ABOUT
A series of short videos in which artists, lawyers, advocates, and immigrants read sworn testimonies of minors held in detention facilities at the U.S. / Mexico Border. Watch them here: flores-exhibits.org

These testimonies were taken in June 2019 by a team of immigration lawyers who were visiting Clint and Ursula detention facilities in Texas as part of their work as monitors for The Flores Settlement Agreement.

Waterwell created this video series to bring attention to these first-person narratives as a catalyst for dialogue about our country’s immigration policies.

WHAT WOULD AN EVENT LOOK LIKE?
These events could be formatted in various ways, depending on what would best engage the people you are interested in having participate in this event. Here are two examples:

- Facilitator screens a single testimony from The Flores Exhibits (7-10 mins long), and then a series of 3 panelists with varying backgrounds respond to the testimony, followed by a Q&A with the audience. These panelists might be an immigration lawyer, a faith leader, a community member who is an immigrant themselves. This format might be best for medium to large groups.

- Facilitator asks each person to speak a bit about their own family’s history of when they immigrated to the U.S., then screens clips from 2-3 videos in the Flores Exhibits (12-15 mins total), and after each one the group discusses connections to or departures from their own personal narratives. This format might be best for a smaller group, or with the use of breakout rooms, could work for a medium-sized group.

After an event, participants could be connected to local actions related to immigration in their own area, to national advocacy efforts – or it could be most effective not to include a direct call-to-action, but let participants experience the first-hand stories and engage with next steps on their own.

Any of these formats could be effective as a digital event, or as a live in-person event, depending on public health guidelines in your area.

INTERESTED?
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