

The following activities (television talk show, television commercial, scene/roleplay, newsreel) are designed to allow students who have viewed the video, OH FREEDOM AFTER WHILE, to further their understanding through self expression in dramatic situations.

Create a television talk show episode

Select your characters/guests from the list below:

- a. Owen Whitfield
- b. Thad Snow
- c. Newspaper Reporter
- d. A Land Owner
- e. A Federal Government Agent
- f. Family of Protestors
- g. Others?

Include also a host, audience questions, "theme" for the show

Focus on issues raised in the video documentary

Work for equal participation

Structure with beginning, middle/high point, resolution

Be sure "good taste" prevails--Oprah is okay, Jerry is NOT

Time limit: 4 minute **minimum**

Your evaluation will be based on the above criteria, as well as quality performance standards

Create a television commercial

You will be promoting a future television airing of OH FREEDOM AFTER WHILE

Select your characters from the actual historical figures (named or unnamed) mentioned or seen in the video documentary:

Owen Whitfield, Thad Snow, other members of the Whitfield family, other land owners, individual protestors, government officials...

Include a narrator/spokesperson who will create a through-line for your commercial

Focus on issues raised in the video documentary

Work for equal participation

Structure with a build to a high point--cliff hanger (don't give away the ending, peak our interest)

Time limit: 2 minute **minimum**

Your evaluation will be based on the above criteria, as well as quality performance standards

Create a scene/roleplay

Select one of the following situations:

- a. students at Lincoln University involving their decision to assist the sharecroppers who were removed to the spillway
- b. a newspaper reporter and a family on the highway (the protest lasted approximated 8 days along the highway until the Governor of Missouri had a health inspector present a rationale to clear the roadsides of Highways 60 & 61--then many were removed to "concentration camps" on the spillway)
- c. Owen Whitfield & Red Cross representative (they refused to assist the "man made disaster")
- d. Two children in their shack home the night prior to the strike (Consider: What is your home life like? Your house--with paper plastered to the walls to keep out the wind. What was Christmas like for your family this year? What possessions do you have? What will you bring to the picket lines? What will be your "comfort object"? Do you have a pet? What have your parents told you about the strike?)
- e. the Whitfield children (Barbara, Shirley, Josie...) and their parents (Owen & Zella) after the threats have been made against Owen (reward posters...)
- f. Whitfield and other sharecroppers at a "unionizing" meeting of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union
- g. Thad Snow & Owen Whitfield--Owen presents the idea to Thad about the protest ("I could scarcely believe my ears. My imagination refused to picture women taking their small children to shelterless roadsides in mid January. It was beyond my belief that those people would willingly expose themselves to so much suffering and danger--but Whit had me half convinced.")
- h. People/situation of you own choosing (clear with the teacher first)

Work for equal participation

Structure with beginning, middle/high point, resolution

Time limit: 2 minute **minimum**

Your evaluation will be based on the above criteria, as well as quality performance standards

Create a newsreel

A newsreel was a short movie which played in the theatres prior to the feature presentation in which a current event was covered in a way similar to **20/20** or **60 Minutes**. This was pre-television. You saw partial examples in the video documentary, OH FREEDOM AFTER WHILE

Select your characters from the list below:

- a. Owen Whitfield
- b. Thad Snow
- c. Newspaper Reporter
- d. A Land Owner
- e. A Federal Government Agent
- f. Family of Protestors
- g. Others?

Include a narrator

Focus on issues raised in the video documentary

Work for equal participation

Structure with beginning, middle/high point, resolution

Option: You may select to perform this live or to present a videotaped performance

Time limit: 4 minute **minimum**

Your evaluation will be based on the above criteria, as well as

quality performance standards