

LOVE & SOLIDARITY

what you'll find inside!

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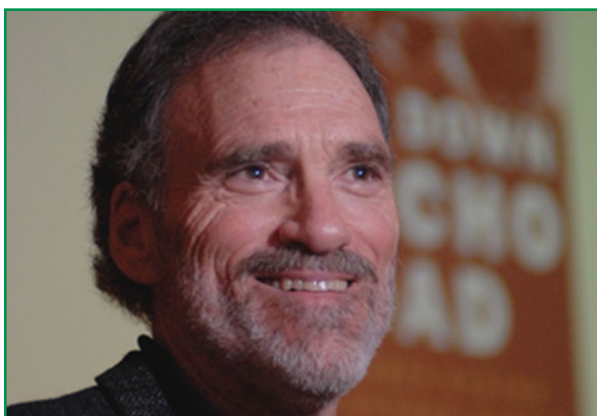
Bullfrog Community Screening & Discussion Guide

Use your film screening of **LOVE & SOLIDARITY** as a tool for educating your community about the relationship between civil and workers' rights, how to create a just economy through organized nonviolent actions, and the role Rev. James Lawson has played in the history of both movements. This guide offers some background information, helpful tips & discussion questions for an informative, rewarding screening. **Good Luck!**

For additional resources, visit loveandsolidarity.bullfrogcommunities.com/love_resources

About Love & Solidarity

LOVE & SOLIDARITY is an exploration of nonviolence and organizing through the life and teachings of Rev. James Lawson. Lawson provided crucial strategic guidance while working with Martin Luther King, Jr., in southern freedom struggles and the Memphis sanitation strike of 1968. Through interviews and historical documents, acclaimed labor and civil rights historian Michael Honey and award-winning filmmaker Errol Webber put Lawson's discourse on non-violent direct action on the front burner of today's struggles against economic inequality, racism and violence, and for human rights, peace, and economic justice.



About the Director

Michael K. Honey is the Haley Professor of Humanities, former Harry Bridges Chair of Labor Studies at the University of Washington, a Martin Luther King scholar, and a former southern civil rights organizer. He is the author of *Sharecropper's Troubadour: John L. Handcox, the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union, and the African American Song Tradition* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013), and many other books. A Guggenheim, Rockefeller, and National Endowment for the Humanities fellow, he has received numerous book awards and recognition for combining service and activism with scholarship.

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 loveandsolidarity.bullfrogcommunities.com/love_screenings to register and get the word out on your LOVE & SOLIDARITY screening.

2. Visualize Your Goal! What do you hope to achieve with your screening of LOVE & SOLIDARITY? Your goal could be to generate a lively post-film discussion generally about civil and immigrant rights; social-change non-violence; workers' rights and the right to collective bargaining, a living wage, and an equitable economy; or more specifically about specific anti-racism and labor efforts, nonviolent direct-action strategies, and 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, university and college venues, 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 nonviolent action groups, anti-racism and civil-rights groups, immigrant-rights groups, 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, civil rights and labor studies departments at universities and colleges; nonprofits focused on nonviolent direct action; civil rights and anti-racism; immigrant rights; 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! 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.

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 LOVE & SOLIDARITY screening poster, discussion guide (includes handout), and press photos at loveandsolidarity.bullfrogcommunities.com/love_resources to help publicize your event around town.

8. Tell Us How It Went! Visit loveandsolidarity.bullfrogcommunities.com/love_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 LOVE & SOLIDARITY
Here are some questions that will get people talking.**

- 1.** There are several story lines in the film. What are they? Why they are important stories to know about?
- 2.** What are the important issues brought up in each story line?
- 3.** How does James Lawson define nonviolence in theory? How does he implement it in practice?
- 4.** How has Rev. Lawson influenced others we learn about in this film to use his philosophy and his practice? What are the results?
- 5.** Usually we think about Lawson and Martin Luther King in terms of the civil rights movement. How does this film change that picture?
- 6.** Why does Lawson emphasize the centrality of economic justice to all other struggles? What do you think of the labor and economic justice focus?
- 7.** How does the film bring nonviolence strategies and activities into social movements in the present? For example, how would you relate the stories and the ideas in the film to the current “Black Lives Matter” protests? Can you see a way to apply Lawson’s ideas in that protest?
- 8.** How does Lawson’s philosophy challenge American foreign policy? America’s history of violence at home and abroad?
- 9.** What questions and criticisms do you have for the film maker/historians? What else would you like to see in this film?

resources

handout

WEBSITES

[Center for the Study of Community and Society at UW Tacoma](#)

[Fetzer Institute](#)

Nonviolence Links

ORGANIZATIONS

[Metta Center for Nonviolence](#)

[Nonviolent Conflict News](#), a project of the International Center on Nonviolent Conflict

[Campaign Nonviolence](#)

[Albert Einstein Institute](#)

[Fellowship of Reconciliation](#)

NEWS and COMMENTARY

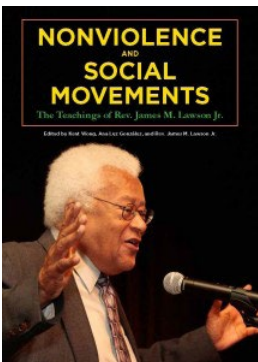
[Waging Nonviolence](#)

[Popular Resistance](#)

[International Center on Nonviolent Conflict News Digest](#)

[Hastings on Nonviolence](#)

BOOKS



Nonviolence and Social Movements: The Teachings of Rev. James M. Lawson Jr.
Edited by Kent Wong, Ana Luz Gonzalez, and James M. Lawson, Jr.