Go Back To Where You Came From
Episode Two
Analysis Questions

Refugees in transit – The Malaysian experience

1. The episode begins with a recap of each of the participants, with a selected soundbyte from their introductory package. Why have these soundbytes been repeated? What does it suggest about the way that the audience is supposed to view the participants?
2. As the VO states, “From day one their beliefs have been challenged.” Outline some of the challenges that the narrator is referring to.
3. The VO continuously refers to this part of the experience as a “shadow world” or “limbo experience”. Why are these the metaphors that have been chosen to describe this part of the experience?
4. Make a list of the sounds and images that help to support the idea of a transitory experience.
5. The participants are all shocked at the living conditions of the Chin refugees. What do the following quotes reveal about the participant’s perspective, and willingness to be a part of this stage of the experiment:
   - Raye: “No matress? They sleep on the floor? It’s very primitive.”
   - Raquel: “I feel sorry for them ... but I’m not too impressed that I have to stay here.”
   - Gleny: “It’s almost like a detention centre that they’ve created for themselves.”
   - Darren: “Now the bloody Muslims are staring their prayers.”
   - Roderick: “I know it’s a Muslim country, but that doesn’t mean you get to blurt out your prayers and wake up the entire neighbourhood.”
   - Adam: “I mean, at home, guys labouring have got a place you can go to to get the luxuries in life. These guys have got nothing.”
6. What is your response to the dramatic irony created by the Voice Over explaining the lack of prospects for refugee children and higher education, and the children’s own aspirations for their futures?
7. This stage has a particular effect on Adam, and significantly shifts his perspective. Discuss how this stage has changed Adam, and some of the discoveries that he has made.
8. Where is Raquel at in regards to her journey of discovery? Is there any hope that she is shifting her own perspective on the issue?

Border Patrol

1. How is the mood shifted at the start of this section to make it engaging for the responder? Consider camera angles, sound effect and exposition.
2. Why, do you think, this brief section of border control has been included in the series? What effect does the information about funding being provided by Australian tax payers have on the audience?
3.
Midnight Raid

1. Discuss the use of various film techniques used in this sequence. Consider the use of hand held cameras, soundtrack, editing and direct interviews that are used throughout. What effect do these techniques have on the audience?

2. The participants respond in various ways to the raids. Discuss the significance of the below quotes (considering intent, tone and perspective), and the effect of their words on the audience.
   - Roderick: “I hope they’re bad, bad people ... it’s going to be harder to watch if they’re really nice people getting turfed out of their place.”
   - Raquel: “They should be doing this in Australia. This is good.”
   - Raye: “I don’t know how I feel, it’s pretty sad. I’m certainly not relishing in it.”
   - Darren: “This is unbelievable. I had no idea that it was going to be this full on.”
   - Gleny: “It’s a very tense situation. I’m just churning inside.”
   - Adam: “Far out, It’s just a big reality hit.”

3. How does Raye and Raquel’s dialogue during this scene highlight the dichotomy of public opinions about the criminality of refugees and asylum seekers?

4. At the end of this part of the episode, the participants debrief with Dr David Corlett. There is a clear divide between those who have shifted their perspectives, and those who are yet to discover a new way of thinking. Explain the position of each participant in regards to their perspective on refugees and asylum seekers. How has their perspective changed from the beginning, and have other participants influenced them in any way?

Kenya

1. As Roderick, Raquel and Raye travel to the Kakuma refugee camp, they have different responses to the potential danger of the situation. Describe these responses.

2. How is Raquel’s statement: “I’m not no refugee.” Ironic? Consider both the syntax, and the nature of the experiment. What does this say about the nature of self discovery?

3. The Voice Over provides the following detail: “It is now 16 days since the Australian’s have had any contact with friends and family at home. The refugee experiment is taking them further and further from their comfort zone.” What could be suggested about the way that Raye, Raquel and Roderick are handling this situation, especially in regards to discovery?