

Screening & Discussion of the Movie

EARTH MAMA

Luna Theater

250 Jackson St 4th FL (Mill No. 5 in Lowell)

Friday, August 18, 2023

7:30-9:30 PM (2.0 CLE)



Join us for a screening and discussion of one of the most anticipated movies to come out of the Sundance Film Festival, *Earth Mama*. The movie tells the story of Gia, a young, pregnant single mother in recovery with two kids in foster care. It chronicles her struggle as she works, attends court-ordered programs, visits her kids and simply navigates a life whose precarity imbues every day with a steady undercurrent of tension. If the system seems rigged for Gia to fail, it's because it is.

Feel free to bring any other interested viewers, however, please note that this movie is rated R and the theater is a small venue, so plan accordingly.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR EARTH MAMA

1. How does Gia's life story resonate with your clients' experiences in the Massachusetts child welfare system?
2. Storytelling is an absolute skill required by attorneys. Earth Mama masterfully told an otherwise tragic story of poverty and invisibility from the perspective of love, dignity, perseverance, and hope. What are some storytelling takeaways from Earth Mama that you can work into your caseload and how you tell the story of your clients

3. Too often, young women who are struggling to do the best they can for their children are blamed for their own circumstances. The presumption is they have squandered their opportunities to live and do better. How did Earth Mama challenge that presumption? How can you do the same in your own cases?

4. Applying our own case law to Earth Mama, what could you have done as Gia's lawyer to assist your client? (Think Rashida, Walt, etc.)?