

## Reviews of 'The Fever of '57'

*The "Fever of '57"* film provides students with a fresh look at one of the central events of the Cold War, the launch of world's first satellite, Sputnik, and the amazing and tense year for the Superpowers that followed. The film and companion website for teachers and learners provides classrooms with the opportunity to analyze and grapple with a multitude of important social studies issues of the past and present, including how Americans react to crisis situations, the importance of presidential leadership, the issues surrounding the relationship of politics to science, and even the ethics of using animals in experimental situations such as space. The approach used by the filmmaker and the never before seen and recently declassified footage will keep students interested throughout the film. I would recommend this film highly to social studies and history classes from the middle school up to the college level.

Stephen Armstrong  
Social Studies Department Supervisor, West Hartford, CT Public Schools  
Board of Directors, National Council for the Social Studies

*The Fever of '57* is an exciting new film that traces the technology race between the Soviet Union and the United States. As a 9-year old in 1957 I marveled as the whole neighborhood came out to watch sputnik pass over our small city. At first it was exciting to see the moving "star" whisk across the sky; but the comments of the adults told me it was something more serious. Fifty years later, as a long time high school science teacher, I can only thank David Hoffman for helping me revisit this significant personal and national event. The absolute strength of this documentary lies in its weaving of science and social studies to show the profound impact that Sputnik had on the American psyche and our future in space. The science is impeccable and my teenage daughter, who has taken AP US History and Physics, thought it was captivating and well worth her time. A lot has happened technologically in the last half century and one can only wonder what October 2057 will bring.

Dr. Richard Fritz  
Science Teacher  
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"The launch of Russia's Sputnik satellite is exhumed and made exciting in this important slice of you-are-there documaking. If distribs can see the timely value of this snapshot of a crucial moment in U.S. and world history, "The Fever of '57" has a shot at reaching auds who will find it useful material a half-century later, at the start of a new, potentially more dangerous era." - **VARIETY**

.... "The Fever of '57," an amazing, light-speed ride through one of mankind's more dramatic run-ins with the cosmos. Outer space fans willing to put history before Klingons, and give reality priority over sci-fi fantasy, should embrace David Hoffman's fascinating documentary." – **FILM THREAT**

"Focused and Dramatic" - three stars, **SEATTLE TIMES**

"Entertaining...."This little known slice of American history..may never be completely told, but "Fever of 57" takes a giant step in reopening the case" - **SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER**

"Must see film"....combines great footage with a great story" - **THE HERALD**

"The Fever of '57' is a documentary I was surprised by. This October is the 50th anniversary of the launch of the Sputnik satellite by the Soviet Union. I always thought that people were scared by this event, but it turns out a lot of Americans watched the satellite from their front lawns and felt it was a step forward for man. It was only on the fourth day after launching that Lyndon B. Johnson went on TV and radio and said that the satellite could have bombs and missiles on it. Within days people were terrified of it, and, ironically, it was Johnson and the Democrats who were responsible for this fear and paranoia." – **MICHAEL MOORE**

"Remarkable.intriguing...thought provoking...I can't get the darn thing out of my head." - **MOVIEFREAK.COM**

"Enthralling, well-researched and wonderfully produced" - **#1ENTERTAINMENT BLOG**

"We see with new eyes Ike and LBJ and Krushchev pondering the cold war" – **SEATTLE WEEKLY**

"A great film that deserves a great audience"....there is not a single dull moment in this film. . . "I wasn't prepared for just how fascinating it was and just how well the director David Hoffman told this complex story in such an accessible way" – **SEATTLE INT'L FILM FESTIVAL BLOG**