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I Will Fight No More Forever

1975 Sam Elliot, James Whitmore 100 Min. NR

This film provides an effective portrayal of the events surrounding the Nez Perces' flight to Canada in 1877. The film illustrates the government's attempts in the late 1800s to relocate Native Americans onto reservations and raises questions about the consequences of assimilation on cultural sub-groups within the present-day United States.

Introduction:

Nez Perces Indian is killed by White settlers.

Wallawa Valley 1872: Joseph meets General Howard, presentation of President Grant's order of the Nez Perce onto the reservation.

11:00

Howard and Wood discuss U.S. government Indian policy.

12:45

Nez Perce Indian council discussion.

16:00

Young Nez Perces seek revenge on White settlers.

22:30

Meeting of the Army, settlers, and Native Americans turns bloody.

27:00

Howard reacts to the fact that a civilian started the war.

28:30

June, 1877, Salmon River, Idaho Territory. General Howard begins the pursuit of Chief Joseph.

49:00

Skirmish between Nez Perce and the army.

Segment I: 0:00 - 1:16:00

This first segment can be used to examine the specific changes in the government's policies and the reactions of Native Americans to these changes.

What factors resulted in changes in government policies from a policy of concentrating the Native Americans on the Great Plains to a policy of Reservations.

Describe the use of the military in enforcing the changes of policy. What other methods of enforcement or enticement could have been used by the government?

Describe the various types of responses by the Native Americans to the changes in policies. To what degree were these reactions successful?

Segment II: 1:16:00 – End

This second segment can be used to examine the issue of assimilation throughout American History.

Why did the U.S. government force the Native Americans to assimilate to American culture? Evaluate the consequences of this assimilation on the Native Americans.

Within the context of the present-day United States, evaluate the positive and negative consequences of assimilation on immigrant groups and on the country as a whole.

Evaluate the consequences of multiculturalism and diversity in the United States today. Is diversity a positive or negative force in the United States?

Report topics corresponding with the seminar questions will focus on the government's policies and the conflict between the U.S. military and the Native Americans.

**Chief Joseph
Nez Perces
General O.O. Howard
Assimilation
Dawes General
Allotment Act
The Trail of Tears
Treaty of Fort Laramie
Geronimo
Sitting Bull
Sand Creek Massacre
Wounded Knee
General George Custer**

<p>57:00 Howard meets with the Eastern press; receives a critical message from General Sherman.</p> <p>1:16:00 Howard and Wood discuss “conscience” and the “Indian question”.</p> <p>1:20:00 Final confrontation between the Nez Perces and U.S. military</p> <p>1:31:00 Chief Joseph makes the famous: “I will fight no more forever” speech.</p>		
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Notes