

# DEAR FELLOW TEACHERS

FROM K.R. SABO, CO-CREATOR OF SERVICE LESSON PLANS

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Having been in the same continuation high school classroom for twelve years, I know the value of a good hook for a lesson and the importance of a lesson's or unit's versatility and flexibility. Teenagers will keep you on your toes! I also know how boring primary sources can often be. (Regardless of their importance and how much my nerdy heart loves them!) This was one of the many reasons I was so excited to partner with Jacqueline Raposo on this project. Her website for her podcast, **Service: Veteran Stories of Hunger and War**, is a teacher's dream of primary source resources. But what Jacqueline does with **Service** is to make the seemingly distant (the kids might say "old") present and personal. Together we are excited to offer you resources to help bring these veterans into your classroom.

You can use the units we have crafted for you in a variety of ways: pair an episode with a larger unit (Episode 7: Dad I Can't Talk About It" goes great with Partick Flores-Scott's *American Road Trip* or Angela Johnson's *Sweet, Hereafter*), spend a day (or a week!) with a single episode, teach all 4 together as a unit, or take a piece and dive deep into the details, your choice!

Before students begin listening to Service, use the **Intro To Service** questions to get them started thinking about their relationship to food and its role in community and identity. These will be ongoing themes throughout the lessons. Students should fill out the **Predicting and Reflecting** worksheet before listening to an episode. Each of the 4 episodes has its own **Listening Guide**. Three of the episodes have an **Analyze a Photo** component, each with 3 photographs paired with selected audio clips to help students go more in-depth in their analysis of the images. Students can analyze one photograph or all three. In fact, if you have limited time, use the **Analyze a Photo** lessons on their own. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, we invite students to **connect directly with the veterans** featured in these episodes and to **share their own reviews of the podcast**. We have scaffolded these activities to give students a place to start if they need or want it.

So now, I will echo Jacqueline's invitation in each episode: let's slow down and sit with these wonderful veterans and their stories.

Sincerely,  
*K. R. Sabo*

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## **About the Standards:**

These lessons are **Common Core** aligned and would be appropriate for use in a high school English-Language Arts or History classroom (yes, history teachers, literacy standards are not just for English teachers).

For California History teachers, the content most closely aligns with the following History-Social Science Content Standards.

### **11.7 Students analyze America's participation in World War II.**

3. (*All episodes*) Identify the roles and sacrifices of individual American soldiers.
5. (*Episodes 5 & 8*) Discuss the constitutional issues and impact of events on the U.S. home front, including the internment of Japanese Americans (e.g., Fred Korematsu v. United States of America) and the restrictions on German and Italian resident aliens.

### **11.10 Students analyze the development of federal civil rights and voting rights.**

1. (*Episode 5*) Explain how demands of African Americans helped produce a stimulus for civil rights, including President Roosevelt's ban on racial discrimination in defense industries in 1941, and how African Americans' service in World War II produced a stimulus for President Truman's decision to end segregation in the armed forces in 1948.