

Queer Solidarity Forever: Host Your Own Discussion of *Pride* (UK, 2014)



Film discussions are a great way to talk about democratic socialism and make organizing connections in your community. You can do this with a group of friends, or host a larger event. And the British film *Pride* (2014) is a good choice to talk about queer organizing, workers' rights, and solidarity in action.

The film is based on the true story of Lesbians and Gays Support the Miners. It's 1984, British coal miners are on strike, and a group of gays and lesbians in London bring the queer community together to support the miners in their fight.

Successful House Party Tips

- Start with a small core of people and suggest that each person bring one friend.
- Provide food and drinks.
- Introduce yourselves to each other and ask who has done queer activism or labor organizing before or is newly engaged.

Discussion Questions

1. What felt realistic about the film? What didn't? What matched your own experiences with DSA, socialism, and building solidarity with other groups?
2. What does the film have to teach us about building bridges between diverse groups?
3. In the greater scheme of things, the mining strike was a loss for the mineworker's union, and as most folks who know about coal mining in Britain can tell you, the mines have mostly shut down and Britain is often referred to as a "de-industrialized" nation. Yet through the (idealized) lens of *Pride*, we can see that from defeat came a victory of sorts – what lessons can we draw from that? Are there any parallels today?
4. How does the tone of the film help or hinder the telling of this story?
5. The character of Joe was created for the film as an audience stand-in character, who grounds our immersion into this world. What do you think of this approach? Do you think the character is necessary?
6. Does the film make you want to learn more about the history of LGSM?
7. What does the schism in LGSM that resulted in the formation of a splinter group, Lesbians Against Pit Closures, tell us about organizing?

DSA local groups work with other community organizations in self-defense and solidarity actions. You can find your local DSA group at dsausa.org/chapters.

DSA is a member-funded organization. Join us at dsausa.org/join.