Discussion

**12 Years a Slave**

1. What was your immediate response to the film? Which scenes did you find particularly powerful or memorable and why?
2. Why do Solomon’s captors, and his fellow slaves, advise him to hide his true identity, especially the fact that he is educated? What effect does this pretence have on Solomon and why?
3. What emotional journey does Solomon go on through the story? What are his lowest moments, and which moments offer him hope?
4. What did you make of Patsey, and of Solomon’s friendship with her? What kind of strength does Patsey have? In what way did she inspire Solomon and vice versa?
5. What emotional impact did ***12 Years a Slave*** have on you and how were you left feeling at the end?

Bonus questions

* The film is set in 19th century USA. Is the story still relevant? ...Why?
* What does racism look like today?
* What are the similarities and differences between Sweden and the United States regarding racism?
* Is there an equivalent today to the idea that a man can be another man's property?