AMERICA BY THE NUMBERS

Guided-Viewing Questions
Focus on two areas while watching “Our Private Idaho”: the changing demographics in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho and Maria Hinojosa’s interviewing techniques.

RESPOND TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:
1. Why do you suppose the program’s producers chose to begin the story with the real estate agent and her family?

2. How does journalist Maria Hinojosa get people to tell their stories?

   a. What do people say about the history of diversity in Coeur d’Alene?

   b. How has that history affected relationships in the community?
c. What evidence might lead you to think that Hinojosa agrees or disagrees with any of the people she interviews?

3. Describe at least two people other than the real estate agent and her family. Why do you think they were included in the story?

4. Who, in your opinion, are the heroes of this story? Why?

5. What do you suppose the program’s producers wanted you to think or do after watching this episode?