

Review of DVD series *A Force More Powerful*

By Annie Welch

For any individual or group hoping to learn more about the success of different movements for nonviolent change throughout the world this video series would be a fine introduction. It gives historical proof that non-violence is not only practical but can be nurtured and adapted to varying conditions. The series contains six sections highlighting the struggles related to -

1. The desegregation of the Nashville lunch counters which helped prove the effectiveness of nonviolence training and preparation to the civil rights movement in the U.S.
2. Gandhi's march to the sea and its nonviolent challenge to the rule of British law and the monopoly on salt.
3. The nonviolent South African uprising to end the injustice of the system of apartheid.
4. The neutrality of Denmark using national pride and solidarity against the Germans in WW II.
5. The Polish Solidarity movement of workers' strikes which lead to roundtable talks and eventually to free parliamentary elections.
6. The nonviolent struggle for Chile's freedom from the dictatorship of Pinochet. This was carried on through simple work slowdowns and parades of pots and pan-banging demonstrations.

The program contains historic footage and quotes from people involved in the various movements. Even though I have seen this program many times I marvel at how I always learn something new when I watch the program again!

CSGs or individuals who want to learn about the effectiveness and simplicity of nonviolence will welcome this series which can be viewed one section at a time or all together. The strength of the series lies in seeing the struggle of those who choose nonviolence in the face of pain, injury and even death because of their belief in the POWER of nonviolent social change. Questions we might ponder after each section: ***How does the historic work of nonviolence intersect with our current CSJP concerns and commitments to grow in nonviolence? How can we express in practical ways our commitment to nonviolent social change?***

This DVD series and a book of the same name are available from Amazon.com. The DVD cost is \$39.95 and the book \$14.95.