

BUUF Racial Justice Ministry

Suggested Video of the Month – June 2021

The Night Tulsa Burned, The History Channel (2019), 42:30.

<https://video.search.yahoo.com/search/video; ylt=Awr4xJQwOMRgLI0A UtXNyoA; ylu=Y29sbwNncTEEcG9zAzEEdnRpZAMEc2VjA3Nj?p=the+night+tulsa+burned+history+channel+view+for+free+online&fr=mcafee#id=6&vid=bff1654a849db43a177b42853adacbc0&action=view>

Information about the video

This documentary tells the story of May 31 – June 1, when a white mob destroyed the prosperous and prominent Greenwood section of Tulsa, Oklahoma, often referred as the “Black Wall Street.” Beginning when a young white female elevator operator accused 19 year old Dick Rowland of assault, the violence left hundreds of people dead and thousands more homeless. Despite being one of the worst incidents of racial violence in US history, it was long little-known. The documentary includes eyewitness accounts along with archival film and photos.

Several questions to consider and discuss with others

- What did the producers of this video want you to learn or understand from watching it?
- Some people argue that we shouldn’t revisit long-ago events such as these because it would serve only to further divide us. How would you respond to this?
- What lessons should we take from these long-ago events? In what ways are the lessons different for White people and Black people?
- What similarities do you see between Tulsa in 1921 and the U.S. in 2021? What differences do you see?

Additional resources

- Tulsa Burning. The 1921 Race Massacre. *The History Channel*, 1:26:00.
<https://www.history.com/topics/roaring-twenties/tulsa-race-massacre>
- Jeremy Cook and Jason Long (2021). How 24 hours of racist violence caused decades of harm. *The Atlantic*, May 24, 2021.
<https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2021/05/1921-tulsa-race-massacre-economic-census-survivors/618968/>
- Tulsa: The Fire and the Forgotten. *PBS* (2021), 1:24:44.
<https://play.history.com/specials/tulsa-burning-the-1921-race-massacre/full-special>
- Tulsa Race Riot: A Report by the Oklahoma Commission to Study the Tulsa Race Riot of 1921 (FEB2001). <https://www.okhistory.org/research/forms/freport.pdf>
- 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre. *Tulsa Historical Society and Museum*.
<https://www.tulsaohistory.org/exhibit/1921-tulsa-race-massacre/>