

## **CRITICAL QUESTIONS: Examining lessons in the Film *Hotel Rwanda***

### **Learning Goals:**

1. To identify the importance of personal responsibility to the group or community.
2. To examine personal motivations for actions.
3. To analyze the role media has to inform and inspire action as it relates to human rights and humanitarian crises
4. To examine and analyze various groups within the international community and their responses during the genocide.

### **The Role of the Individual:**

1. Who (which individuals) influenced Paul's decisions?
2. How did Paul's definition of family expand to include the community later on in the film?
3. How would you describe Paul's level of personal responsibility as events unfolded?

### **The Role of the Media:**

4. What was the rest of the world watching, reading and listening to during the genocide in 1994?
5. Who is accountable for the actions and inaction of the media?
6. What should we expect from the media; how can we hold them accountable?
7. What is the level of public responsibility when issues are brought to light by the media?

### **The Role of the International Community:**

The Rwandan genocide could and should have been prevented, had all the components of the international community acted decisively, forcefully and in a coordinated manner.

Using direct examples from the film consider the actions and inactions of the following members of the "international community":

United Nations:

United States:

Belgium:

France:

Humanitarian/human rights organizations: