

**Annotated Film Bibliography
For
College Park High School**

Raymont, P. (Producer). (2017). *All governments lie: Truth, deception, and the spirit of I.F. Stone.* [Documentary]. Canada: White Pine Pictures.

Independent journalists Jeremy Scahill, Glenn Greenwald, and Michael Moore expose government lies and corporate deception, inspired by the legendary investigative journalist I.F. Stone. All Governments Lie: Truth, Deception, and the Spirit of I.F. Stone is a theatrical documentary created by a team of Emmy Award-winning filmmakers, who subscribed to I. F. Stone's newsletter in their teens. "I. F. Stone's Weekly" inspired us then, and compels us now to tell the story of a new wave of independent, investigative, adversarial journalists following in Stone's footsteps. We hope this film will inspire the next generation of independent journalists, many of whom are now in college, to carry on I.F. Stone's legacy of speaking truth to power. This film will change the way you look at the mainstream media or "MSM". Giant media conglomerates are increasingly reluctant to investigate or criticize government policies – particularly on defense, security and intelligence issues. They are ceding responsibility for holding governments and corporations accountable to the independent journalists and filmmakers who risk their careers, their freedom and their lives in war zones – to expose the truth. With government deception rampant, and intrusion of state surveillance into private life never more egregious, independent voices like Glenn Greenwald, Jeremy Scahill, and Amy Goodman are crucially important. All three are inspired by the iconoclastic rebel journalist named I. F. Stone, whose fearless, independent reporting from 1953 to 1971 filled a tiny 4-page newsletter which he wrote, published, and carried to the mailbox every week. Stone is little known today, but All Governments Lie will reveal the profound influence he's had on contemporary independent journalists like Greenwald, Scahill, Goodman and others.

Ridgeway, J. (Producer). (1991). *Blood in the face.* [Documentary]. United States: First Run Features.

A darkly humorous and frightening closeup view of today's far right movement, Blood in the Face uses archival footage and interviews to reveal the workings of the Klu Klux Klan, the American Nazi Party, the Aryan Nations, and David Duke. The most controversial and compelling film of the year, Blood in the Face is as timely as it is powerful. With interviews by Michael Moore (Roger & Me), the film was conceived by James Ridgeway (political correspondent for The Village Voice and author of the book Blood in the Face) with co-producers Anne Bohlen (Academy Award Nominee) and Kevin Rafferty (co-producer of The Atomic Café) who also shoot and edited the film.

Lewis, J. (Narrator). (2002). *Constructing public opinion: How politicians and the media misrepresent the public.* [Documentary]. (Available from the Media Education Foundation, 26 Center Street, Northampton, MA 01060 or www.mediaed.org)

In Constructing Public Opinion, Professor Justin Lewis provides an innovative lens through which to view the relationship between politics, media, and the public. He demonstrates how public opinion polls are used by the media to not just reflect what Americans think, but to actually construct public opinion itself. Exploding the myth that most Americans are moderate or conservative, Constructing Public Opinion shows the way in which political elites help to promote the military-industrial complex and how the media sustains belief in an electoral system with a built-in bias against the interests of ordinary people. Illustrated with cutting-edge graphics and examples of media coverage, it is the first film of its kind to present a critical analysis of media and public opinion.

Moyers, B. (Producer). (2004). George Farah on Presidential Debates. *NOW with Bill Moyers.* Accessed at: [http://www. http://billmoyers.com/content/george-farah-on-presidential-debates/](http://www.billmoyers.com/content/george-farah-on-presidential-debates/)

According to campaign expert Kathleen Hall Jamieson, contrary to popular belief, the amount of negative campaigning in speeches and debates remains relatively low. What have changed however, are the viewing habits of the American public when it comes to presidential debates. In 1960, over 66 million people watched the first televised debate out of a total population of 178 million. Even in 1980, the numbers were high, with over 80 million watching the debate between Reagan and Carter. But since then even as the population has swelled to over 294 million, the numbers have slipped, with only 46.6 million watching the first debate in 2000, and nearly ten million less watching the second and third debates. NOW invites you to explore the history of presidential debates and to discover how the Commission on Presidential Debates works.

Thompson-Marquez, W. (Producer). (2012). *Harvest of empire: The untold story of Latinos in America.* [Documentary]. United States: Onyx Films.

At a time of heated and divisive debate over immigration, Onyx Films is proud to present Harvest of Empire, a feature-length documentary that reveals the direct connection between the long history of U.S. intervention in Latin America and the immigration crisis we face today. Based on the groundbreaking book by award-winning journalist and Democracy Now! Co-host Juan González, Harvest of Empire takes an unflinching look at the role that U.S. economic and military interests played in triggering an unprecedented wave of migration that is transforming our nation's cultural and economic landscape. From the wars for territorial expansion that gave the U.S. control of Puerto Rico, Cuba and more than half of Mexico, to the covert operations that imposed oppressive military regimes in the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Nicaragua and El Salvador, Harvest of Empire unveils a moving human story that is largely unknown to the great majority of citizens in the U.S., Juan González says at the beginning of the film "They never teach us in school that the huge Latino presence here is a direct result of our own government's actions in Mexico, the Caribbean and Central America over many decades — actions that forced millions

from that region to leave their homeland and journey north.” Harvest of Empire provides a rare and powerful glimpse into the enormous sacrifices and rarely-noted triumphs of our nation’s growing Latino community. The film features present day immigrant stories, rarely seen archival material, as well as interviews with such respected figures as Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Rigoberta Menchú, the Reverend Jesse Jackson, ACLU Executive Director Anthony Romero, Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Junot Díaz, Mexican historian Dr. Lorenzo Meyer, journalists María Hinojosa and Geraldo Rivera, Grammy award-winning singer Luis Enrique, and poet Martín Espada.

Kaplowitz, D. (Director). (2002). *In whose interest?* [Documentary]. United States:

Bullfrog Films.

Filmmaker David Kaplowitz leads us on an eye opening journey, questioning the effects of U.S. foreign policy over the past 50 years. Revealing a pattern of intervention, the film focuses on Guatemala, Vietnam, East Timor, El Salvador, and Palestine/Israel. Archival footage, photographs and media tidbits are dynamically interwoven with personal eye-witness accounts and commentary from academics – such as Noam Chomsky – religious leaders and politicians. In Whose Interest? is informative and disturbingly honest, yet upbeat, with twists of irony and humor.

Talbot, S. & Kaplan S. (Producers). (1999). Frontline: *Justice for sale.* [Television broadcast]. New York: Public Broadcasting Service.

Campaign financing is a serious issue in the executive and legislative branches. But has the judicial branch fallen prey to the mad scramble for money too? Bill Moyers investigates the problem of campaign cash in the branch which can probably least afford to be bought and paid for by special interests.

Ennis, J. W. (Producer, Writer, Director). (2014). *Pay to play: Democracy’s high stakes.* [Documentary]. United States: Shoot First Inc.

If our political system is like a game of Monopoly, how can outsiders have a voice when only money speaks? John Ennis documents comical corruption, follows political newcomers, and uncovers intrigue in this colorful journey that connects the dots of Big Money in our ever-challenging election process.

Cowan, S. (Producer and Director). (2011). *Priceless.* [Documentary]. United States: Habitat Media.

PRICELESS: Q: *Why did the politician cross the road? (see answer below)*

Is American democracy suffering from a wobble, and can it be fixed? Join us as we follow the money, from big industry campaign coffers to K Street and Capitol Hill, through two major American policies (farm & energy) and right back into the pockets of the same industries we began with! It'll be fun. Along the way we'll meet citizens who've felt the impact of these policies, and those who've decided to do something about it.

A: *To get to a fundraising office and plead for bucks.*

Oscar, C. & Hecker, D. (Producer, Writer, Director). (2013). *Project Censored: The movie*. [Documentary]. United States: Hole in the Media Productions.

Project Censored The Movie: Ending the Reign of Junk Food News takes an in depth look at what is wrong with the news media in the US today and highlights the work of 37 year veteran media democracy organization Project Censored (PC) and their commitment to media literacy education as an antidote to top-down, managed news propaganda and censorship. This film, made by former PC Sonoma State University student Doug Hecker and longtime Project supporter Christopher Oscar, features original interviews about PC and media censorship with Noam Chomsky, Howard Zinn, Michael Parenti, Greg Palast, Oliver Stone, Daniel Ellsberg, Peter Kuznick, Cynthia McKinney, Nora Barrows-Friedman, John Perkins, Jonah Raskin, Khalil Bendib, Pacifica and KPFA Free Speech Radio personalities, Abby Martin of Breaking the Set, Al Jazeera English, several PC affiliated faculty, students, and features Project founder Dr. Carl Jensen, former director and president of the Media Freedom Foundation Dr. Peter Phillips, current director Prof. Mickey Huff, and associate director Dr. Andy Lee Roth and much, much MORE!

Montgomery, P. (Writer and Director). (2012). *Regeneration*. [Documentary].

United States: Virgil Films.

The award-winning documentary film, #ReGENERATION, explores the galvanizing forces behind the Occupy Movement and the state of social activism in our society. The film takes an uncompromising look at the challenges facing today's youth and young adults as they attempt to engage on a myriad of social and political issues. Focused on how our education, parenting, and media can influence us, the film follows three separate walks of life representing today's generation. Each brings their own unique perspective – from an inspired collective of musicians working outside the corporate system, to a twenty-something conservative family about to welcome the birth of their second child, and a group of five high-school students from the suburbs looking for their place in society. Their stories are interspersed with the knowledge, wisdom, and personal reflections of some of the country's leading scholars, social activists, and media personalities, including Noam Chomsky, the late Howard Zinn, Adbusters' Kalle Lasn, Andrew Bacevich, Talib Kweli, and many others. Narrated by Ryan Gosling and featuring a riveting soundtrack from STS9, the film explores how today's generation approaches activism, how it is impacted by technology, our disconnection with nature and history, our consumer culture, and the economic factors holding many of us back from becoming more active participants in our communities. Through a diverse and intelligent series of stories, interviews and insights, we come to a deeper understanding of the influences shaping our society. We have entered uncharted territory, economically, environmentally, and intellectually—and we must look honestly at ourselves to create a sustainable future.

Hutchison, P., Nykes, K., Scott, J. (Producers and Directors). (2016). *Requiem for the American dream*. United States: Naked City Films.

REQUIEM FOR THE AMERICAN DREAM is the definitive discourse with Noam Chomsky, widely regarded as the most important intellectual alive, on the defining characteristic of our time - the deliberate concentration of wealth and power in the hands of a select few. Through interviews filmed over four years, Chomsky unpacks the principles that have brought us to the crossroads of historically unprecedented inequality - tracing a half century of policies designed to favor the most wealthy at the expense of the majority - while also looking back on his own life of activism and political participation. Profoundly personal and thought provoking, Chomsky provides

penetrating insight into what may well be the lasting legacy of our time - the death of the middle class, and swan song of functioning democracy. A potent reminder that power ultimately rests in the hands of the governed, REQUIEM is required viewing for all who maintain hope in a shared stake in the future.

Alper, L. (Producer). (2017). *The great white hoax*. [Documentary]. United States: Media Education Foundation.

The Great White Hoax, featuring acclaimed anti-racist educator and author Tim Wise, explores how American political leaders of both parties have been tapping into white anxiety, stoking white grievance, and scapegoating people of color for decades to divide and conquer working class voters and shore up political support. The film's primary focus is Donald Trump's race-baiting 2016 campaign for the presidency. But it also widens its scope to show how Trump's charged rhetoric about African-Americans, Latinos, and Muslims fits within a longstanding historical pattern, offering a stunning survey of how racism and racial scapegoating have shaped American politics for centuries. The Great White Hoax is an ideal resource for courses that look at race relations, white privilege, the intersectionality of race, class, and gender identities, presidential politics, and political propaganda.

Martinez, R. (Producer and Director). (2013). *The lottery of birth*. [Documentary]. United States: Mangusta Productions.

From directors Raoul Martinez and Joshua van Praag comes the first installment in the "Creating Freedom" series. Offering a torrent of mind-expanding ideas, The Lottery of Birth is going to make you think again about what it means to be free. With a stellar cast bringing together leading activists, journalists, and the best minds in psychology, history and philosophy, it explores a simple idea: the more we understand the limits on our freedom, the better placed we are to transcend them. From birth onwards, our minds are a battleground of competing forces. The outcome of this battle determines the society we create. The Lottery of Birth looks at the cultural, educational and commercial forces that shape our identities, often in ways that limit both our personal and political freedom.

Burns, M. (Producer and Director). (2003). *Third party: Political alternatives in the age of duopoly*. [Documentary]. United States: The Cinema Guild.

Third Party is a documentary film that makes a comprehensive survey of today's major United States third party efforts. Interviews with leaders in the Libertarian, Green, Reform, Labor, Communist, Socialist, Working Families, and Workers World parties are interspliced with commentary from activists and academics including Ronnie Dugger, Francis Fox Piven, Howard Zinn, Jeremy Brecher, Noam Chomsky and others. The film looks carefully at what motivates and inspires parties vying for a foothold in a country so dominated politically by the Democrats and Republicans. This feature length film explores their strategies, their issues, and their thoughts on the obstacles they face. Not merely an academic exercise, the film weaves in the story of the third party candidacy of Mike DeRosa, one of the thousands of everyday Americans who run for office each year under a third party banner. DeRosa's story, as a member of the Green Party of Connecticut running for State Senate in 2002, illustrates what it's like to run as a political alternative in a system and culture design for two. An educational and inspiring mosaic of the lesser-known political visionaries fighting to bring serious change to an actual democracy in danger of slipping into a virtual one.

Nichols, M. B. & Walker, C. K. (Directors and Producers). (2015). *Welcome to Leith*. [Documentary]. United States: Sundial Pictures.

Welcome to Leith is a feature documentary chronicling to attempted takeover of a small town in North Dakota by notorious white supremacist Craig Cobb. As his behavior becomes more threatening, tensions soar, and the residents desperately look for ways to expel their unwanted neighbor. With incredible access to both long-time residents of Leith and white supremacists, the film examines a small community in the plains struggling for sovereignty against an extremist vision.