

Planting Seeds to End World Hunger: Norman Borlaug's Fight Against Famine

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Group Documentary
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Norman Borlaug is someone who doesn't receive enough credit for the work he's done for the world. We chose Borlaug because he took a stand against a prodigious issue: hunger. His work is truly inspirational and we felt it was a story worth telling.

We started out by doing some basic research on our topic by finding many secondary sources. We were immediately entranced by the sheer amount of work Borlaug did. We didn't realize he had saved so many people, and this made us really want to learn more about his work. Next, we researched the stand Borlaug took. We focused more on Mexico than any of the other countries that Borlaug's wheat had alleviated hunger from, mainly because this was the country Borlaug's wheat greatly impacted. Then, we researched how his work affected the world. We knew his work affected millions, but we were still amazed at his great impact. We went on credible sites like Library of Congress and the University of Minnesota College of Food Agricultural and Natural Resource Science website to find primary sources. After we had done a enormous deal of research on our topic, we looked for scholars who were both passionate and filled with knowledge about Borlaug's work. The first person we emailed was Richard Manning. He supplied us with new information and some very strong opinions. We also interviewed a man that was one of our group member's family friend; Will Koukkari helped us with how to organize our ideas. Dr. Vanaja Taliyil, an Indian rice breeder, also provided us with how science has changed because of Borlaug's life changing work. Lastly, we got an interview with Dr. Eugene Bunkowske, a man who lived in Nigeria during the time of hardship. We also

contacted a few other people, but they didn't respond. We finished off by researching some background information.

Doing a group documentary was the most suitable option for our talents, and we knew that it would really showcase the driving force of the Green Revolution. To create our documentary, we decided to record on a Mac, since it could easily be brought to school and had a user-friendly editing software. We borrowed our librarian's microphone to record audio and used iMovie to edit. The most enjoyable part of our project was recording the audio. We had fun rehearsing the lines to our documentary. Editing was the most tedious part of our project and consumed the majority of our time.

Borlaug was an American plant pathologist that took a stand against hunger in many developing countries. What really makes him stand out, is that he fought to save people he didn't even know. Many sources say that his stand saved a billion of people from hunger and poverty. Some critics say that his work was destructive and futile. In reality, Borlaug's work was way more than just a stand; he stood up to a major challenge. He stood up against fate. By changing these people's fates, he changed the world.