

# MISSISSIPPI BURNING

*This movie is based on a true story. In 1964, three civil rights workers — two Jewish and one black — go missing while organizing a voter registry for African Americans in Jessup County, Mississippi. The FBI sends two agents, Rupert Anderson, a former Mississippi sheriff, and Alan Ward, to investigate. The pair find it difficult to conduct interviews with the local townspeople, as Sheriff Ray Stuckey and his deputies exert influence over the public, and are linked to a branch of the Ku Klux Klan.*

While you watch the 1988 *Mississippi Burning*, find examples of the following types of citizens in the movie (Definitions can be found in Unit Four of [www.waterdowncivics.org](http://www.waterdowncivics.org)).

Activist	
Bystander	

Perpetrator	
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Above: This image comes from a rally held in Charlottesville, Virginia, during August 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Called the “Unite the Right rally,” this event triggered many conversations throughout the United States and Canada about racism, freedom of speech & hate.



Below: Jonathan Bachman’s powerful “woman in the dress” photograph comes from a protest in July 2016 Baton Rouge, Louisiana, as citizens decried the fatal shooting of Alton Sterling by police officers.