

Name: _____ Date: _____

Class: _____

Welcome to *Broadcasting 1968*

Broadcasting 1968 is an online web exhibit that utilizes Texas newsfilm to consider a range of historic events and cultural trends during the 1960s. With an emphasis on material produced by Houston television stations, **Broadcasting 1968** uses local news to examine the functions of the news media as an intermediary between the people and the events of the day. The exhibit highlights major themes of 1968 and couches them within the context of a local experience.



The exhibit is divided into four major sections:

1. 1968 in Review: Considered by some to be one of the most tragic and tumultuous years in modern American history, 1968 was also a year of great achievement. This section looks back at the events of 1968, from the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to the successful launch of the Apollo 7 and 8 missions, but also at featured events of community significance.
2. Trends: Further broken down into four subsections, *Trends* looks at dominant storylines that played an outsized role in the featured news stories of the day. Major trends examined in this exhibit are the Presidential election, the Civil Rights Movement, gun control, and the Vietnam War.
3. Local Reporting: Local news was grounded in their broadcast audience. As such, local news often featured stories about the lived experience of the people, places, and things that made up their community. This section highlights stories about the day-to-day experiences of people living in 1968.
4. Behind the Camera: News stations turn the cameras on themselves to give viewers an idea into how the news is made.

Review the text and videos included in each exhibit section. The following worksheets should be completed using information located on the exhibit website, <https://www.broadcasting1968.com>. Each section will contain prompts and questions related to the exhibits. Keep in mind the guiding questions while reviewing the material. Record relevant notes in the space provided.

Thank you for visiting the Texas Archive of the Moving Image. We hope you enjoy **Broadcasting 1968!**

1. 1968 IN REVIEW

Guiding Questions

Is the event of local or national significance? Or both? Why?

For events of national significance, how are the local reactions to these events depicted? Are they similar or different to the national response to the same event?

What were some of the lasting impacts of the events depicted? Do these events have a greater impact to local or national historic consciousness?

News is sometimes referred to as the “first draft of history” because it is most often reported as the events occur, outside of the context of a larger history. Do any of the events depicted become more significant over the course of 1968 or into the future? If so, how would this possibly change the questions asked or answered?

<p>January 20 Cougars Upset Bruins in the “Game of the Century”</p>	
<p>January 23 North Korea Captures the USS <i>Pueblo</i></p>	
<p>March 31 LBJ Announces He Will Not Seek Re-election</p>	
<p>April 4 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Assassinated</p>	

Student Exhibit Guide & Worksheets

April 6 HemisFair Opens	
April 11 LBJ Signs Civil Rights Act of 1968	
May 3 Dr. Denton Cooley Performs First Successful Heart Transplant	
May 12 Poor People's Campaign Begins in Washington, DC 	
June 1 AstroWorld Opens	
June 5 Senator Robert F. Kennedy Assassinated 	
June 27 Miss Wool of America Pageant 	

Student Exhibit Guide & Worksheets

<p>July 29 Pope Paul VI Issues “<i>Humanae Vitae</i>”</p>	
<p>August 8 Nixon Accepts the Republican Nomination</p> 	
<p>August 20 Warsaw Pact Invasion of Czechoslovakia</p>	
<p>August 29 Humphrey Accepts the Democratic Nomination</p>	
<p>October 11 Apollo 7 Launches</p> 	
<p>October 22 LBJ Signs Gun Control Act of 1968</p>	
<p>October 31 LBJ Orders Bombing Halt on North Vietnam</p> 	

Student Exhibit Guide & Worksheets

November 5 Election Day	
December 20 National Dock Strike Begins	
December 21 Apollo 8 Launches	

2. TRENDS

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION	VIETNAM WAR
<p>What issues are the candidates addressing?</p> <p>What is the public response to each of the candidates? For candidates that are holding rallies in different cities, is their response the same?</p> <p>Knowing the results of the election, what do you think may have swayed the public to elect Nixon?</p>	<p>How might news depictions of the Vietnam War have affected public opinion about the US's involvement in the conflict? What about the depictions of the lives of Vietnam Veterans?</p> <p>How do you think the media influenced diplomacy?</p>

CIVIL RIGHTS	GUN CONTROL
<p>What are the civil rights issues that local leaders are trying to address? What might be going on in communities that would lead local leaders to highlight these issues?</p> <p>How might the national movement for civil rights impact local communities?</p>	<p>What are the primary provisions of the gun control legislation passed in 1968? What are the objections to these provisions?</p> <p>Why was this legislation able to be passed? What was significant about the climate of 1968 that moved gun control laws forward?</p> <p>How might these laws have changed communities or individual behavior?</p>

3. LOCAL REPORTING

Why might these videos have been selected? What do these videos tell the viewer about daily life in 1968? What do these videos tell you about the community they were created in?

	
	
	
	

4. BEHIND THE CAMERA

	<p>List some technological advancements in broadcast news production or distribution that improved news reporting in 1968.</p>
	<p>What are some recent technological advancements that have changed the recording and distribution of news? Do you think this has been beneficial, and why or why not?</p>
	<p>List some of the changes in the way news was reported in 1968 from the way it had previously been reported.</p>
	<p>Based on the videos in this section and on news reported throughout the exhibit, what differences do you see in how the news was reported in 1968 and how it is reported today.</p>

In Other News

Now it is your turn! Using the Texas Archive of the Moving Image's KHOU Collections [https://www.texasarchive.org/library/index.php/Category:The KHOU-TV Collection](https://www.texasarchive.org/library/index.php/Category:The_KHOU-TV_Collection), select a *News Clip* video from a single day. You will be writing a short script for the announcer/newscaster of your video. The videos include tagging and notes that may give you a better idea of the individuals featured in the videos, the events that are depicted, or the situation in which these videos are filmed (this is especially important for clips that do not have sound).

Use available sources to provide context to your videos, including your textbook, online sources, or research material. Any sources used should be cited in the "credits" of your script.

Information that should be included in your presentation:

- Date and location of broadcast
- List of stories featured
- Names of persons involved
- Events depicted
- Why these stories are important to the viewers
- What the possible consequences/results of the depicted events or activities may be