

Curriculum link: Politics and society in Northern Ireland, 1949-1993 - the Civil Rights Movement

RTÉ Archives, Online exhibition: Civil Rights in Northern Ireland - Caledon Protest

Access the online exhibition [here](#)

In 1968, controversy arose in the village of Caledon, near Dungannon, Co. Tyrone when a 19-year-old unmarried Protestant woman was allocated a house by Dungannon Rural Council. A Catholic family with three children, the Goodfellows, had recently been evicted from the house next door.

Activity 1

Discuss: why would this action by Dungannon Rural Council have caused anger among the Catholic community in Caledon?

Activity 2



Listen carefully to the audio clip, "Sixteen of us in one small house". In the box below, write down examples given by Mrs. Goodfellow of how she and other Catholics have been mistreated by Dungannon Rural Council.

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Activity 3

In protest at the decision to allocate the house to a Protestant woman, Austin Currie occupied the house in Caledon. He was subsequently evicted from the house by the RUC.

Listen to the video clip of Austin Currie describing his protest and its impact. Answer the questions that follow while watching the video clip.

1. How did Austin Currie succeed in getting himself thrown out of the Stormont parliament?

2. Why did all three protestors hold the spade used to smash through a window of the house?

3. Why do you think Currie and the other protestors hoped the occupation would not last for too long?

4. How did Currie know that his protest at Caledon had made a real impact?
