

Living Broke in Boom Times: Lessons from the Movement to End Poverty (73 minutes)

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This film chronicles the decade-long efforts of the movement to end poverty, condensing three documentary films (*Takeover*, *Poverty Outlaw* and *Outriders*) showcasing the community organizing efforts of poor, unemployed, and homeless people across the country. The film features wrap-around commentary from key activists in the movement, Cheri Honkala, Willie Baptist and Liz Theoharis, who discuss the strengths and weaknesses of their organizing efforts and lessons learned. Excerpts from *Takeover* follow the efforts of homeless people in eight cities across the U.S. to occupy abandoned HUD homes on May 1, 1990. The goal of the occupations was to draw attention to the plight of homeless people throughout the country. While takeovers led to numerous arrests, in some communities, these efforts led to increased availability of affordable housing. *Poverty Outlaw* explores the lengths to which a woman must go to survive when the tenuous safety nets for the poor fail. Lauded as a “survival guide” for poor women, the film depicts the harsh realities faced by poor women, especially those with young children, and the difficult, sometimes illegal choices they must make to survive. *Outriders* chronicles the Poor People’s Economic Human Rights Campaign New Freedom Bus Tour in which a bus load of poor people traveled the United States to document human right violations experienced by poor and homeless people. After 10,000 miles of travel, the organizers presented their findings to the United Nations as documentation of violations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

This film can be shown in whole or in part and provides powerful testimony to the struggles of the poor and the impact that even the most marginalized people can have to effect positive change. Available from New Day Films [www.newday.com].