“Other”: A Brief History of American Xenophobia
Instructions for Classroom Activity 1
Connect--Extend--Challenge Thinking Routine

Purpose: To encourage students to think more deeply and critically about the Xenophobia video.

This activity is adapted from a thinking routine from Making Thinking Visible: How to Promote Engagement, Understanding, and Independence by Ron Ritchhart, Mark Church, and Karin Morrison.

Thinking routines are simple strategies that teachers can use to cultivate thinking and deepen learning for students.

The Connect-Extend-Challenge thinking routine helps students connect new ideas to prior knowledge and to think about how new learning brings up additional questions, wonderings, and puzzles for them.

Activity Instructions:

Part 1 (7 minutes)
● Show the Xenophobia video

Part 2 (5 minutes)
● Ask students to divide a sheet of paper (in “landscape” position) into 3 columns
● In the first column, have students write “Connect”
● Ask students to write their response to the question: How are the ideas and information in the video connected to what you already knew? (Write question in chat box)
● Have students share their responses with each other. (If possible, divide students into breakout rooms of 4-5 students each.)
Part 3 (5 minutes)

- In the second column, have students write “Extend”
- Ask students to write their response to the question: What new ideas did you get from the video that \textit{extended} or pushed your thinking in new directions? (Write question in chat box)
- Have students share their responses with each other (in breakout rooms, if possible).

Part 4 (5 minutes)

- In the third column, have students write “Challenge”
- Ask students to write their response to the question: What is still \textit{challenging} or confusing for you to get your mind around? What questions, wonderings, or puzzles do you now have? (Write question in chat box)
- Have students share their responses with each other (in breakout rooms, if possible)