

The Roaring Twenties

1939 James Cagney, Humphrey Bogart 106 Min. NR

This film presents a predictable love story superimposed on a semi-documentary account of the prohibition era. Since it touches clearly on the actual chronology of events it can be useful to simulate discussion of the 1920's. The film also offers an opportunity to consider the relationship between government regulation and the private lives of individuals. At what point is government regulation unjustified?

<p>Final Days of W.W. I.</p> <p>7:00 1919: Last American troops return from France, find many changes.</p> <p>13:00 Prohibition contributes to unemployment.</p> <p>19:00 Volstead Act take effect leading to a rise in organized crime.</p> <p>25:00 Typical prohibition era "Speak easy".</p> <p>42:00 Making illegal liquor.</p> <p>56:00 1924; massive spread of organized crime.</p> <p>1:13:00 Rivalries grow within the crime empires.</p> <p>1:23:00 Stock Market booms and then crashes.</p> <p>1:26:00 effects of the depression on the market for illegal liquor.</p> <p>Repeal of prohibition requires organized crime to seek new areas.</p>	<p>Seminar Questioning Sequence:</p> <p>What general justifications are there for restricting the freedom of individuals?</p> <p>What standards are used to weigh the rights of the individual against the greater good of the group. Are these standards reasonable and just?</p> <p>What protections exist against the abuse of power by government agencies?</p> <p>How compelling should the group's claim be before individual freedom is taken away?</p>	<p>In small groups, students should prepare presentations on major government agencies and their impact on the lives of individuals.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Interstate Commerce Commission Federal Communications Commission Environmental Protection Agency Occupational Safety and Health Administration Food and Drug Administration</p>
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<p>1:32:00</p> <p>Mid 1930's: crackdown on organized crime begins to sweep the country.</p> <p>1:40:00</p> <p>Criminal careers begin to collapse.</p>		
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