

Book Discussion

A Hunger of Memory by Richard Rodriguez

1. Share the excerpt that you brought to class: a passage that you found interesting and explain what it means to you.
2. Rodriguez describes the conflict that he experienced between private and public identity. Is this a common conflict to all children?
3. How did Richard Rodriguez's perceptions of his parents change throughout his schooling? How did his feelings about his parents compare to the feelings that current-day youths have for their parents?
4. In what ways did stereotypes about skin color shape Richard's identity? What other stereotypes influenced his self-concept?
5. What is Rodriguez's stance on bilingual education and affirmative action? Do you agree or disagree with his beliefs?
6. How can schools and communities support the educational success of immigrant and minority children?