

Chapter 2. Social Movements and Human Rights

Supplemental Resources

Activities, Study Questions, Critical Thinking, Research Suggestions, Discussion Topics, Readings

Chapter 2.1 What are Social Movements?

1. Study the different types of social movements outlined in your book. Create social movements that don't exist that represent each of these different types. Be creative!
2. Study a particular social movement that goes through all the stages.

Chapter 2.2 Early Social Movements: 1800-1945

1. Do you think it was beneficial for early social movements to form? Explain.
2. If you were an abolitionist in the 1800s, what tactics would you have used to advance your cause?
3. How are the ideas of educational reformers through the last two centuries reflected in the debate about school reform today?
4. If you were a member of the women's suffrage movement, whose tactics would you have supported? Why?
5. Are you a preservationist or conservationist? Explain. Make arguments in favor of each approach to the environment.
6. How has the labor movement evolved over the years?
 - a. How has it responded to the changes in labor that are currently taking place?
 - b. What suggestions do you have to make the labor movement more effective today?

Chapter 2.3 Social Movements: The Modern Era 1945 to 1990

1. What tactics would you use if you were in the early civil rights movement?
 - a. How does the current Black Lives Matter movement compare to earlier civil rights movements?
 - b. What suggestions for improvement (if you think any is needed) would you give to Black Lives movement members?
2. How and why has the modern environmental movement evolved in the modern era?
 - a. What tactics do you think the movement should have used in the modern era?
3. Imagine you are in or perhaps you are in the LGBT social movement. What tactics would you use to gain attention and create positive change for your cause?

Chapter 2.4 Global Social Movements 1990 Onward

1. What social movements do you think should have been included in this section that were not included?
2. If you were (or are) in the global justice movement, what do you think should be the focus of your efforts?
 - a. If you don't agree with the movement what would you do to counter it?
3. Do you think corporations should have rights? If so, what rights?
4. Does the anti-consumerism campaign seem like a human rights issue to you?
 - a. Where is the line between how many consumer goods are enough and how many consumer goods are too much? Where do you think the line should be drawn or should there be a line?
5. What issues do you think the environmental movement should deal with today?
 - a. Do you feel it is important to be involved in the environmental movement today?
 - b. What tactics do you think should be followed?
6. What is the link between indigenous peoples and human rights campaigns?
 - a. Do you think their human rights are being abused? If yes, in what areas?
7. How has the LGBT movement expanded since the 1990s?

- a. Do you believe they have valid human rights issues?
- 8. How has the disability movement expanded since the 1990s?
 - a. Do you believe they have valid human rights issues?
- 9. How has the children's rights movement expanded since the 1990s?
 - a. What are the different facets to this movement?
 - b. Do you believe they have valid human rights issues?

Chapter 2.

1. What social movement do you think is the most compelling or urgent? Which one might you participate in?
2. Systems Thinking: Make a systems thinking web for the issue of slavery. What factors were all connected to bring about the institution of slavery? Think of the economy, ideology, political, social, and religious reasons. Why was it so hard to end slavery? Use systems thinking to connect all the dots in the slavery issue.
3. Fill in the social movement chart.

Chapter 2. Additional Resources

Lewis Hine photographs, Digital Library

http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/dgkeysearchresult.cfm?parent_id=131035&word=

Lewis Hine child labor photos: <http://www.historyplace.com/unitedstates/childlabor/>

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Research and Education Institute Stanford University <http://mlk-kpp01.stanford.edu/>

Thinking Like a Mountain by Aldo Leopold <http://www.eco-action.org/dt/thinking.html>

Story of Stuff <http://www.storyofstuff.com/> 20 minute interactive, cartoon, informative.

Amazing Grace (2007) a moving story about William Wilberforce, an Evangelical Christian and member of the British Parliament, who led an abolitionist movement in England in the early 1800s.