

**Curriculum links:** Politics and society in Northern Ireland, 1949-1993 - civil rights movement

## **RTÉ Archives, Online exhibition: Violence in Northern Ireland 1969 - New prime minister, 1969**

Access the online exhibition [here](#).

**Terence O'Neill** resigned as leader of the Unionist Party and prime minister of Northern Ireland in April 1969. On 1 May 1969, O'Neill's cousin, James Chichester-Clarke, was elected as leader of the Unionist Party and became prime minister.

### **Activity 1**



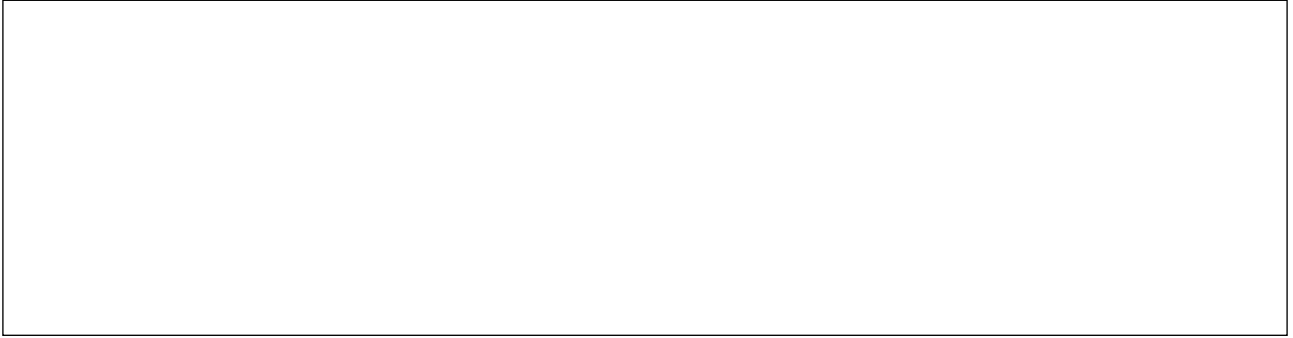
Watch the video clip 'Chichester-Clarke, New Prime Minister' (1969) and answer the following discussion questions:

- Chichester-Clarke was elected by a margin of how many votes? What does this result tell you about the state of the Unionist Party in 1969?
- In general, those who had supported Terence O'Neill voted for Chichester-Clarke and those who had opposed him voted for Brian Faulkner. What does this tell you about the type of prime minister Chichester-Clarke was likely to be?

### **Activity 2**

Listen to the clip, 'Reaction from Derry on Chichester-Clarke' where residents of the Catholic Bogside and Protestant Fountain Street areas of Derry give their views on the election of James Chichester-Clarke as prime minister of Northern Ireland. Make notes on their views in the boxes below:

#### **Catholics from the Bogside**

**Protestants from Fountain Street**

Based on the views expressed by the people in this audio clip, do you think that James Chichester-Clarke will be an effective prime minister of Northern Ireland? Why/why not?