

The Thinker's Club of the National Tsing Hua University in Hsinchu, Taiwan (<http://nthuthinkers.blogspot.com>) is a student organization that promotes civic education, with particular emphasis on the younger generation.

We conduct monthly seminars that encourage dialogue, debate and the exchange of ideas among students. We start each seminar with a carefully selected film that we believe will have a powerful impact on our discussion topic.

The first seminar this year is titled, "Global Perspective of Ethnic Conflict ". The movie "Before the Rain" would be the perfect choice to illustrate this seminar.

The movie public showing, "Before the Rain", was wonderful. There was about 40 people attending the public showing and our discussion.

Before showing the movie, we have some discussions in our club and we came up with two questions (which are shown below) that we are interested in and we hope audiences can think these questions deeply.

1. There is a lot of people now believing that wars and violence are not real, and those miserable pictures on screens are just videos and photomontages made by media industry in order to shock their audiences. How do you think about that?

2. Is there any possibility that Taiwan, our hometown, become a battlefield?

We also try to consider these questions in different perspectives. Most of our thinkers have their own opinions and wrote some articles, so we made "The Tsing Salon Journal "(which is shown in attached file).

In the Journal, we make a brief introduction of Macedonia's history and we express that why is this issue is important to us. We found that violence and conflicts attribute to different religions or culture happens often and similarly in the world. We encouraged everyone in our club to think about how we can stop fighting and be peaceful, but we didn't figure out a particular solution so we discussed this question with one of our professors in the university and he said that we had to broaden our mind and at first we had to reflect on how we dealt with fights and quarrels toward people around us in our life and to reconsider a better way to cope with the fights and further think of the worldwide problems to see if there is anything that can be changed.