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THE GRAPES OF WRATH

1940 Henry Fonda, Jane Darwell 129 Min. NR

Somewhat stylized and starkly filmed screen presentation of the classic Steinbeck novel which makes a powerful statement about the terrible plight of a large segment of America's rural farm population during the Great Depression. This film is very useful to dramatize elements of the "farm problem" and as background for discussion of New Deal efforts to structure a farm policy to correct it.

Ex-con, Tom Joad, returns to Oklahoma homestead to find that his family had been driven off their farm.

13:00

Bankers and large scale farm companies push small tenant farmers and share croppers off the land.

35:00

Joad family leaves for California.

43:00

Joad family learns about harsh conditions in California.

47:30

Joad family tries to buy gas and food at a roadside station.

50:45

State agricultural inspectors stop the Joads at the Arizona border.

56:00

Crossing the desert.

1:02:30

Arrive in a California transient worker's camp.

1:09:00

Contractors hiring workers.

1:15:00

Joad family is confronted by an

A brief teacher presentation outlining the impact of technical improvements on farm production, market prices and farm debt, as well as the impact of international trade and tariffs on agricultural prices between WWI and the Great Depression can save time and set the stage for the report topics.

Seminar sequence questioning considers New Deal agricultural policy as a way of evaluating farm policy generally.

Seminar Questioning Sequence :

What was the effect of technological innovation on farmer's debt?

What impact did Canadian wheat have on the American agricultural market?

What was the impact of the industrial tariff on the export of American agricultural produce to Europe?

What is meant by the term parity?

How did the measures of the New Deal attempt to achieve parity?

What problems did the New Deal administrators have solving the "farm problem"?

What solutions do you recommend for the future of American agriculture?

Agricultural Marketing Act 1929

Federal Farm Board

Henry Wallace

Agricultural Adjustment Act 1933

Farm Security Administration

Tenant

farming/sharecropping

Bankhead/Jones Act

Taylor Act

U.S. v Butler 1936

Soil Conservation Act

Agricultural Adjustment Act 1938

Soil Erosion Act 1935

Surplus Marketing Administration

Dust Bowl

Ever Normal Granary Plan

Farm Credit Administration

Rural Electrification

Administration

<p>angry mob.</p> <p>1:19:00 Joad family contracts to pick peaches on the Keene ranch.</p> <p>1:27:00 Tom Joad learns about labor disputes.</p> <p>1:31:00 Tom Joad kills a police officer during an altercation.</p> <p>1:40:00 Joad family reaches a Department of Agriculture transient worker's camp.</p> <p>1:47:00 Local mob tries to disrupt the transient worker's camp.</p> <p>1:54:00 Police search the camp for Tom Joad.</p> <p>1:58:00 Tom leaves the camp just ahead of the law.</p> <p>2:05:00 Joad family heads for Fresno and a job picking cotton.</p>		
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Notes