



American Crime Season 3 Watch Party Toolkit



Watch the trailer here: <https://www.facebook.com/AmericanCrimeABC/videos/1409003842465695/>

Episodes of American Crime Season 3 can be found at:

- Channel: ABC, Sunday nights at 10pm/9 central
- On-Demand and streaming from ABC.com the Monday after each episode

American Crime captures the issue of modern slavery in America in a way we haven't seen before on television. The series will be a critical tool in the fight against human trafficking as we work to raise awareness about how it occurs across multiple types in every state in the nation," said **Bradley Myles, CEO of Polaris**. "Trafficking is an issue often portrayed sensationally which leads to misconceptions, but American Crime captures the nuances and subtleties that survivors experience daily. It presents the reality of just how intertwined modern slavery is with our society, as well as the long-term challenges survivors face as they try to restore their freedom through a safety net that is underfunded, stretched thin, or entirely nonexistent in some places.

This kit includes:

- Party planning tips
- Invitation language
- Sign-in sheets (for live watch parties)
- Information about the show
- Resources on human trafficking
- Ways for you and your guests to get involved in helping to end trafficking.

Get involved! Join [Polaris](#) and [CAST](#)'s mailing lists to learn about how you can help support the fight to end human trafficking.



From *Entertainment Weekly*:

“Those seeking to escape the realities of harsh times should look away from *American Crime*, though that would be a shame. The anthology series from [Oscar-winning screenwriter John Ridley](#) confronts the issues that define us — race, gender, class, money — through beautifully crafted drama that captures your imagination as to the intricate web of society and encourages grace for everyone caught in it. The third season, the show’s most ambitious yet, concerns modern slavery in various forms. But it sweeps up so many themes — with an array of well-drawn, terrifically acted characters — that it becomes an all-encompassing portrait of American life. It shows you the profound repercussions in the smallest of gestures, from the food we buy to the luxuries we desire; it has the power to make you reconsider your worldview.” –[Entertainment Weekly](#)

How to Host a Watch Party.



1. Select a date and location, the episodes air Sunday nights but are available to stream online and on-demand through cable throughout the rest of the week.
2. You can either host live watch parties with discussions (suggestions included), or host virtual watch parties with discussions.
3. Invite friends and colleagues.
4. Provide resources/materials (either print out or email to guests).
5. Post reactions as you are watching, engage with others discussing themes online, take pictures of your party and post them online. Use hashtags [#AmericanCrime](#) and [#HumanTrafficking](#)

Invite Friends!:

Sample Facebook/Email Language

@AmericanCrimeABC on their third season, focused specifically on issues surrounding modern slavery. The season is 8 episodes long and I’d love for you to join me in watching each episode to learn more about modern day slavery happening in our own backyards!

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Live Watch Party Checklist:

- Snacks (if live)
Looking for ideas for snacks to serve? Check out these ideas from [pinterest](#). Bonus points if you serve one of the three vegetables that are part of the [Fair Food Program](#) (Tomatoes, Strawberries, and Green Bell Peppers).
- Sign in guests when they arrive
Encourage guests to also join take this time to sign up for mailing lists or explore ways to get involved with [Polaris](#) and [CAST](#).
- Facilitate discussion around the issues of human trafficking and themes presented in the episode (see attached suggestions for discussion questions)
- Provide resources and materials for those interested in learning more (handouts or websites, checkout Polaris' National Human Trafficking Hotline: <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/> for ideas).
- Take pictures to spread awareness on social media
- Tweet and Facebook using hashtags/ats:
 - @AmericanCrimeTV
 - @ABCNetwork
 - @IamSandraOh
 - @FelicityHuffman
 - @ReginaKing
 - @Polaris_Project
 - @CASTLA
 - #AmericanCrime
 - #humantrafficking

Virtual Watch Party Checklist:

- Share resources with your guests ahead of the episode, giving them context for the trafficking themes most prevalent this season. These themes include migrant labor trafficking and domestic minor sex trafficking. A great place to start is the national human trafficking organization, Polaris:
 - Polaris: <http://polarisproject.org>
 - Polaris' National Human Trafficking Hotline: <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/>
- Decide on your platform for continued conversations and information sharing. A Facebook group is a great option!
- Follow the #AmericanCrime hashtag on twitter, and engage the conversation there! You can post your reactions as they happen, and follow along with other peoples' reactions and shared experiences.

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Suggested Discussion Questions:

You can use these questions to start conversations after the episode, for both live and virtual watch parties.

1. Were there any moments in the first two episodes to which you reacted strongly? Which moment and why?
2. What was your favorite moment of the episode?
3. Was there anything that struck you as unusual, or caused any sinking feelings?
4. Were there any special behaviors/moments/things you saw the characters do that were really accurate but often overlooked?
5. What do you want to learn more about? Where do you think you could find that information?

About this Season:

From Variety.com:

“The series, which was recognized by both Emmy and Screen Actors Guild voters the last two years, centers on racism, sexism and classism in the United States — issues that remain applicable now more than ever. According to executive producer [Michael McDonald](#), the latest installment will focus heavily on the imbalance of America’s social classes, while also revisiting women’s rights and racial prejudice.

“The main thing we wanted to tackle is the exploitation of the workforce in America and how people are working to survive and how they’re barely doing so,” McDonald said. “Modern-day slavery does exist [in America] and we close our eyes to it.

He added: “We have these great women, like Felicity and Regina [King] and Lili Taylor, that show us what it’s like to be a woman in America today. The series also covers reproductive rights and women’s healthcare. There is a lot of examination at what it looks like to not have power.”

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Name of Watch Party Host: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

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E-mail: _____

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Additional Resources

Resources on Human Trafficking:

Do you want to learn more about domestic minor sex trafficking?

<http://humantraffickinghotline.org/resources/3-key-challenges-combatting-sex-trafficking-minors-united-states>

What about how this affects the LGBTQ population?

<http://humantraffickinghotline.org/resources/surviving-streets-new-york-experiences-lgbtq-youth-ymsm-and-ywsw-engaged-survival-sex>

Are you interested in learning more about labor trafficking in farms?

<http://humantraffickinghotline.org/resources/looking-hidden-population-trafficking-migrant-laborers-san-diego-county>

Are you interested in learning more about other types of trafficking?

<https://polarisproject.org/stories>

Get regular updates from the field by joining [Polaris](#) and [CAST](#)'s mailing lists to learn about how you can help support the fight to end human trafficking.

How to Get Involved:

Find a local service provider here: <http://humantraffickinghotline.org/training-resources/referral-directory>

Donate to a service provider or to Polaris

Deliver resources that service providers, particularly those that provide shelter, might need. Call a local provider and see what they might need. Collect things like clothing, toiletries, and bedding

Volunteer and help service providers continue to directly serve survivors.

Press:

[Why ABC's 'American Crime' is now set in N.C. \(and why it wasn't allowed to be shot here\)](#)

Charlotte Observer 3/7/17

They're storylines with relevance and immediacy. Most North Carolinians are familiar with immigrants picking crops and the furniture woes of the state – and according to Polaris, an organization that helps run the National Human Trafficking Hotline, 181 cases of human trafficking were reported in North Carolina in 2016 (up from 112 in 2015), putting it 10th nationally.

[10 WAYS AMERICAN CRIME SEASON 3 EXPOSES MODERN SLAVERY](#)

Rotten Tomatoes 3/8/17

The crime in American Crime's third season transcends the average courtroom-drama plotline, delving into the murky and dangerous world of 21st century slavery, including immigrants held prisoner and forced to work for less than minimum wage and a teen trapped in life on the streets by bureaucracy.

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