**A Step Inside: An Orientation to WAR IN MY LIFE**

**This activity is organized to help students empathize with the individuals in this gallery. As such, it provides a foundation for their examination of the context and background of these children and youth.**

**Purpose:**

* To encourage perspective taking and an empathetic response;
* To teach students that one’s perspective often shapes how events are understood; and
* To develop a better understanding of the complexity of a person or issue.

**Steps:**

1. ***Choose a photo*** to use with the class as you teach the students how to use this protocol. Record responses.
2. If your photo is not a portrait, ask, “*What can this person see, observe or notice?”*
3. Ask, “*What might the person know about, understand or believe?”* Make a list. Ask *“What makes you say that?”*
4. Ask, *“What might the person care about?” “Why do you say that?”*
5. Share the learning. Review the responses and ask, *“What image of this person is emerging?”*
6. Ask, *“What might this person wonder about or question?” “Why do you say that?”*
7. ***Assign students a photo*** from this collection, individually or in groups and direct them to repeat this process.
8. *Share the learning.*

**Tips:**

* Explore the meaning of the word *might.*  The point is not to find a definitive answer but to generate reasonable possibilities based on evidence.

**Source:**  The Step Inside protocol is found in Church, M, Morrison, K. & Ritchhart, R.

(2011). *Making Thinking Visible: How to Promote Engagement, Understanding and Independence for All Learners.* San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.