



All Power To The People! The Black Panther Party and Beyond
(US, 1998, 115 minutes)
Director: Lee Lew Lee
Study Guide

Synopsis

All Power To The People! examines problems of race, poverty, dissent and the universal conflict of the “haves versus the have nots.” US government documents, rare news clips, and interviews with both ex-activists and former FBI/CIA officers, provide deep insight into the bloody conflict between political dissent and governmental authority in the US of the 60s and 70s. Globally acclaimed as being among the most accurate depictions of the goals, aspirations and ultimate repression of the US Civil Rights Movement, *All Power to the People!* Is a gripping, timeless news documentary.

Themes in the film

History of the Civil Rights Movement
Black Panther Party
FBI’s COINTELPRO
American Indian Rights Movement
Political Prisoners in the US
Trials of political dissidents such as the Chicago 7 trial

Study Questions

- Why did the FBI perceive the Black Panther Party as a threat?
- How did the FBI’s COINTELPRO contribute to the destruction of the Black Panther Party?
- What do you know about Fred Hampton?
- Can you name any former members of the Black Panther Party?
- Throughout US history, what are some of the organizations that have been labeled as “troublemakers” by the FBI?
- In your opinion, why were these groups the target of FBI investigations and operations such as COINTELPRO?
- Do you think this kind of surveillance and disruption of dissent exists today?
- In this film, we see clips of leaders like Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X and Huey Newton. Who would you categorize as the current leader in today’s struggle for human rights?