

Discussing 'The Father' (2021)

You may be part of a film club and able to watch this new film together, but you might watch it individually and be able to discuss it together afterwards. This series of questions is to help you have those conversations and to explore what you thought of the film.

We recommend you:

- Set aside some time to focus just on this
- Listen to everyone's opinion
- Allow everyone a turn to share their thoughts

If you have time before the screening, watch the trailer first <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OFnoRaLAclg> and write down how it makes you feel.

- Which character did you feel most strongly towards? Why?
- How did it make you feel to see things from Anthony's (the father's) perspective? (For example, when the walls change, or when a different person plays the same character.)
- Do you or someone you know have dementia? How would you or they like to be represented on films or in the news?
- If you were Anthony (the father), how would you want Anne to behave towards you?
- If you were Anne, what do you think you would do differently, if anything?
- Was there anything about the film that you felt didn't work? Why?
- What do you think the film is trying to tell the audience about dementia and do you agree?

We hope this has been helpful. If you would like to read more about the IDEAL research programme, you can visit our website at

<http://www.idealproject.org.uk/> or follow us on Twitter

@IDEALStudyTweet. To get in touch, email IDEAL@exeter.ac.uk

If you have been affected by any of the issues raised by watching 'The Father' and would like further advice or help:

- Alzheimer's Society support pages are very useful <https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/get-support> and their Dementia Connect support line is 0333 150 3456.
- The 'Living with Dementia' section of the NHS Dementia Guide relates to many of the issues raised by the film <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/dementia/?tabname=living-with-dementia>
- To hear from people with dementia about their lives, visit Dementia Diaries <https://dementiadiaries.org/>. You can hear audio diaries about daily life with dementia.
- For a very different version of the creative capabilities of people with dementia, visit Dementia Creatives and learn about craftivism <https://dementiacreatives.org.uk/>