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ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN

1976 Robert Redford, Dustin Hoffman 138 Min PG

This film is an excellent portrayal of the Washington Post's investigation of the Watergate break-in and subsequent White House cover-up. The film also provides students an opportunity to consider the First Amendment's protection of the press.

00 - 3:00

Watergate break-in and arraignment.

10:00

Initial Watergate connection between Halderman, Hunt and Colson.

16:00

Woodward and Bernstein get permission from the Washington Post to investigate the White House connection.

30:30

Woodard contacts "Deep Throat" and is told to "follow the money".

45:00

Financial connection between CREEP (Committee to Reelect the President) and the Watergate break-in.

53:00

Post Editorial board debates whether to continue the Watergate story.

59:00

Woodward and Bernstein continue to investigate CREEP.

1:08:00

Nixon wins re-nomination as the Republican presidential candidate.

1:24:00

A brief presentation on key participants in the Watergate investigation is necessary to provide preliminary background. Key figures include Bob Woodward, Carl Bernstein, G. Gordon Liddy, Gordon Mitchell, H.R. Halderman, Ben Bradley, and John Dean. After watching the film, reports on key Supreme Court cases involving Freedom of the Press set a foundation for the Seminar questions.

Seminar Questioning Sequence:

What might have been the original intentions of the "freedom of press" clause?

What are the ethical responsibilities of journalists in presenting news?

Should Woodward and Bernstein have had to reveal the identity of "deep throat?" Does this violate the 5th Amendment's "right of accused to face accuser's" clause?

Evaluate the Freedom of the Press clause in terms of protecting the tabloid periodicals. Should public figures have fewer rights to protect themselves from the press than non-public figures?

**Zenger Trial
N.Y. Times v. Sullivan
(1964– Libel)
N.Y. Times v. U.S.
(1971–Pentagon Papers)
Brandenburg v. Hayes
(1972–
Regulating Broadcasts)
Nebraska Press
Association v. Stuart
(1976– Gag Rule)
Snepp v. United States
(1980 – Prior Restraint**

<p>Woodward and Bernstein meet Hugh Sloan.</p> <p>1:27:00 Woodward and Bernstein get approval to pursue the Attorney General Mitchell connection.</p> <p>1:36:00 Meeting with “Deep Throat,” confirms Republican infiltration of the Democratic Party.</p> <p>2:00:00 “Deep Throat” confirms the President’s involvement.</p> <p>2:07:00 Nixon is sworn in for a second term.</p>		
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Notes