

THE ENEMY WITHIN

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Bullfrog Community Screening & Discussion Guide

Use your film screening of **THE ENEMY WITHIN** as a tool for educating your community about the history of government and big business efforts to undermine labor unions, and the measures taken to fight back — sometimes in extreme circumstances. This guide offers some background information, plus helpful tips & discussion questions, for an informative and rewarding screening. **Good Luck!**

For additional resources, visit theenemywithin.bullfrogcommunities.com/ewith_resources

About THE ENEMY WITHIN

In 1984, a Conservative government under Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher declared war on Britain's unions, taking on the strongest in the country: the National Union of Mineworkers. Following a secret plan, the government began announcing the closure of coal mines, threatening not just an industry but whole communities and a way of life. Against all the forces the government could throw at them, 160,000 coal miners took up the fight. This is the story of a group of miners and supporters who were on the frontline of that strike for an entire year. These were people that Margaret Thatcher labelled "the enemy within".



About the Director

Owen has an extensive background in factual television and documentaries, most recently producing on the landmark natural history series 'The Burrowers' for the BBC. Owen began his career co-shooting the flagship Channel 4 documentary 'Antony Gormley: Making Space' with acclaimed director Beeban Kidron. Since then he has worked on a number of major television documentaries including the triple Emmy award winning 'First Life', with David Attenborough, as well as a huge range of productions for the BBC, Channel 4, Channel 5, Sky One, National Geographic, Discovery and The History Channel.

ready to watch!

Ideas and best practices to help make your community screening a success!

1. Publicize Your Event! This is the most important step because it not only tells the world what you're up to, but it lets the Bullfrog Community team know what your plans are so we can help you publicize your event. Visit theenemywithin.bullfrogcommunities.com/ewith_screenings to register and get the word out on your THE ENEMY WITHIN screening.

2. Visualize Your Goal! What do you hope to achieve with your screening of THE ENEMY WITHIN? Your goal could be to generate a lively post-film discussion generally about workers' rights and the right to collective bargaining, a living wage and an equitable economy, or more specifically about organizing tactics. Or, you can simply provide an opportunity for families to watch and learn together.

3. Where To Host? Consider which locations in your area would be ideal for accommodating a community film screening of the size you anticipate: downtown movie theaters, churches and synagogues, town halls, community centers, public libraries, school auditoriums, warehouses at a business and outdoor screenings at parks and playgrounds, and even private homes have been venues for many successful community screenings.

4. Find A Partner! Give some thought to who is already working on this issue in your community. Do you know of unions or other groups and organizations working on workers' rights, collective bargaining issues or for a living wage and equitable economy? Can they help sponsor the event? Spread the word? Speak on a panel discussion after the screening? Some potential partners include: unions; law, history and labor studies departments at universities and colleges; nonprofits focused on workers' rights, economic justice and a living wage; and networks focused on democratic workplaces and local living economies.

5. Invite A Guest Speaker! Guest speakers and panelists are a great way to encourage discussion and debate after a community screening. When people are engaged and thinking about the issues they will stay engaged long after the screening has passed. Contact representatives of unions and nonprofits or teachers and professors who have expertise or insight into the issues raised by the film, and invite them to attend and participate in a discussion or Q&A session.

6. Engage Your Audience! Use this discussion guide to engage your audience. Included in this guide is a section called Ready to Talk! with a few questions to get the conversation started and a section called Ready to Act!, a hand-out listing additional resources for further investigation about key issues raised in the film, all to support efforts to prepare your audience to act. **Note:** This film is 112-minutes long; you might consider an intermission or mid-film discussion. **The main menu on the DVD provides the option to play the film in two parts.**

7. Spread The Word! Think about the best methods available to you for publicizing the film screening to people in your community. Sending emails, creating event notifications on Facebook or Meetup, using Twitter, and placing screening announcements in local newspapers and newsletters is a good start. Find THE ENEMY WITHIN screening poster, discussion guide (includes handout), and press photos at theenemywithin.bullfrogcommunities.com/ewith_resources to help publicize your event around town.

8. Tell Us How It Went! Visit theenemywithin.bullfrogcommunities.com/ewith_discussion to tell us about your event: Contribute to the film's discussion page to help other unions and community groups further the discussion and put on successful events. Where it was held? Who attended? What went well, and what was challenging? What did you discuss? Your feedback will help others in organizing their own successful events and will energize Bullfrog Communities as a whole.

ready to talk!

Your audience will be excited to discuss the issues raised by THE ENEMY WITHIN. Here are some questions that will get people talking.

- 1.** Does this film help your understanding of current attempts to weaken worker rights and access to collective bargaining?
- 2.** Why did the miners lose? What lessons does their experience offer to future campaigns to protect communities and jobs?
- 3.** What are the positives to be taken from this film...
 - (a) ...for workers in struggle?
 - (b) ...for communities under threat?
 - (c) ...for the ways different groups can help reinforce the strength of each other?
- 4.** What role did divisions between miners play in this defeat? How were those divisions created? How might similar divisions be avoided in campaigns to come?
- 5.** Can you find any sense in a policy that shuts mines and leaves the wider economy dependent on coal imports? If answering this is difficult, why did Margaret Thatcher hail the defeat of the miners, and the subsequent closing of so many coal mines, as a great victory for democracy?
- 6.** What was the role of false promises in the defeat of the miners' strike? Are there any equivalent false promises being made today?
- 7.** Who were the extremists here: the miners or the government?
- 8.** Who was exercising violence in 1984 and 1985: the miners or the government?
- 9.** Was it morally right to deny striking miners basic social security payments? Can workers genuinely enjoy the right to strike if such payments are denied?
- 10.** Why do miners have to go on strike to protect jobs and wages, but hedge fund managers and senior bankers never have to? What does that difference tell us about the morality of the distribution of both wealth and power in contemporary capitalism?

ASLEF is Britain's trade union for train drivers. Its 19,500+ members are employed in the train operating companies, the freight companies, London Underground and some Light Rapid Transport.

Communication Workers Union UK is the biggest union for the communications industry in the UK with 199,443 members. It works to protect, advance and serve the interests of its members throughout the communications industry.

Center for Popular Democracy works to create equity, opportunity and a dynamic democracy in partnership with high-impact base-building organizations, organizing alliances, and progressive unions. CPD strengthens our collective capacity to envision and win an innovative pro-worker, pro-immigrant, racial and economic justice agenda.

Fire Brigades Union is the democratic, professional voice of firefighters and other workers within fire and rescue services across the UK. It aims to (1) provide a leading, independent voice for firefighters that helps improve fire and rescue services; (2) ensure the expertise and experience of its members is heard locally, nationally and internationally within government and beyond; (3) protect the safety and interests of the public and its members, enabling them to enjoy a good quality of life, including by preventing cuts or damaging changes to fire and rescue services; (4) improve the working conditions of its members and protect them from discrimination and unfair or illegal treatment by representing them in the workplace; and (5) help its members develop professionally by developing new and existing skills.

Interfaith Worker Justice works to mobilize people of faith and work advocates in support of economic justice and worker rights at the local, state and national levels.

Jobs with Justice is leading the fight for workers' rights and an economy that benefits everyone. It is the only nonprofit of its kind leading strategic campaigns and shaping the public discourse on every front to build power for working people. Jobs With Justice is committed to working nationally and locally, on the ground and online. It wins real change for workers by combining innovative communications strategies and solid research and policy advocacy with grassroots action and mobilization.

National Union of Mineworkers represents miners, their families and their communities in the UK.

National Union of Teachers is the largest teachers' organization in Europe, organizing teachers across England and Wales with campaigns on educational issues and working conditions for its members. It has a long and dedicated history of campaigning for the advancement of education, on behalf of all children in the UK.

Public and Commercial Services Union is one of the largest trade unions in the UK, with around 220,000 members. It is organized throughout the civil service and government agencies, making it the UK's largest civil service trade union. It also organizes widely in the private sector, usually in areas that have been privatized. It is a democratic organization, run by its members, for its members. It campaigns for fair pay and conditions, decent pensions for all and equality in the workplace and beyond.

Unite the Union is Britain's biggest union with 1.42 million members in every type of workplace. It is a democratic and campaigning union, which fights back for employees in the workplace, is taking trade unionism out to the millions of unorganized workers, is a union that stands up for equality for all and advances its members interests politically.

United for a Fair Economy challenges the concentration of wealth and power that corrupts democracy, deepens the racial divide and tears communities apart. It uses popular economics education, trainings, and creative communications to support social movements working for a resilient, sustainable and equitable economy.

University and College Union is the largest trade union and professional association for academics, lecturers, trainers, researchers and academic-related staff working in further and higher education throughout the UK.