5. **MORE AND MORE OFTEN, WE SEE CHILDREN FROM SINGLE-PARENT HOMES OR DIVORCED FAMILIES BECOMING JUST AS SUCCESSFUL AS THOSE CHILDREN RAISED IN TRADITIONAL HOMES WITH MARRIED FAMILIES.**

Why do you think this is? What are some ways you can overcome your surroundings and continue pursuing your dreams?

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