

Study Guide: *The Sea Inside*

Meet Ramón Sampedro

1. What for Ramón is “being alive”? What does ‘being alive’ mean to you?
How does this film make you appreciate being alive?

2. How does Ramón suffer?

3. As the viewer, what do you like about Ramón?

Imagine you are a friend or relative of Ramón, what draws us to keep him here rather than let him go?

How is it difficult to imagine ‘why’ Ramón would want to die?

4. How does Ramón’s imagination serve or torture him?

5. How does Julia’s story compliment and contrast with Ramón’s?

Ramón's Argument

6. What are the basic elements of Ramón's argument for "the right to die"? How, in the film, does this argument develop?

7. Ramón is the master of rational argument; do you think rational argument suffices when we consider euthanasia?

How do emotive arguments impact on requests to die?

8. How persuasive do you find Ramón's argument?

9. Rosa first visits Ramón with the intention of 'telling him how to live', Discuss the notion that we can 'tell someone **how** to live' and consider can we 'tell someone **how** to die'. Are these two lessons somehow different?

10. How do we judge those who request to die? (-Assumptions made) How is Ramón's request different from those requesting withdrawal of a ventilator or dialysis? How would knowing Ramón Sampedro help us to respect his request? How does his story affect you?

Behind the Scenes of Requests to Die- Autonomy and Duty to Others

11. How does Ramón's request affect his family?

And the two women who love him?

12. The priest makes a number of assumptions about Ramón and his family. What do we learn about Ramón and his family?

As doctors we frequently make assumptions about our patients or their family. Describe a time where you or another doctor assumed the 'patient's story'.

13. What is the impact of Ramón's final 'journey' on those who love him? (consider Gene, his father, his brother, his nephew, Manuela, Rosa)

14. What is the impact of Ramón's final 'journey' on you?