

Name _____

Date _____

McCarthyism

Learn more about this topic! Each section gives more detail on one of the lyrics from the song. Read each section, and then respond by answering the question or taking notes on key ideas.

1. b'

The following excerpt is from Joseph McCarthy's "Enemies from Within" speech delivered in Wheeling, West Virginia in 1950.

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2. b'

The following is an excerpt from the Army-McCarthy hearings in 1954. It follows the exchange between Joseph McCarthy and Joseph Welch, the chief counsel hired by the US Army. During this particular hearing, McCarthy accused one of Welch's attorneys of having ties to communists.

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3. b'

Joseph McCarthy was elected senator of Wisconsin in 1946. It wasn't until 1950, after delivering his "Enemies from Within" speech in Wheeling, Virginia, that he drew national attention. He used the nation's paranoia about the spread of communism to push his political agenda. In the "Enemies from Within" speech, McCarthy claimed to have a list of 57 cases of individuals (205 individuals according to other publications) in the State Department who were affiliated with communists. This allegation caught the attention of the country. Nobody was safe from his accusations; McCarthy accused not only government officials of sympathizing with communists but also educators, people in the entertainment industry, and the US Army.

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McCarthy lost most of his popularity after the Army-McCarthy hearings were televised and the public became aware of his intimidation tactics. As a result, the Senate voted to censure him, expressing their disapproval of his behavior. Although McCarthy was able to keep his position as senator, his reputation was tarnished.

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