

# Film review: Remember the Titans

Anti-racist religious education



RE TODAY AND NATRE WORKING WITH THE FREE CHURCHES GROUP  
AND METHODIST SCHOOLS





# Remember the Titans

Review by: Marie Timberlake

## What is this film about?

Based on the true story of African-American coach Herman Boone, portrayed by Denzel Washington, and his attempt to integrate the T. C. Williams High School football team in Alexandria, Virginia, in 1971. Will Patton portrays Bill Yoast, Boone's assistant coach. Real-life athletes Gerry Bertier and Julius Campbell are portrayed by Ryan Hurst and Wood Harris, respectively (Wikipedia).

## What age group and RE topic does it link to?

Key Stage 3 (age rating U).

## What did you love about it?

True life story with references to the successes of the players after they left school.

Portrays the difficulties of segregation and integration in the USA.

## If you could only show a clip, which clip would you use?

Run to Gettysberg (ref to American Civil War/long standing issues) OR the bus ride to and from camp (to show the change in attitude).

## Why does this film have great potential for anti-racist RE?

It shows how significantly attitudes can (and have) changed.

## Are there any warnings or issues for particular age groups?

Includes a car accident.

Homophobic references (need to be addressed with the children).

## Two or three RE activities to set when pupils have seen the film/clip:

1. Diary entry from the perspective of Gerry Bertier, Julius Campbell or Coach Yoast (change in mindset)
2. Film review discussing it's importance and impact.