HUCKLEBERRY FINN

1939 B/W MICKEY ROONEY, WALTER CONNOLLY

This film is an effective rendition of the Mark Twain classic which can be useful as a background to discussion of the political climate surrounding slavery on the eve of the Civil War.

Elementary school classroom

1:00

Huck fishing at the river's edge.

7:00

Huck reads a letter to Jim; the two discuss slavery.

12:30

Huck's 'pap' returns and decides to sell him to the widow Watson.

17:00

Huck decides to run away from home.

22:00

Huck escapes from his 'pap'.

24.00

Huck finds Jim.

27:00

Huck learns that Jim is wanted for murder.

32:00

Huck and Jim float down the Mississippi toward free territory.

45:00

Further adventures of Huck and Jim on the Mississippi.

1:09:00

Huck learns that his 'pap' is dead.

1:14:00

Segment I 0:00 - 45:00

The first half of the film is sufficient to provide background for a discussion of the geographic, economic, and ideological division of the country into slave and free states; the impact of the compromise of 1850, the Fugitive Slave Law, and the Personal Liberty Laws in some northern states. The second half of the film, which chronicles the personal adventures of Huck and Jim, while entertaining, is not historically useful. The report topics and the Seminar Questioning Sequence can be used effectively as part of a comprehensive study of the causes of the Civil War.

Seminar Questioning Sequence;

How was the Constitutional principle of checks and balances employed to solve the slavery controversy?

How was the Constitutional principle of a separation of powers used to solve the slavery problem?

How did the concept of compromise effect efforts to solve the slavery issue?

Was the Civil War a crusade against slavery? Was the Civil War basically a clash between two distinct economic systems?

Was there a clear geographic divide which caused the Civil War?

How important was the issue of states rights as a cause of the civil war?

Was there a systematic effort by the North to use Federal power to discriminate against the South?

Was there a distinct difference in the way of life in the North as opposed to the South which made the Civil War inevitable?

Personal Liberty Laws Free Soil Party Uncle Tom's Cabin **Fugitive Slave Act** of 1850 **Compromise of** 1850 Underground Railroad Abolitionism Missouri Compromise Red Scott Case Kansas/Nebraska Act Louisiana **Purchase Popular Sovereignty Harriet Tubman Doctrine of** nullification John C. Calhoun **Daniel Webster** Frederick Douglas William Lloyd Garrison **Oliver Wendell Holmes Jefferson Davis** Lincoln/Douglas **Debates** Northwest Ordinance of 1787 Mississippi River Ohio River **Tennessee River**

Arkansas River

| Jim is sent back to stand trial for murder. | |
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| 1:19:00 Lynch mob attempts to hang Jim; Huck rushes home to save him. | |
| 1:23:00 Jim is saved and gets his | |

Notes