

Protest and Pride: The Entertainment Industry Response to the Vietnam War



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Summer 2012

Call Number: LC-U9- 18528, frame 26
[P&P] Repository: Library of Congress
Prints and Photographs Division
Washington, D.C. 20540

The Vietnam War was a controversial and divisive conflict in American history. Even today, decades later, we debate whether or not American soldiers should have been a part of the conflict. The response of the public on both sides was vocal and sometimes violent.

Students will explore the American public’s response to the Vietnam War through the prism of members of the entertainment industry. In groups, they will examine primary sources from both side of the controversy.

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Overview		Back to Navigation Bar
Objectives	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gain a sense of the divisiveness of the Vietnam war • explore the varying positions within the reaction to the war • critically think about primary sources and what they can tell us • constructively share their own understandings • learn and practice teamwork skills 	
Recommended time frame	Three 55 minute class periods	
Grade level	High School	
Curriculum fit	US History – Vietnam War	
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet access • Data projector • Print copies of: Eartha Kitt photos, John Wayne letter, Bob Hope photo, Bob Hope letter, Jane Fonda Photo, Haymarket Square letter • Primary source analysis handouts for Advertisements, Photos, and Letters • 4 medium flip charts • Access to word processing 	
Michigan State Learning Standards		Back to Navigation Bar
	8.2 Domestic Policies Examine, analyze, and explain demographic changes, domestic policies, conflict, and tensions in Post-WWII America. 8.2.4 Domestic Conflicts and Tensions – Using core democratic values, analyze and evaluate the competing perspectives and controversies among Americans generated by U.S. Supreme Court decisions (e.g., Roe v Wade, Gideon, Miranda, Tinker, Hazelwood), the Vietnam War (anti-war and counter-cultural movements), environmental	

movement, women's rights movement, and the constitutional crisis generated by the Watergate scandal. (National Geography Standard 16, p. 216)

Common Core State Standards

Writing Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects 6-12

WHST.9-10.1a Introduce precise claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that establishes clear relationships among the claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.

WHST.9-10.1b Develop claim(s) and counterclaims fairly, supplying data and evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both claim(s) and counterclaims in a discipline-appropriate form and in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level and concerns.

Reading Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies 6-12

RH.9-10.1 Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, attending to such features as the date and origin of the information.

Procedures

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Day One:

- Using a data projector hooked up to a computer, show the Prezi found here: http://prezi.com/ywjkwtbn_gis/celebrity-controversy/. As you get to each celebrity, make sure the students know who they are. Take time to discuss the questions briefly as they come up. The activity should take about half the class.
- Still using the data projector, display the document "Flyer For Anti-War Protest." Hand out copies of the Primary Source Analysis Tool available here: http://www.loc.gov/teachers/usingprimarysources/sources/Primary_Source_Analysis_Tool.pdf. Talk through how to fill out each section as you discuss the Flyer on the screen. They will be filling these out on their own on day 2, so they need to be familiar with how to use them. Spend any time remaining answering any questions they had about the Flyer.

Day Two:

- Students should be divided into four groups. Each student should have another copy of the Primary Source Analysis Tool found here: http://www.loc.gov/teachers/usingprimarysources/resources/Primary_Source_Analysis_Tool.pdf.
- Group 1 will consider the John Wayne letter to President Johnson. Group 2 will consider the two Eartha Kitt photos. Group 3 will consider the Bob Hope USO photo and the letter to Bob Hope. Group 4 will consider Jane Fonda photo and the Haymarket square letter. To begin with, students should not be given a lot of background information. They should consider what they can learn from the resources themselves. Students could be given a comparison to a modern entertainer they would know. For example: John Wayne was a tough-guy actor like Vin Diesel, Bob Hope was involved in lots of types of entertainment kind of like Ryan Seacrest, Jane Fonda was a well known actress like Jennifer Aniston, and Eartha Kitt was a well rounded entertainer like Queen Latifah.
- Students should be given a few minutes to fill out the analysis forms individually. While they are doing this, pass out one flip chart to each group. A small whiteboard or clipboard with paper could be substituted.
- Ask students to discuss the resources in their groups. Tell them they should record the following on the flip chart: the most interesting thing about the resources they have; what they think they learned from the resource; what they would still like to know about the resource.
- Go around to each group and have them share what is on their flip chart. At this point, the teacher can fill in some background on each situation to give the students a fuller picture of the time.
- Use the rest of the time to discuss the extreme reactions of the American public to the Vietnam War. Draw comparisons to modern times, the Iraq War, the Afghanistan War, etc.

Day 3

- Give students lyrics to a variety of protest songs.

	<p>If you have access to the internet, you can provide links to audio or video of the songs. Students can spend time looking at them alone or in pairs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After they have had a few minutes to investigate the protest songs, give the students the following assignment: “Write a protest song, a protest poem, or a letter to the editor of a major newspaper. Regardless of which medium you choose, you must choose a side, either in support of the Vietnam War or opposed to the Vietnam War, and you must include arguments to support your choice. In the case of the song or poem, the arguments can be metaphorical, but you must include references afterwards to give historical support to your argument.”
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	<p>The learning experience will be evaluated primarily on the protest song/letter/poem. If you choose, you can also evaluate the analysis sheets. I provide a rubric for the protest song/letter/poem below.</p>
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	<p>Students can investigate modern protest songs, which can be found in many genres of music. They can investigate the effectiveness of these songs. They can compare them to the protest songs from the Vietnam Era in regards to message and effectiveness.</p>
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Historical Background

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http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/learning_history/vietnam/fonda.cfm

Transcript of speech made on the radio in Vietnam during the war by Jane Fonda

<http://myloc.gov/Exhibitions/hopeforamerica/causesandcontroversies/entertainingthetroops/Pages/default.aspx>

Bob Hope – I hate war...

<http://archives.citypaper.net/articles/022797/article001.shtml>

Interview with Eartha Kitt

<http://www.firstamendmentcenter.org/eartha-kitt-2>

Interview with Eartha Kitt

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/05/03/rashard-mendenhall-osama-bin-laden_n_856926.html

Rashard Mendenhall tweets

http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2011-05-03/sports/ct-spt-0504-rashard-mendenhall-osama-20110503_1_tweet-rashard-mendenhall-twitter-comments

Rashard Mendenhall tweets

<http://www.snopes.com/politics/soapbox/dixiechicks.asp>

Dixie Chicks controversy

<http://abcnews.go.com/Primetime/story?id=131980&page=1>

Dixie Chicks controversy

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/04/17/ted-nugent-obama-secret-service_n_1432009.html

Nugent Obama comments

<http://www.wnd.com/2003/04/18196/>

Dennis Miller War quotes

http://politicalhumor.about.com/library/bldennismiller_rant.htm

Dennis Miller interview transcript

Protest Songs from the Vietnam Era

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0y5GDvN9_OE

Ballad of the Green Berets

<http://www.scoutsongs.com/lyrics/balladofthegreenbaret.html>

Ballad of the Green Beret lyrics

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Soy3PHV3RiM>

I'm Fixin' to Die Rag

<http://www.lyrics007.com/Country%20Joe%20And%20The%20Fish%20Lyrics/I%20Feel%20Like%20I'm%20Fixin'%20To%20Die%20Rag%20Lyrics.html>

I'm Fixin' to Die Rag lyrics

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VTFnWdOzrMM&feature=related>

Universal Soldier

<http://www.lyrics007.com/Sainte%20Marie%20Buffy%20Lyrics/Universal%20Soldier%20Lyrics.html>

Universal Soldier lyrics

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3t4g_1VoGw4

Blowin' in the Wind

<http://www.lyrics007.com/Bob%20Dylan%20Lyrics/Blowing%20In%20The%20Wind%20Lyrics.html>

Blowin' in the Wind Lyrics

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ExH7h9Lk5HY>

Eve of Destruction

<http://www.lyrics007.com/Byrds%20Lyrics/Eve%20Of%20Destruction%20Lyrics.html>

Eve of Destruction lyrics

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Kn0W4C0quk>

I Ain't Marchin' Anymore

<http://www.lyrics007.com/Phil%20Ochs%20Lyrics/I%20Aint%20Marching%20Anymore%20Lyrics.html>

I Ain't Marchin' Anymore Lyrics

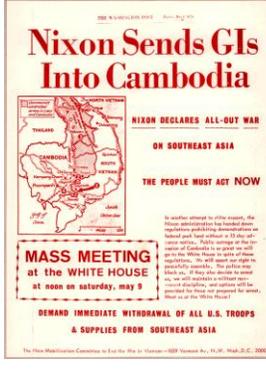
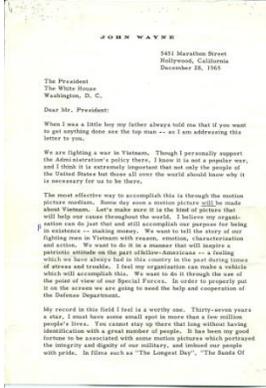
Modern Day Protest Songs

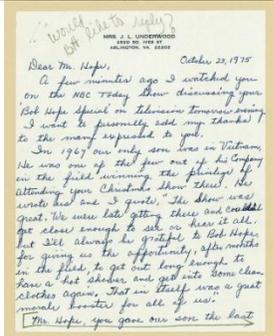
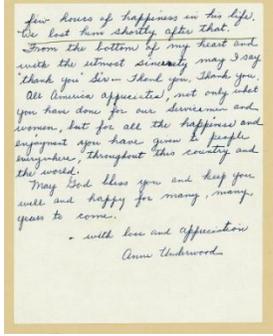
Here is a list of 10 such songs. Your students could find and research others. There are many and can be found in many musical genres.

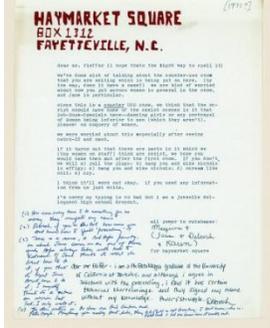
<http://www.hearya.com/2010/08/23/10-best-modern-day-war-songs/>

Primary Resources from the Library of Congress

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Image	Description	Citation	Permanent URL		
	<p>Anti-Vietnam war protest and demonstration in front of the White House in support of singer Eartha Kitt</p>	<p>Call Number: LC-U9-18528, frame 26 [P&P] Repository: Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C. 20540</p>	<p>Leffler, Warren K. Anti-Vietnam war protest and demonstration in front of the White House in support of singer Eartha Kitt. 1968. Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. Web. 22 June 2012. <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2010646065/>.</p>		
	<p>President Lyndon Johnson with Eartha Kitt in the White House Family Dining Room</p>	<p>January 18, 1968. Courtesy of Lyndon Baines Johnson Library (096.00.00) [Digital ID# bhp0096]</p>	<p>President Lyndon Johnson with Eartha Kitt in the White House Family Dining Room. 1968. Lyndon Baines Johnson Library, Austin, TX. Web. 22 June 2012. <http://myloc.gov/Exhibitions/hopeforamerica/causesandcontroversies/polarization/ExhibitObjects/KittAndTheJohnsons.aspx></p>		
	<p>Flyer for Anti-war protest</p>	<p>The New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam. Advertisement. <i>The Washington Post</i> 1 May 1970. Web. 22 June 2012. < <a 492="" 660="" 678"="" 826="" href="http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/h?ammem/rpb ebib:@field(NUMBER+@band(rbpe+20808700))>.</p> </td> <td data-bbox="> <p>The New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam. Advertisement. <i>The Washington Post</i> 1 May 1970. Web. 22 June 2012. < <a 108="" 292="" 681="" 896"="" href="http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/h?ammem/rpb ebib:@field(NUMBER+@band(rbpe+20808700))>.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox=">  </p></p>	<p>John Wayne Letter, Page 1</p>	<p>Letter from John Wayne to President Lyndon B. Johnson, December 28, 1965. Reproduction. Courtesy of Lyndon Baines Johnson Library (083.01.00) [Digital ID # bhp0083_01p1]</p>	<p>Letter from John Wayne to President Lyndon B. Johnson, December 28, 1965. Reproduction. Courtesy of Lyndon Baines Johnson Library (083.01.00) [Digital ID #hp0083_01p1] http://myloc.gov/Exhibitions/hopeforamerica/causesandcontroversies/artsandpolitics/ExhibitObjects/NotAPopularWar.aspx</p>

	<p>John Wayne letter, page 2</p>	<p>Letter from John Wayne to President Lyndon B. Johnson, December 28, 1965. Reproduction. Courtesy of Lyndon Baines Johnson Library (083.01.00) [Digital ID # bhp0083_01p1]</p>	<p>Letter from John Wayne to President Lyndon B. Johnson, December 28, 1965. Reproduction. Courtesy of Lyndon Baines Johnson Library (083.01.00) [Digital ID # bhp0083_01p1] http://myloc.gov/Exhibitions/hopeforamerica/causesandcontroversies/artsandpolitics/ExhibitObjects/NotAPopularWar.aspx</p>
	<p>A Bob Hope USO show in Vietnam, 1968</p>	<p>Bob Hope Collection, Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division, Library of Congress (120.00.00) [Digital ID# 156a]</p>	<p>Bob Hope Collection, Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division, Library of Congress (120.00.00) [Digital ID# 156a] http://myloc.gov/Exhibitions/hopeforamerica/causesandcontroversies/entertainmenttroops/ExhibitObjects/TheLastFewHoursOfHappiness.aspx</p>
	<p>Letter from Parent to Bob Hope, Page 1</p>	<p>Letter from Anne Underwood to Bob Hope, October 23, 1975. Bob Hope Collection, Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division, Library of Congress (121.00.00) [Digital ID# bhp0121p1]</p>	<p>Letter from Anne Underwood to Bob Hope, October 23, 1975. Bob Hope Collection, Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division, Library of Congress (121.00.00) [Digital ID# bhp0121p1] http://myloc.gov/Exhibitions/hopeforamerica/causesandcontroversies/entertainmenttroops/ExhibitObjects/TheLastFewHoursOfHappiness.aspx</p>
	<p>Letter from Parent to Bob Hope, Page 2</p>	<p>Letter from Anne Underwood to Bob Hope, October 23, 1975. Bob Hope Collection, Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division, Library of Congress (121.00.00) [Digital ID# bhp0121p1]</p>	<p>Letter from Anne Underwood to Bob Hope, October 23, 1975. Bob Hope Collection, Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division, Library of Congress (121.00.00) [Digital ID# bhp0121p1] http://myloc.gov/Exhibitions/hopeforamerica/causesandcontroversies/entertainmenttroops/ExhibitObjects/TheLastFewHoursOfHappiness.aspx</p>

	<p>Letter where Jane Fonda is mentioned regarding anti-USO show</p>	<p>Letter from Meejuna [?], et. al. for Haymarket Square to Jules Feiffer with draft reply by Feiffer, ca. March 1971. Jules Feiffer Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress (106.00.00) [Digital ID# bhp0106]</p>	<p>Letter from Meejuna [?], et. al. for Haymarket Square to Jules Feiffer with draft reply by Feiffer, ca. March 1971. Jules Feiffer Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress (106.00.00) [Digital ID# bhp0106] http://myloc.gov/exhibitions/hopeforamerica/causesandcontroversies/polarization/exhibitobjects/politicalvau deville.aspx#__utma=37760702.171637771.1340283654.1340385873.1340394868.11&__utmb=37760702.60.9.1340395698735&__utmc=37760702&__utmx=-&__utmz=37760702.1340374706.8.4.utmcscr=myloc.gov utmccn=(referral) utmc md=referral utmctt=/Exhib itions/hopeforamerica/Pag es/default.aspx&__utmv=-&__utmk=2658546</p>
	<p>Jane Fonda speaks at University of Maryland, May 22, 1970.</p>	<p>Jane Fonda speaks at University of Maryland, May 22, 1970. Courtesy of the District of Columbia Public Library, Star Collection, © Washington Post (082.02.00) [Digital ID# bhp0082_02]</p>	<p><i>Jane Fonda speaks at University of Maryland, May 22, 1970.</i> 1970. District of Columbia Public Library, Star Collection, Washington, D.C. Web. 22 June 2012. <http://myloc.gov/Exhibitions/hopeforamerica/causesandcontroversies/art sandpolitics/ExhibitObje cts/JaneFonda.aspx>.</p>
	<p>Rashard Mendenhall tweets</p>	<p>Images taken from http://blog.jokeroo.com/2011/05/04/rashard-mendenhall%E2%80%99s-osama-bin-laden-tweets-spark-controversy/</p>	<p>http://blog.jokeroo.com/2011/05/04/rashard-mendenhall%E2%80%99s-osama-bin-laden-tweets-spark-controversy/</p>
	<p>Dixie Chicks on the cover of Entertainment Weekly</p>	<p>Image taken from http://www.ew.com/ew/article/0,,446278,00.html</p>	<p>http://www.ew.com/ew/article/0,,446278,00.html</p>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=06XVt6zEr9E	Video of Ted Nugent's radio comments on Obama	http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=06XVt6zEr9E	http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=06XVt6zEr9E