From Conflict to Compromise:

How a Negotiator from Maine

Brought Peace to Northern Ireland

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Process Paper: 500 words
The theme, “Conflict and Compromise,” immediately made us want to learn more about how the conflict in Northern Ireland suddenly ended in peace. We knew about the conflict because one of us is from an Irish family and listened to U2. The conflict touched millions of people, even neighbors and family members who grew up praying for peace. It was incredibly special that it was a negotiator from right here in Maine who brought compromise to what seemed to be an intractable conflict. We had the ambition to interview Mitchell because we are Mainers. One of us is Catholic, and one Protestant, and are best friends, so we felt that it was meaningful to do this topic together.

In 1998, George Mitchell, a former Maine Senator, brokered a peace agreement that ended armed conflict in Northern Ireland, called “The Troubles,” which had raged between Catholics and Protestants for 30 years. George Mitchell’s personal intervention was crucial in shepherding the opposing parties to a compromise known as the Good Friday Agreement. This brought an end to decades of open conflict in Northern Ireland.

The most important part of our research was interviewing Senator George Mitchell. We emailed him during the summer, and he granted a thirty minute interview, but stayed for forty-five minutes. We prepared by reading Mitchell’s books *Making Peace* and *The Negotiator*, transcripts of other Mitchell interviews, and secondary sources to understand the complicated
history of Northern Ireland. We visited the George Mitchell Special Collection at Bowdoin College in multiple day-long trips, where we had access to thousands of primary source documents, newspapers, newscasts, meeting minutes, and letters directly from the peace process. We used these in our documentary, along with photographs and newspaper headlines from online archives. We interviewed Keith Craig, former British Army Assistant Artillery Platoon Commander, who had been stationed in Northern Ireland during the height of The Troubles, as had his father twenty years earlier. He gave us insight into the military nature of the conflict and how tenuous the peace is. We interviewed Rita Yavinsky, whose uncle was a member of the IRA, and had relatives killed by the British Army. Finally, we interviewed Lawrence McManus, a former Sinn Fein politician who left Sinn Fein because he did not support the agreement, wanting a united Ireland.

The documentary category was the most effective way to communicate our ideas because of our interviews and news footage. We used visuals that would help illustrate a complicated story, including self-made diagrams and timelines. We used Adobe Premiere Pro as our editing software. Our music was chosen to fit our topic, and includes “Bloody Sunday” by U2, and “Men Behind the Wire” by the Wolfe Tones.

The 1998 Good Friday Agreement is one of the most significant and miraculous compromises in modern history. Although the violence of the troubles began in the 1960s, the conflict extended back hundreds of years. George Mitchell played a crucial role in bringing about a compromise that ended decades of intractable conflict.
Annotated Bibliography

Primary Sources

Interviews

This interview was by far our most helpful source. It shaped our research and our topic. Being in Mitchell’s presence helped us to see why people would trust him. After choosing our topic in June, we spent the summer months researching this topic, and Mitchell himself. We discovered that Mitchell left for D.C. from his home on Mount Desert Island at the end of summer, so we contacted him beforehand. This was the first formal, recorded in-person interview for both of us, so we learned a lot about this type of interview, and the technology to record it. George Mitchell spent forty-five minutes (11 questions) with us explaining many topics, focusing on his role, skills, personal experiences, and characteristics. He explained everything in great detail, and because this interview was at the beginning of our research, it really helped us to have a good foundation. This helped to shape our research and topic to be more Mitchell-oriented. We used three clips of this interview in our documentary.

“Interview with Keith Craig.” Personal Interview. 31 March 2018.
This was our second and only recorded interview of Keith Craig. This was helpful because Craig, a assistant artillery platoon commander, was stationed in Northern Ireland for six months. He explained to us the depth and military involvement of
the conflict in Northern Ireland. He also explained how he cannot go into a bar wearing his uniform or let other people known that he was in the British Army because of the resentment that still lingers. He explained how excesses of violence on both sides keep resentment and divisions. We used a clip of this in our documentary.

“Interview with Lawrence McManus.” Personal Interview. 11 March, 2018.
This was our final interview. Lawrence McManus is Matthew’s mother’s close college friend’s uncle. He lives in Pettigo, a small town on the border of Ireland and Northern Ireland. The town is actually split in two, one half in the Republic of Ireland and one half in Northern Ireland. McManus was a former member of Sinn Fein, and quit Sinn Fein in 1999. He was a member for two decades, including a politician during the peace process and negotiations. As a Catholic and a member of Sinn Fein, he wanted a united Ireland. He actually quit Sinn Fein because he thought the agreement favored the other side, and he wanted to hold out for a united Ireland. He also had some insight into the agreement itself and Mitchell’s role. He described how Mitchell came over from America and did a very good job in getting the negotiators to compromise, and how he was very intelligent. He also described how the agreement was more of a bandaid, and not stitches or a long term solution to the conflict. He thought that Northern Ireland was like a fire, and that it was put out by the Good Friday Agreement, but that the ashes are still smoldering, and if anything is thrown on it that it will catch fire again. He argued that Brexit was one of the things that could reignite the fire, and thought that there would be a united Ireland before Brexit. This interview helped us to see why some people opposed the agreement, and how peace is still being threatened.

“Interview with Rita Yavinsky.” Personal Interview. 12 December 2017.
This interview was recorded at her house. Her uncle had been a member of the
Provisional Irish Republican Army, the largest and most famous terrorist group. She had been to Ireland and Northern Ireland before. Her father and her father’s friends (Catholic) had stolen bullets from British soldiers. The soldiers then plotted to kill them. Her dad’s bike broke down, and he stayed behind to fix it. Then, the soldiers killed his friends who had gone ahead. This was helpful because it helped us to see the depth of conflict in Northern Ireland.
**Books**


This book was in our top-five most useful primary sources, because of the point of view and clarity of the book. We both read this book multiple times, because it really gave a very in-depth understand of the peace process. It was from the point of view of Mitchell, which helped us to understand his role. It explained the events (almost) in chronological order, giving every detail of the process, including Mitchell’s feelings and experiences, either about sadness with other life experiences happening during the period of the peace process, or the prediction that no compromise would be reached, until the very last minute. It showed how hard Mitchell worked to bring together so many conflicting parties, and how he had to work to keep the process from falling apart.


This book was about George Mitchell’s whole life. It covered his childhood, his time as a lawyer, his time as a senator, and his life until 2016. In the book, he explained how certain experiences shaped his life and his work in Northern Ireland. He explained many things in this book that he also mentioned in our interview, such as how he began reading actual books for fun because of his teacher in high school. He also explained how competition between him and his brothers helped to form him as a politician, to be better than them.
Photographs, Pictures & Posters


This is picture of a man being beaten by the Protestants during a civil rights march. It was helpful because it helped us to visualize the conflict, and understand what happened during the civil rights marches. It also helped us to develop the historical context section of our documentary.


This is a photograph of a masked IRA member hiding behind a short wall on a rainy day. A young family, with three children, are walking by. This helped us to see how much the conflict impacted daily life and how it was normal to see such violent scenes daily.


This is a photograph of five masked men with guns and bombs walking down an alley in Belfast. This was a very memorable and impactful photograph, which helped us to visualize the conflict. We used the photograph in the historical context section of our documentary.
Crispin, Paul. The Threat Neutralized. 1986,
<http://cain.ulst.ac.uk/crispin/photos/The_Threat_Neutralised.htm>.  
This is a photograph of a controlled bomb exploding. There was a car bomb, so the British Army attached a smaller bomb to it and blew both up. This helped us to experience the violence of the conflict.

Crispin, Paul. Top Of The Shops. 1986,
cain.ulst.ac.uk/crispin/photos/Top_Of_The_Shops.htm.  
This is a photograph of two British soldiers with guns pointed on a roof. This was just one year after the Anglo-Irish agreement, which showed how that agreement failed and how much violence still continued. This helped us to understand how intractable the conflict was, and the size of the military presence.

Cooper, Samuel. His Highest Oliver Cromwell. 1656.  
This is a painting of Oliver Cromwell. We showed it in our documentary when explaining British control, because Cromwell was a military leader who conquered Ireland and abused the rights of Catholic in the 1600s.

This photo is from Bloody Sunday, 1972, showing the British Army rounding up Catholics. At Bloody Sunday, the British Army killed 13 civil rights marchers. This was what started the whole violent conflict, because after events such as bloody Sunday Catholics retaliated, and then Protestants, and back and forth until 500 people were killed that year alone.
“Father-of-Six Bernard McGuigan Was Shot in the Head as Attempted to Help a Dying Man. In the Background Lies the Body of 17 Year-Old Hugh Gilmour.” Museum of Free Derry, Museum of Free Derry, Glenfada Park, Northern Ireland, <http://www.museumoffreederry.org/content/glenfada-park>. This is a photograph of a man killed on the street with blood all around him, and another dead man in the background. We used this photo in "The Troubles" section of our documentary, and it helped us to visualize how violent the conflict really was.

“Free Derry Mural.” Museum of Free Derry, Museum of Free Derry, Glenfada Park, Northern Ireland, <www.museumoffreederry.org/content/free-derry. >. This is the very famous Catholic “Free Derry” mural. It was the first mural in Northern Ireland, paving the way for thousands more murals, that said “Welcome to Free Derry.” Derry is the largest Catholic majority city in all of Northern Ireland, and is where the first and most of the rest of the civil rights marches took place. This mural and the explanation of the mural helped us to understand the conflict.

“Hunger striker Bobby Sands coffin, flanked by an IRA colour party, leaving his mother's home in Twinbrook.” Belfast Telegraph Archives, 1981, <www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/archive/in-pictures-northern-ireland-conflict-photos-34419851.html>. This is a photograph of Bobby Sands’ coffin being carried through the streets. Bobby Sands was the first and by far the most well-known hunger striker. He died after 66 days, in 1981. He went on hunger strike after being taken as prisoner of war instead of a political prisoner, with no evidence of being connected to the bombing of which he was convicted. This photo was used in the documentary because it made a big impact on us. It helped to demonstrate another type of violence and death.

This is a photograph of British soldiers detaining John Hume. John Hume was the leader of the biggest Catholic political party, the SDLP (Social Democratic Labour Party). He led many civil rights marches during this time, and this photograph helped to explain how Catholics were discriminated against by the British army and the police. This also helped us to visualize the conflict.


This is the site where we found the photograph of Lawrence McManus, whom we interviewed. Lawrence McManus had run for public office and we used his campaign photo in the documentary.


This is a photograph of a Protestant mural in Northern Ireland. The mural said “You are now entering Loyalist Sandy Row, heartland of the south Belfast Ulster Freedom Fighters.” This mural showed how typical violence and violent images are, and showed segregation and separated communities. This mural was painted over recently, and replaced with a mural of King William, which is not as violent, but is still very sectarianist. This helped to show how the conflict is still not over.
Melaugh, Martin. Government Referendum Poster, Belfast. 1998, <http://cain.ulst.ac.uk/images/photos/referendum/referendum1.htm>. This is a photograph of a government poster reminding people of the upcoming referendum. The government wanted to get a real understanding of what the people wanted, so they wanted many people to vote, not just the extremists who wanted to make a difference. This helped us to understand how propaganda influenced the course of conflict and of compromise in Northern Ireland.

Melaugh, Martin. Referendum 'Yes' Campaign Poster, Belfast. 1998, <http://cain.ulst.ac.uk/images/photos/referendum/referendum2.htm>. This is a photograph of a large poster on a truck reminding people of the referendum, and urging them to vote yes. There were many people who merely wanted the violence to end, and this helped us to understand how propaganda influenced the course of conflict and of compromise in Northern Ireland.

Melaugh, Martin. “Peace Line (1).” Peace Wall (1), 2000, cain.ulst.ac.uk/images/photos/belfast/peaceline/peaceline1.htm. This is a photograph of a Peace Wall, which stands in the middle of Belfast. There are almost 100 peace walls or peace lines in Belfast. This photograph helps us to visualize how deep divisions still exist, including divisions between segregated communities, which are a form of conflict in themselves. This photograph was used in the documentary when explaining the peace wall and segregation.

Peress, Gilles. “Paddy Walsh Tries to Crawl Out, Under Fire, to Help the Dying Paddy Doherty.” Museum of Free Derry, Museum of Free Derry, Glenfada Park, Northern Ireland, <http://www.museumoffreederry.org/content/glenfada-park>. This is another photo of a man, hunched down, attempting to help a dying man on Bloody Sunday 1972. This photograph helped us to visualize how violent the conflict was.

“People's Democracy group organised a four-day march from Belfast to Londonderry, starting on 1/1/69. The most serious incident was near Burntollet Bridge in County Londonderry, when marchers were ambushed by some 200 loyalists.” In Pictures: Northern Ireland Conflict [Photos], Belfast Telegraph, Belfast Northern Ireland, 1969, www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/archive/in-pictures-northern-ireland-conflict-photos-34419851.html. This is picture of a man in civil rights marches being beaten by the Protestants. It helped us to visualize the conflict, and understand what happened during the civil rights marches. It also helped us to develop our historical context section of our documentary.

“Poster Announcing the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association March Planned for 5 October 1968 in Derry. (NICRA).” Museum of Free Derry, Museum of Free Derry, Glenfada Park, Northern Ireland, <www.museumoffreederry.org/content/first-
This is the poster announcing the October 5th, 1968 civil rights march held in Derry. This helped us to understand how civil rights marches were held, how the conflict was started, and how propaganda affected the conflict. This poster was used in the historical context section of our documentary.

“The Sinn Fein Leader Was One of the Pallbearers Who Carried the Coffin of IRA Hunger Striker Bobby Sands in 1981. He Has Always Insisted He Is Proud of His Association with the IRA but Always Denied Being a Member. How Gerry Adams Has Been a Central Figure in the Republican Cause for Nearly 50 Years Despite Continual Denials That He Is a Member of the IRA,” Daily Mail, 19 May 2015, www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3088421/How-Gerry-Adams-central-figure-Republican-cause-nearly-50-years-despite-continual-denials-member-IRA.html. This is a photograph of Gerry Adams, the leader of Sinn Fein, who participated in the talks, carrying the coffin of Bobby Sands in 1981, the first and most famous hunger striker. This striking image was used in the documentary.

“Unemployment Poster.” Museum of Free Derry, Museum of Free Derry, Glenfada Park, Northern Ireland, <www.museumoffreederry.org/content/unemployment>. We used this poster in our documentary. It showed feelings of discrimination, unemployment, degradation, and misery, referring to the way Catholics were discriminated against by the Protestants in Northern Ireland. This helped to show us the state of Northern Ireland and showed why Catholics held civil rights marches. It also helped us to understand how the conflict started.
Documents

Darby, John. “Intimidation and the Control of Conflict in Northern Ireland' by John Darby.” CAIN: John Darby (1986) Intimidation and the Control of Conflict in Northern Ireland, <www.cain.ulst.ac.uk/issues/violence/darby.htm>. This is a website that is the exact text of a book. The book is about how the government and paramilitary organizations controlled people before and during "The Troubles". This book was most helpful because it discussed how the conflict started, the major players, and what happened before "The Troubles.” It also included a quote that helped us to understand the Home Rule struggle, or the Catholic fight for independence: “‘The Home Rule struggle is a struggle between two nations, the Protestants and the Roman Catholics, or as, to avoid the semblance of ministering to religious bigotry, they had better be called, the Unionist and the Nationalist.’ (Moneypenny 1912).”

McKenna, Fionnuala. “Anglo-Irish Agreement - Document.” CAIN: Events: Anglo-Irish Agreement - Document, <cain.ulst.ac.uk/events/aia/aiadoc.htm>. This is a website that had the text of the original Anglo-Irish Agreement. This was one of the earlier compromises made by the British and Irish governments to attempt to end the conflict. This agreement was missing some of the principles used in the Good Friday Agreement, including the consent principle. This helped us to form our argument about how and why the Good Friday agreement was successful, and helped us to understand historical context of "The Troubles.”

This site from CAIN included tables of RUC records for the number of people killed or injured, categorized into civilian, British Army, Police, and paramilitary members. It only reflected the people killed in Northern Ireland (because it was the Royal Ulster Constabulary records) and not those killed or injured in Great Britain or Ireland. It also included the number of bombings and shootings; 16,000 bombings and 36,000 shootings, and the number of army personnel stationed in Northern Ireland every year. These statistics helped us to see how large the conflict was, and this is where we found our numbers for the statistics and graph used in the conclusion of the documentary.

“POBLACHT NA HÉIREANN.” An Phoblacht, www.anphoblacht.com/contents/22881. This is a copy of the Proclamation of the Irish Republic for Provisional Government of Irish Republic document. This document was shown in the documentary during the historical context section, colored over by the green, white, and orange flag of the Republic of Ireland. It announced the independence of Ireland, and included details of what the new government would do. This graphic was used to demonstrate the Independence of the Republic of Ireland with the actual Proclamation, and the flag.

Videos & News Broadcasts


This is a five-minute long television news clip that was loaned to us from Vanderbilt Television Archives. This broadcast is the day of Bloody Friday, where the IRA (after Bloody Sunday) set off a series of 20 bombs in one and a half hours in Belfast in retaliation to Bloody Sunday. This helped us to understand how violent the conflict was, and the course of conflict during "The Troubles". We used about ten seconds of this clip in the historical context section of the documentary, right after the Bloody Sunday clip.


This is a five-minute long television news clip loaned to us by Vanderbilt Television Archives. This broadcast is the day after Bloody Sunday, where the British army killed 13 Catholic civil rights marchers. This helped us to see the event of Bloody Sunday as it was actually reported in the U.S. at the time, and how it brought “The Troubles” to a whole new level. This video also showed how the IRA vowed to avenge the 13 deaths, and how some IRA bombings had already been conducted. We used about ten seconds of this clip in the historical context section of the documentary.


This is a website that included an opinion piece from a TV broadcaster in 1973. It was from a Catholic viewpoint, explaining how the British are an intolerable presence in Catholic neighborhoods. This helped us to understand how Catholics didn’t like the
British military presence and also helped us to understand why the conflict was started and how the conflict continued. It also included footage that showed the amount of violence in Northern Ireland during "The Troubles".

This is a website with a video that explained the end of Operation Banner, the longest deployment of troops in British military history. It provided a brief history of the British Army in Northern Ireland, and explained how the Good Friday Agreement paved the way for the end of Operation Banner. It also explained how even though divisions still occur, there is no need for an army to fight violence anymore. This helped us to understand the role of the British Army and of the Good Friday Agreement.

This radio broadcast explained the outcome of the referendum. It also explained the importance of the Good Friday Agreement and the fact that such a huge majority were in favor of it. This helped us to understand the Good Friday Agreement’s success and the referendum.

This is a five minute long television news clip loaned to us by Vanderbilt Television Archives. This included Peter Jennings, the reporter, at the beginning, announcing that the Northern Ireland peace deal was “one of those events in the category of things we thought we might never see”, and comparing that to when the Berlin wall came down, as
well as many other significant events in history. Footage from this clip was used in our documentary, including a clip where George Mitchell himself said “There is not a history here of compromise; it is only one of conflict.” This newscast demonstrated that the Agreement was the most miraculous compromise in modern history. We also found this clip at the Bowdoin archives, but because it was on a low quality television from a VCR, we were unable to use it in our documentary.

This is a five minute long television news clip loaned to us by Vanderbilt Television Archives. This broadcast is the day of the Northern Ireland referendum in May 1998 for the Good Friday Agreement. It showed how the population, with huge approval, had accepted the agreement, with a 71 percent ‘yes’ vote in the North and 94 percent ‘yes’ in the Republic of Ireland. This helped us to see how the Good Friday Agreement had to be accepted by the people, which clearly supported ending violence. This clip also explained that the violence was still not over yet. It showed Crossmaglen base, and explained how it would not be taken down anytime soon. It was taken down less than a decade later. We used two clips from this in our documentary, a clip announcing the referendum results in Belfast, and footage of Crossmaglen base.

This is a newspaper with a video of a civil rights march being attacked by Protestants. This is one of the few marches where the police were on the side of the Catholics, and protected them. This helped us to understand why the conflict started, and helped us to
develop our historical context section. This is also the source where we got some of civil rights demonstration footage for the documentary.
Newspapers and Journal Articles


TimesMachine,

https://timesmachine.nytimes.com/timesmachine/1973/05/19/79856240.html?action=click&contentCollection=Archives&amp;module=LedeAsset&amp;region=ArchiveBody&amp;pgtype=article

This is a newspaper article explaining multiple events of violence throughout Northern Ireland. The article reported on a bombing and three shootings where eight were killed. It helped us to understand the conflict, and we used the headline in our documentary, when explaining the violence of “The Troubles,” which was important news even in the United States.


This article expresses the success of the negotiators on the Good Friday Agreement agreement and shows how the negotiators finally came together to make the agreement. It explained, in detail, the different components of the agreement and how the agreement was more likely to bring peace than former agreements. We used this newspaper article in our documentary to show the Good Friday Agreement.


This is a journal article from 1996 about the peace process and Mitchell’s role. It provided a brief history of Northern Ireland’s conflict and of the peace process, including how Mitchell became involved. This article, written before the agreement, explained might be happening in the future, and how Mitchell was crucial. This helped
us to develop the section of our documentary on Mitchell’s importance.


This journal article from Divided Society discusses the recent results from the 1998 referendum. This referendum was outlined by the Good Friday agreement, in which the people needed to vote for or against implementation of the agreement. This helped us to understand the results of the poll in very detailed terms, and the reaction to the results of the polls.


This is a current news article about the Good Friday Agreement, its use now, and Brexit. Because two thirds of the article were quotes from a speech by Mitchell, I consider this article a primary source. George Mitchell explained in his speech how brexit might cause issues with the border between Ireland and Northern Ireland, and how Brexit might disrupt the economy, which might excite violence again. This helped us because it helped us to see how the Good Friday Agreement it still in use today, and how peace in Northern Ireland is here now, but not forever depending on different issues, such as Brexit.

This is a newspaper article explaining Bloody Sunday in 1972. Bloody Sunday is when British soldiers killed 13 in a civil rights march in Derry. This helped us to understand the course of conflict in Northern Ireland and to understand Bloody Sunday, and we used a headline of this in the documentary. It also helped us to understand how this news was not just in Northern Ireland, but around the world, including in America.


This article discussed one of the key components of the agreement, the release of prisoners. This was the second release of prisoners, just one month after the agreement. This release was a preview of what people could have if they voted for the agreement. Even though only a dozen were released, as opposed to 80 or 100 at a time in future releases, this was the most famous release. This helped us to understand the compromise and what seemed backwards—how releasing prisoners helped end violence. It helped people feel like they didn’t have to keep fighting for something, and that it was good to put terrorism in the past and begin new lives.


This article discussed how the new Mitchell Agreement, if accepted and carried out willingly by the people, had the ability for peace. This was helpful because it showed how the people played a large role in obtaining peace. We used this headline in the documentary to show that the agreement was at the time often called the Mitchell Agreement.

This is another of many newspaper articles explaining incidences of violence. We used this headline along with others to show a constant stream of violence, even reported in U.S. newspapers when explaining the violence of "The Troubles."


This is an article about one of the key, and most controversial, components of the agreement, the release of prisoners. This was the first release of prisoners, just five days after the agreement. This was kind of a token and a teaser of what people could have if they voted for the agreement. Even though only nine were released, as opposed to the large numbers such as 80 or 100 in future releases, this was the first and most famous release, in many newspapers. This helped us to understand the compromise and what seemed counterintuitive, how releasing prisoners helped end violence. It let people feel like they could work for peace. This headline was used in our documentary.


This newspaper article described how George Mitchell was picked to head negotiations. It was helpful because it explained what his role and goal would be. We also used the headline in our documentary.

This is a newspaper article explaining a bombing a day before in Belfast. It helped us to understand the conflict, and we used the headline in our documentary, when explaining the violence of "The Troubles".


This newspaper described how violence followed the release by the British Army of a 12 year old girl who had been held and seemingly kidnapped. It was another of many many news articles about violence during the conflict, and we used the headline in our documentary, when explaining the violence of "The Troubles".


This article described how the deadline for the agreement was coming up. This was published two days before the deadline, but the parties went over by a day so three days before the actual agreement. This article also explained what George Mitchell was doing during this time in process. It explained how he was mediating between the two parties, but also attempting to force the parties to cooperate and reach a compromise. This
helped us to understand the process and Mitchell’s role.


This article discussed how Mitchell thought it still possible to achieve the deadline. This talked about the current stage in the process, and how Mitchell still thought that the groups could compromise. This article helped us to understand the process and Mitchell’s role.


This article described how the parties had agreed to work on a draft document two days before the deadline. This was a major step in the process, when both sides had thought that the same document was available to look at and revise, meaning it had the possibility to be acceptable to both sides, which had not compromised in years. This helped us to understand the process, and Mitchell’s role, along with how much of a big achievement a compromise was.


This is a newspaper article about how, after the Good Friday Agreement, Unionists would vote down the Good Friday agreement in the referendum which was to be held in
May 1998. It explained why Unionists didn’t like the agreement, mostly because it gave Dublin some say in what was happening in Northern Ireland. This helped us to see how the Good Friday agreement wasn’t fully perfect, and why some opposed it, and the possibility of its not being passed if the ‘no campaign’ had succeeded in the referendum.


This article described how the deadline for the agreement might not be reached, noting that there were still deep divisions between the parties, and explained how Sinn Fein and the UUP had still not talked with each other. This helped us to see the depth of the conflict and learn about the process for the compromise. It supported part of the documentary that said that after months of not speaking to each other, the groups would be going into government together.


This newspaper article explained the history of the penal laws. This helped us to understand why the conflict started and historical context, especially since the original source is so old.

This newspaper article from 1996 discussed the Mitchell Principles: What they are, how they came to be, and how they were necessary for the process to continue. This helped us to develop our sections of the documentary on the Mitchell Principles and how George Mitchell was crucial to the process. We also used this photo when describing why the Mitchell principles were important in our Documentary.


This is a newspaper article about the Good Friday Agreement. The title is a religious reference. For both Protestants and Catholics, Good Friday commemorates the day when Jesus was crucified. Calvary was the mountain Jesus climbed on which he was crucified, carrying the cross, so the “North’s Calvary” is meant to mean the “North’s suffering.” This title shows how religious the people were, and the significance of the agreement being signed on a holy day. This article was spread throughout the first 13 pages of the newspaper. This article was the first photograph we used in our documentary, and it helped us to show the public reaction to the compromise on the actual day of the Agreement.


This is an article, published the day before the deadline, that explained the current progress of the talks and explained that most likely, the parties would not succeed in their deadline. The deadline was actually exceeded by one day. This helped us to understand the process, and helped us to see how hard the parties worked to bring about
a compromise that would satisfy both sides. This was used in our documentary to show how George Mitchell’s deadline made an impact upon the parties, and forced them to finally come to a compromise.

Harkin, Greg, and Liam O’Neill. “Deadline Looms as Leaders Work to Rescue Peace Talks.” *The Examiner*, 9 Apr. 1998, p. 1. *Irish Newspaper Archive*, archive.irishnewsarchive.com/Olive/APA/INA/Default.aspx#panel=document. This article reported on how the parties were still working on the compromise, even up to the last minute. When this article was published, it was the day of the deadline. The agreement actually pushed one day over the deadline. This helped us to understand the pressure and effect that the deadline had on the process, and helped us to see how hard the parties worked to bring about a compromise that would satisfy both sides. This was used in our documentary to show how George Mitchell’s deadline made an impact upon the parties, and forced them to finally come to a compromise.

Harkin, Greg. “Talks on Brink of Collapse as Unionists Reject Mitchell Paper.” *The Examiner*, 8 Apr. 1998, p. 1. *Irish Newspaper Archive*, archive.irishnewsarchive.com/Olive/APA/INA/sharedpages/SharedView.Page.aspx?sk=0B1E50AF&href=EHD%2F1998%2F04%2F08&page=1 This article describe how the Unionists, in the last week before the Good Friday Agreement, rejected Mitchell’s draft agreement, thinking that it favored the Catholics. This helped us to understand how close the process came to failing, and how Mitchell was very involved and skilled at creating a compromise that was finally accepted by both sides.

This article described how important the potential of the peace deal was to the people. It explained how the agreement had the ability to end violence, which helped us to develop our argument.

“HISTORIC AGREEMENT MARKS NEW BEGINNING FOR US ALL.” Irish Times, 11 Apr. 1998, p. 1, <cain.ulst.ac.uk/events/peace/headline.htm>. This is a newspaper article used in the documentary explaining how the Good Friday Agreement was a new historic deal, unlike other deals before. It also included some quotes from Mitchell, which helped us to understand his role and the process from his point of view.

Hoge, Warren. “After 3 Violent Decades, Hope in Northern Ireland.” New York Times, 4 Sept. 1998, p. 8. The New York Times, <timesmachine.nytimes.com/timesmachine/1998/09/04/688436.html?pageNumber=8>. This is a New York Times article discussing how, at the end of “The Troubles,” the author thought the peace agreement would bring peace to Northern Ireland. This helped us to see how the people, even in America, thought that the agreement would successfully bring peace, and also explained how the agreement would bring peace through its different components.

“Irish Parliament House of Commons Catholic Bill.” Belfast Newsletter, 8 May 1795, p. 1. Irish Newspaper Archive, archive.irishnewsarchive.com/Olive/APA/INA/Default.aspx#panel=document. This is by far the oldest primary source we found. This was another Penal Law that was
enacted recently (in 1795). It helped us to see why there were grudges and assisted in the development of historical context section of our documentary.

This poem was published in the newspaper about the Penal Laws. It explained how Mass had to happen outdoors on a rock, and that there was no church or many of the other things common at Mass, such as incense or a server. It is a very beautiful poem. This helped us to see how the Penal laws took away the rights of Catholics and helped us to understand historical context, especially since it was published in 1882.

This is an article about the Good Friday Agreement. It began by explaining the last day, then went on to describe the Good Friday Agreement itself and the different people involved, including Mitchell. This headline was used in the documentary when the Good Friday agreement is being described.

Mitchell Sticks by Principles - Despite Criticism the Talks Chairman Won't Waver from His Task.” *The Examiner, 8 Apr. 1996, pp. 6–6. Irish Newspaper Archives.*
This is an article about how George Mitchell initially wouldn’t allow Sinn Fein into the talks, because the IRA had broken their ceasefire. This helped us to see how the Mitchell Principles worked, and showed their importance in the process in bringing the parties together, democratically. This headline was also used the documentary when the Mitchell Principles are being explained.
This article reports on how George Mitchell was enforcing a deadline upon the parties, which would make them finally come to a compromise. This helped us to understand how the deadline was very important to the process, and how Mitchell was going to enforce it.

This article described how both sides (during the process, and after) wanted exactly what they wanted, and were not always sure it was a compromise that they could accept. This was helpful because it assisted in balancing our research and showed how some people did not want to compromise to get the agreement.

This article discussed how the British and Irish Prime Ministers worked with each other near the end to come up with a compromise that both could agree to. This helped us to understand the process and how hard the parties labored until the compromise was reached.
This is a current news article about the Good Friday Agreement, its use now, and Brexit. Because two thirds of the article included quotes from a speech by Mitchell, this article can be considered a primary source. George Mitchell discussed how he was thinking that the agreement needed to be rethinked with Brexit and the issues now. This article was helpful because it helped us see the use of the Good Friday Agreement, and because it helped us to see how issues today are affecting an agreement that was made 20 years ago.


This article described how the Good Friday agreement gave the chance for peace, if the people agreed to it and helped in the effort to peace. This article also explained the Good Friday Agreement, which helped us to understand the specific details of the agreement and develop our argument about how the agreement ended violence.

“Ulster Catholics and Partition.” *Irish Independent*, 13 Mar. 1920,


This article from 1920 discussed the time about the partition of Ireland that was coming in 1921. It described what would happen to the Catholics in Northern Ireland if partition happened. What it predicted was almost exactly true. It predicted that because there were more Protestants there, they would continue to rule over the Catholics.
Arbuthnot, Felicity. "Don't Forget the Blessed Peacemakers."

This article explains how grateful the people are for what George Mitchell and the other political leaders accomplished. It explained how this kind of success in peace in Northern Ireland had never been achieved before, and how important it was the peace was now made.

Balls, Richard. "Sinn Fein Urges Blair to Raise to the Challenge of 'Minimalist' UUP."

This newspaper article discussed a speech given by Gerry Adams urging the British government to stand up to the unionists. At this time in the peace process, eight days before the Good Friday Agreement, the unionists were opposing the compromise drafted by Mitchell, and the Catholic parties, such as Sinn Fein headed by Gerry Adams, wanted the government to help the unionist parties to agree to a compromise.

Bane, Nathaniel. "Union Fury at Death Threats." Belfast Telegraph 8 Apr. 1998:

This article explains the death threats made by the IRA against protestants leaders for forcing their ideas on the nationalist parties. The unionists used these death threats as a way to make the Catholics seem like they were attempting to use force to alter negotiations. This shows how much the people on both sides were very passionate and dedicated, in violent ways, to the terms they wanted.

This newspaper article explained the new opening up of borders in Ireland. The Good Friday agreement let borders be crossed without passports, along with the ability to have dual British and Irish citizenship for those in Northern Ireland. This article explained the possibility that opening up borders without checkpoints may make violent people have easier ways to escape Northern Ireland, and may make the conflict worse. Opening up borders actually did the complete opposite through time, it encouraged trade and helped the Irish and Northern Irish feel more connected and less like a fully separate country.


This article was written by Tony Blair, who at the time was Prime Minister. He wrote the day before the referendum for the agreement in Northern Ireland, and his goal was to give the compromise his full support, explaining how much of a better and less violent future it could bring to the people of Northern Ireland. This article also showed how the political leaders stuck their necks out and tried very hard to bring peace to Northern Ireland.


This article was written by Tony Blair, the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, shortly after the Good Friday Agreement was accepted by the parties. This article was important because it explained the full support of the prime minister and because he explained how important it was to accept the compromise and bring Northern Ireland out of conflict. The idea that the prime minister of the United Kingdom, one of the most important unionists, helped the unionist population to accept the idea of a good agreement, and to vote for it in the referendum the next month.

This article describes the success of the negotiators on the Good Friday Agreement agreement and shows how the negotiators finally came together to make the agreement. It explained, in detail, the different components of the agreement and how the agreement was more likely to bring peace than former agreements. We used this newspaper article in our documentary to show reactions to the Good Friday Agreement.


This is an article about how the British government planned to release more IRA prisoners. They had just released nine, as a sort of teaser about what the agreement would give people. Release of prisoners was a very important factor in why the Good Friday Agreement worked. It is one component that helped bring peace and reconciliation to both Protestants and Catholics.


This article explained how to counter the DUP and UKUP, the unionist parties who had quit the talks and were strongly against the compromise, the Alliance party, a neutral party, would be pushing for the agreement to be accepted by the people. The campaign was launched with wide success, with many people sending letters and showing up. This showed how even though some opposed the compromise, what was right for the people prevailed.

**Bradley, Una. "DUP 'whipping up Unionists Anxiety'." The Irish Times [Dublin] : George J. Mitchell Papers Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print.**
This article discussed the “No” campaign launched by the DUP, headed by Ian Paisley, against the passing of the Good Friday Agreement. The article also included some information on the counter campaign led by other major parties, including the Alliance party led by Lord Alderdice. This article explained how the parties fought hard to bring peace to Northern Ireland, even when some tried to remain in their violent ways and were unwilling to compromise.

Bradley, Una. "RUC Upheld Democracy." *Irish News*, 17 Apr. 1998: George J. Mitchell Papers Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print. This article praises the RUC for upholding democracy throughout “The Troubles” and being the “best anti-terrorist group in the world.” The RUC, or the Royal Ulster Constabulary, was the Northern Ireland police force, made of mostly Protestants. They had worked throughout “The Troubles” to bring peace and lost hundreds of members, although at the beginning of it all, it was the violence of the British army and of the RUC that sparked the whole conflict. It expressed the need for morale to not be weakened after the agreement, as Ireland expected more conflict in the future before peace would ever come. It showed us the respect many unionists gave the RUC and belief that the conflict could never truly be solved.

Bradley, Una. "Unionists Ask Clinton to Delay Visit." *The Irish News* [Belfast], 15 Apr. 1998: George J. Mitchell Papers Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print. This article was published on the day after the first and most famous prisoner release of nine IRA terrorists. Unionists greatly opposed prisoner release, and didn’t want to support the Agreement, or the work of Mitchell and Clinton, because of it. This helped us to see how some groups were unwilling to make compromises, and how some people opposed the agreement based on only one component.

This article discussed the arguments between the two major and opposing unionists parties the UUP and DUP. The DUP argued that the compromise favored Catholics and opposed it, whereas the UUP accepted it as a fair compromise. It showed us how even though parties and people wanted the same things for Northern Ireland, unwillingness to compromise caused many issues in the peace process. This article, published the day before the referendum, at the height of these two campaigns, explained how there was no reason to be sure that the compromise would be favored by the people.


This article was published at the start of the “Yes” “No” campaign battle. The DUP had opposed the Good Friday Agreement and the negotiations from the very start, even quitting when Sinn Fein Entered. Alliance, a neutral party that had been working for peace since its founding, launched a “Yes” campaign to counteract the DUP’s “No” campaign.


This article explains the “No” campaign begun by the DUP. It explained how the main argument of the campaign was that the Good Friday Agreement was a collusion between Trimble and Adams. It helped us understand the strong feelings on the agreement and how they ended up shaping the conflict over the referendum.
This article showed the confidence of Ulster Unionists that the agreement would be voted down. This demonstrated that in the confusion after the agreement, there were conflicting opinions and many opinions were exaggerated to make political points, since the assertion was not even remotely true.

This article showed us an overview of the entire Troubles in light of the passing of the referendum. It walked readers through the previous agreements, why and how they failed, and provided information on the deaths and conflict. It then reviewed the negotiations culminating in the Good Friday Agreement and the weeks leading up to the referendum.

This article explains how a monument to those who had died during “The Troubles” actually sparked more violent, due to the fact that people had seed how much death was caused, but instead of attempting to resolve the conflict, paramilitary groups wanted revenge. It was advised that the monument was to be erected after the true end of the conflict. This shows how the people were taking the route of violence to end conflict, instead of the route of peace and democracy.

This article discussed the opposition Trimble faced after the Good Friday Agreement had
been accepted. Trimble was the leader of the biggest unionist party, the UUP, and had been willing to compromise to form an agreement. Trimble then faced huge opposition and anger from other anti-agreement unionists. This helped us to see how important it was that the leaders were willing to sacrifice their reputation to end the conflict.

This article explains how a bomb plot that was discovered almost removed Adams from the talks. The plot was by the IRA, the catholic paramilitary tied to Adams’ party. It also explained how this had violated the Mitchell principles, and how there was reason to remove from the negotiations, and what a miracle it was that the process succeeded through all of the turmoil. It also described how the unionists would leap at any excuse to kick Adams out and helped us understand the tension and hate during the process.

This letter, published in the news, praises David Trimble for being willing to negotiate and bring about peace. It showed how his contributions were very indispensable to the formation of the compromise. This helped us understand the respect given to those willing to compromise in order to end the conflict.

This article explains the Alliance parties’ fears over the agreement not passing. They viewed the deal as one of the closest chances for peace yet, and warned that if the deal was rejected, Northern Ireland would break its ceasefires and go back to its violent ways. This helped us to understand what Northern Ireland would have continued to be
like, maybe even until today.


This article explained how the anti-terrorist group FAIT backed the agreement, calling it "the best chance at peace in a generation" despite being weary of the release of terrorist prisoners. It showed us many different groups would be willing to support the compromise, despite some of its drawbacks, because it offered an end to the conflict.


This article showed that even a few weeks before the agreement was reached, there continuing violence. Two RUC officers were killed walking through the streets a month before the publishing of the article, and how the gang did not seek peace, but only success in their violence. This helped us to envision the strength and depth of the conflict, and appreciate the success of Mitchell in reaching the compromise to end such a hateful conflict.


This article was about an IRA gang killing loyalists as they walked through the area it patrolled. It also described one of the victim's brothers, who asked the RUC and Army do something about the gang’s area. This described how the conflict really touched the people themselves.

This is a newspaper article explaining police reform. It discussed how the police had had habits of being biased towards the Catholics, and that it might be hard for them to change the way they worked. It also included graphs of polls on whether people (based on Catholic and Protestant) wanted the police reform, and what kind of reform. This helped us to understand how the police were eventually performed, the importance of police reform, and how even in smaller matters, such as police reform, protestants and Catholics had to compromise to make it work.

Cleary, Catherine. “Released IRA Prisoners Pledge Total Support for SF Leadership.” 

This article described how the prisoners released the day before wanted to pledge their support for Sinn Fein, but also for the agreement itself. It also included some quotes from the prisoners, which state that release of prisoners is an inevitable ingredient if there is to be “a lasting and truly political resolution and lasting peace.”


This editorial shows another example of all the ways the referendum could fail. In particular, this author expressed the opinion that Unionists would never vote for it and even if it did pass, they would bring it down with time. It also acknowledged that the agreement did not solve everything, but was only a stepping stone for more compromises and negotiations to come. This helped us see what the real purpose of the Good Friday Agreement was and understand its strengths and weaknesses.

This article, from a unionist point of view, greatly opposed the agreement, and argued that Trimble had sold out on Northern Ireland for a better political position. This helped us to understand some of the opposing viewpoints to the compromise.

This article showed how the unionists disapproved of the poll systems because they favored the nationalist side. They thought the poll results would slew the voting during the referendum. This showed us how people on both sides would use anything to make a statement and an argument.

This article was published just over two weeks before the Good Friday Agreement was passed, the peak of the tension in the talks. This article discussed the immense political sacrifices that leaders in the party were taking in order to compromise, and showed us the vulnerability the party leaders were putting themselves through in order to make peace.

This article was the first publication of a recent poll showing that 77% of the population would probably vote “Yes” in the referendum. It also explained how almost all of the Catholics said yes, and about half of the protestant. This article helped us to understand who said yes (mostly Catholics) and why they said yes or know, and to understand the how the referendum was essential to the Good Friday Agreement.

This article was the first publication of this first poll showing that over 70% of the population would probably vote “Yes” in the referendum. It also explained how almost all of the Catholics said yes, and about half of the Protestant. This article helped us to understand who said yes (mostly Catholics) and why they said yes or no, and to understand the how the referendum was essential to the Good Friday Agreement.


This article showed how some citizens were frustrated with the delay in receiving their copy of the Belfast agreement. The agreement itself was sent to every household in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland for the people to review before the referendum. This article helped us to understand how the people were involved and very important in choosing what would happen to Northern Ireland.


This article explained the moral importance of the Good Friday Agreement. The Good Friday Agreement had a strong chance to end the violence, and even though some components couldn’t favor both sides at once, it was morally right to vote for it because it would save people’s lives, which it did. This article helped us to understand why the people voted for the compromise and how important the agreement was for the people of Northern Ireland.

This is a newspaper about how the majority of unionists opposed the agreement, especially prisoner release, and argued that their Unionists leader, Tony Blair, the Prime Minister, had sold out on them. This helped us to see how this was a real compromise, and even though both sides had components, some were unwilling to compromise, and how important it was that leaders like Tony Blair tried to compromise.


This article, published in the last few weeks leading up to the Good Friday Agreement acceptance, discussed the rejection of a draft by one branch of unionist and the division within the unionists about whether to accept the compromise or not. This helped us to understand how even within parties, some people were willing to compromise and others weren’t, and how the ability to compromise was necessary if the agreement was ever to be reached.


This article detailed how Ahern had to leave negotiations to go to his mother’s burial in the Republic of Ireland. It gave us background information about the strain it was for the negotiators to keep the talks going amid living their lives, and the delays and setback events such as these caused.


This article discussed that, because David Trimble accepted the agreement, he faced
major opposition from the other unionists parties, and how Trimble may even lose his seat as a member of Parliament. This also helped us to understand how important and how hard it was for political leaders to come out and compromise.

"Even Deep-dyed Tory Unionists Must Hope North Deal Is Carried." The Irish Times, 16 Apr. 1998: George J. Mitchell Papers Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print. This article expressed the opinion that while Protestants opposed the agreement, they would never be able to get everything they want and this was their best chance. This helped us to understand the importance of compromise and how important the agreement was to end the conflict.

“Ex-Prisoners Call for Yes Vote in Polls” The Irish News, 21 May 1998, p. 1. George J. Mitchell Papers Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print. This is an article that described how some prisoners spoke out for a “yes” vote in the referendum the following day. They (of course) wanted to see others released as they had been freed. One prisoner had been given 600 years behind bars, but because of the Good Friday Agreement he was freed in less than a year. This helped us to understand one way in which the Good Friday agreement gained support, and helped us to understand the importance of prisoner release in bringing an end to the conflict.

Farell, Nevin. "Paisley Opens Campaign against Deal." The Irish Times, 16 Apr. 1998: George J. Mitchell Papers Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print. This article detailed how the DUP, led by Ian Paisley, exposed a split in Unionisms after launching has campaign. It explain how there were now unionists who supported the agreement, and then there were hardliner unionists who greatly opposed the agreement. This helped us to understand the viewpoints of those that opposed the compromise.

This article explained how Paisley rejected attending a series of meetings that would have worked out the final components of the agreement. Paisley quit negotiations because Sinn Fein, a Catholic party, joined the talks. These meetings would have been something that would have given Paisley another chance to compromise, which he rejected.


This article shows how Trimble took inspiration from the 73% poll in favor of “yes” and started campaigning for a massive yes vote. This helped us understand the support the agreement had behind it in Northern Ireland.


This editorial shows that while the agreement may have problems, it was the best shot Northern Ireland had for peace. It reflected the ideas of many citizens, as the agreement was passed by a huge majority, although people still disliked certain components. This showed us about how the people really did want peace for Northern Ireland, and were willing to compromise to attain it.


This article shows how Protestants blamed the Catholics for a riot that caused another outbreak of violence, as Catholics turns on a small group of unionists. This helped us to understand how every outbreak of violence was a major setback in the negotiations.

This article discusses how a bomb factory was discovered in a housing unit and the owner was charged with allowing his property to be used for terrorism. It helped us understand how passionate people were about violence and what they were fighting for, and understand how the conflict was close to home.


This article was from the day after the first and most famous release of prisoners. It explained how Dublin had followed what was outlined in the good Friday Agreement in release of prisoners, and why the prisoners were released before the referendum. They were released as a teaser of what Catholics could get back, and to win over the Catholics who felt that they gained nothing that they shouldn’t have had before through the agreement.


This editorial showed how the press was eager to pounce on any sign of success, but many at the time still opposed the agreement. The article explained how many were concerned about the fairness of the assembly and doubted the Catholics would decommission. This helped us to understand the role of the media in convincing people to vote for the agreement.


This article explains how after the referendum was merely political fighting between
Adams and Trimble, Catholic and Protestant. Trimble demanded Sinn Fein begin disarming before they would be allowed into the Assembly, and Adams refused. This helped us develop the idea that all is not perfect in Northern Ireland today, and to understand the role of the assembly itself.

This is an article about the first poll that was held the day after the agreement. The poll explained that 78% of voters would vote for the Agreement in the upcoming referendum. This was a huge majority, because in the past, the sides would vote opposite ways, and this showed that this was a real compromise that both sides could accept. In this, most people from each side had voted for the agreement, with only 20% voting against it.

This article discusses how the unionists opposed Clinton's visit as a way to retaliate for the first release of prisoners outlined by the Good Friday Agreement. They greatly opposed prisoner release, and blamed Mitchell and therefore Clinton for an unfair agreement. This helped us to understand opposition to the agreement, and to see how some were unwilling to compromise on certain issues.

This article explains how Trimble’s own party, the UUP, was split on the issue of the agreement, despite the being one of the only unionist parties still left in the talks. This showed how divisive some of the issues in the agreement were, despite Ireland eventually choosing the path of peace.

This article described what people wanted in the Good Friday Agreement, which came two days later. People, based on whether they were Catholic or Protestant, had different opinions on issues from prisoner treatment to border control. Nearly all of them, however, wanted a compromise to be reached and peace to come to Northern Ireland. This helped us to see how people were looking for peace, and did not want to continue the cycle of conflict.


This article shows how despite the release of prisoners, Freeny thought there would be no easy way to avoid the memories of prison and the anger against the other side, leading to eventual hostilities. This helped us to understand the impact of prisoner release and to understand its good and bad components.


This is a newspaper article about the first and most famous release of prisoners. It explained how the release was merely a teaser about what the agreement would give the people. Release of prisoners was a very important factor in why the Good Friday Agreement worked. It is one component that helped bring peace and reconciliation on its way.

This article urged people to get out and vote on the Good Friday Agreement, so that they would be able to have a hand in the most “important vote of Irish history.” It showed us that the people of Ireland understood the importance of the vote and how it would either spell an end to the conflict or delay peace even more.


This is one of the last drafts of the Good Friday Agreement, and was one of our most useful primary sources. Because not all the changes were documented in meeting minutes in the last few days, we compared this to the final version to see how the agreement was shaped to be a fair and strong compromise.

_“Good Friday Released Us All from Prison.” The Irish News, Apr. 1998. George J. Mitchell Papers Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print._

This is a group of letters published from people about their feelings after the agreement had been reached, about the community of Northern Ireland being relieved and released by the agreement. One letter stated, “**Let tribute be paid to that selfless and tireless American, Senator George Mitchell.**” This helped us to understand how the people cherished that George Mitchell brought peace to the community.


This article explains how those most involved with terrorism were happy that an agreement and peace was reached. It showed how they had seen and caused so much destruction and death that they really just wanted to have peace. This also helped us to understand how monumental and important it was that a compromise was brokered, especially after decades of failed attempts.

This article, published the night of the reaching of the Good Friday Agreement, outlined what the good Friday Agreement would do for the government, and how it would affect the people. It also described the referendum and the low probability of it being passed. This helped us to understand the terms of the compromise and to understand the importance of the passing of the referendum.


This article, published one day before the referendum, discussed a recent poll which showed that there would most likely be a yes vote in the referendum. It also explained who voted for what, which helped us to understand the support for the Good Friday Agreement.


This article explained the opposition of many unionists to the Good Friday Agreement and to David Trimble, who compromised in order to bring peace and agreed to the deal. This helped us to understand why there was opposition to compromise and how the compromise by leaders was fought against and sacrificial.


This newspaper article discussed how the people and political parties of Northern Ireland need to get past the fact that an agreement was made and start trying to get people to vote for it. This helped us to understand who supported the agreement and
why, and understand how people reacted to the Good Friday Agreement.

"History Hands It to Ulster's Men of Peace." Sunday Life : George J. Mitchell Papers
Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print.
This article explains the pressure that was felt by the negotiators, and how they had “the hand of history on them” and worked around the clock to get an agreement. It helped us understand the great importance of the work of these leaders, and also to understand how it was lack of these leaders, including George Mitchell, in former negotiations that prevented a successful agreement.

Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print.
This article explains the first poll results for the agreement, and the 73% yes vote. This article showed the support for the agreement, both by the press and the public. We used this headline in the documentary.

Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print.
This is an editorial by one who supported the agreement. Ian Paisley was the leader of the DUP unionist party who greatly opposed the agreement, and this author went through Paisley’s arguments against the compromise, showing how they were either crazy, false, or weren’t important enough to deter peace from coming to Northern Ireland. This helped us to understand the arguments of those who opposed the compromise and who supported it.

"IRA Has Failed in Bid to Destroy Northern Ireland." : George J. Mitchell Papers
Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print.
This published letter showed unionists were willing to accept the agreement, saying it was not a surrender to the IRA because the IRA's sole mission was to destroy Northern Ireland and make it a part of the Republic of Ireland. This helped us see the many different viewpoints on the agreement, and understand the goal of the conflict.


This is an article about the freeing of nine IRA prisoners, during the first and most famous release. This article also explained, briefly and clearly, what the plan was for prisoner release amounts over the next three years. Their goal was to release all prisoners by 2001, which was achieved. It was helpful to see what the plan was and how well it was carried out, along with learning about the importance of prisoner release.

"IRA Men Were Freed to Win Sinn Feín over.": *George J. Mitchell Papers Special Collections* - Bowdoin College. Print.

This article claims nine IRA prisoners were released to show Sinn Feín that the unionists would compromise, and to encourage them to support the agreement. It helped us see the steps taken by sides to ensure they would be honored in the agreement.


This is an article regarding a recent poll about the agreement. This was most helpful because it included graphs and charts about who was the most helpful, who would vote for it, and the chance for a lasting peace. Most people thought that there was a possibility of lasting peace, but not strong or poor. Very few people thought that the agreement had a very strong or very poor chance of bringing peace. The poll actually
showed that people would still vote for the agreement, but more than in this poll actually did vote it in the referendum. In fact, 94.4 percent of the Republic of Ireland voted for it. People thought George Mitchell was the third most helpful figure in the peace process, being beaten by Tony Blair, the British Prime minister who stuck his neck out to reach a compromise, and John Hume, the leader of the Catholic SDLP who got the peace process started.

**Judge, Threasa. "Trimble, Paisley Go Head to Head in Heated TV Debate."** *The Irish Times: George J. Mitchell Papers Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print.*

This article discussed the television debate between Trimble and Paisley on the agreement, and helped us to understand some of the viewpoints. It lead us to footage we later used in the documentary, and also helped us to see how some, even within parties, disagreed about nearly every issue.

**Keane, Fergal. ""United Ireland ... I Don't Give a Damn."** Editorial: *George J. Mitchell Papers Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print.*

This is one of the most interesting articles we have read yet. A man explained how he was Catholic, born in the Republic, but moved to Northern Ireland at age seven. He remembers the differences, and growing up in a school which taught them that the border was bad and that the British were an alien people. He then, as he grew up, saw how bad everyone, on both sides, were being. He said that the border did not make that much of a difference, and that people shouldn't act like it is so horrible. This helped us to see how not everyone wanted the exact same things.


This article gives support for the agreement, opposing the DUP’s claim that it “would
lead to a united Ireland before democracy could take hold.” This helped us to understand the arguments for and against the agreement, and how important it was for Northern Ireland that the agreement would be accepted.

This article shows how the local and international media was supporting Trimble and the Good Friday Agreement instead of the Democratic Union Party (DUP) and other opposition parties. This showed us how eager the media was to try and find good news after thirty years of conflict.

This unionist editorial support Ian Paisley and his fight against the agreement, the “No” campaign. It argued that accepting the compromise would be something that contradicted the heart of unionism, and that Trimbles’ agreement was a cave-in, and that he had “Lost the Light of Unionism. This article helped us to understand the different components of the compromise and who wanted them, and to understand the basic Unionist argument.

This is an article about the recent poll showed that three out of five would vote for the Good Friday Agreement in the upcoming referendum. It also explained who would back it, and why, which helped us to understand how it was a true compromise, that both sides didn't always agree with, but would accept because it gave each side most of what they wanted.

This article described two attempted bombings that were meant to damage the peace process. It described how some were against any compromise except one that would give their side everything they wanted, and described the fear that peace would never be made. This helped us to understand how the talks were always on the edge of collapse, and every instance of violence brought it closer.


This article discussed how the various branches of the IRA were working to ruin the peace process, and to embarrass Gerry Adams, the leader of Sinn Fein. This told us many different factions of both parties were opposed to compromise and the negotiations, but time would show an overwhelming majority would support the agreement.


This newspaper story described Paisley's religious missions to Cameroon and a film being made about them. Paisley had been going to Cameroon for missions for the past 12 years, and the citizens there called him the "great man of God." This helped us to see how the other lives of political leaders.

This article explains how John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic Loyalist Party, would gain a majority in the first assembly election, because of his integral role in the peace process. It showed us more information on the politics of Northern Ireland and helped us understand the political dividends the negotiators received, while many also received harsh opposition for compromising.

This article explained how George Mitchell was instrumental in the formation of the compromise. It explained how his Senate background was a key factor, as well as his personal qualities such as patience and listening. It thanked him for a job well done, and showed how he made many sacrifices to get the agreement made. This really helped us to understand the importance of George Mitchell and why he was important, helping us to develop our argument about it. We used this newspaper headline in our documentary at the state level.

This article explains how David Trimble was able to overcome to opposition and have the agreement passed. It shows how he patiently explained why the agreement was better on television, and didn’t make any inflammatory remarks like his opposition did. It helped us understand the importance of the political leaders and their tactics, as well as the politics of Northern Ireland.

This article expressed joy at the peace agreement being made, but then laid out all the reasons it could fail. For example, it stated how there could be a breakdown of peace and another round of provocations and the agreement could even fail to pass in the referendum. It showed how, after so many years of conflict, many in Northern Ireland thought it couldn’t end, and how amazing it was that it succeeded in ending violence.


This editorial analysis the Good Friday Agreement discusses how the agreement would provide for a better Northern Ireland. It also explained how it would be different, and what each component would do. It helped us understand and formulate our section on the components of the compromise, and showed popular sentiment behind the agreement and what an important compromise it was.


This article explained the stall in the negotiations before the deadline, and the press called for initiative to continue to move forward. Less than two weeks later, Mitchell set a deadline for Holy Thursday, the Thursday before Easter, which set the talks back into forward motion and was necessary if an agreement was to be reached, as people could argue for as long as they want. This helped us to understand the importance of the deadline and why it was needed, along with the role of the media in negotiations.


This article discussed a poll conducted a week and a half before the agreement was reached. The poll results showed that even though a vast majority of people wanted to search for a fair compromise, a vast minority thought that it wouldn’t be able to end the
conflict. This helped us to understand the viewpoints of the people, and how miraculous it was that George Mitchell could reach an agreement that ended violence.


This article, published a few days before the agreement was passed, explained the belief that the parties would reach agreement, and many of the author’s points mirrored that of the Good Friday Agreement. This helped us to understand the process itself and how close it was to being reached two days before.

McCann, Eamonn. "Historic times in This State of Confusion." *Belfast Telegraph*:

**George J. Mitchell Papers Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print.**

This editorial showed us the people of Northern Ireland were pleased that a deal about to be made, but still didn't expect that it alone would solve the conflict in Northern Ireland. This helped us understand the attitude for the talks that all parties involved had to work through.

McCanton, Desmond. "Blair Points the Way Forward." *Belfast Telegraph*, 10 Jan. 1998:

**George J. Mitchell Papers Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print.**

This newspaper article discusses Blair’s leadership in the negotiations. It explained how he had worked to achieve peace by being willing to compromise, urgining negotiators to do the same. This article focuses on how he worked to help the negotiators to resolve conflicts within the talks. This helped us to see both how the media credited Blair for his work, and how important it was the Blair and other leaders be willing to compromise.

This article reported on an article written by Tony Blair for the *Belfast Telegraph*, saying the deal would solve the need for amendments in the constitutions of Britain and Ireland. Blair also expressed his hope the deal would be struck by Thursday, April 9th. This helped us understand some of the reaction to Blair's article as well as summarize what he said.


This anti-agreement editorial explained the downsides of the agreement, and how from either side there was reason to vote against it in the upcoming referendum. It also explained how the agreement wasn’t going to end violence, and would more likely lead to an outbreak of violence and collapse of the Government. This helped us to understand the ideas of some people and develop our argument against this opposition.

**McDonald, Henry.** "Catholics Urged to Vote for Trimble's Unionists to Beat Paisley at the Polls." *Observer: George J. Mitchell Papers Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print.*

This article revealed to us more political activity in Northern Ireland. It shows how a peace group wanted to be sure Paisley had as little power as possible so he could not ruin the peace process.


This states the opinion that the negotiators had done their job, and the next couple of weeks would determine the future of Northern Ireland. It explained that the people had to vote for the agreement to end the conflict in Northern Ireland, even if it didn’t give everybody everything they wanted.

This article shows how the attempted Londonderry/Derry bank bombing by the Continuity IRA almost derailed the peace process after it set off another round of pointing fingers and arguing during the negotiations. It helped us see the vulnerability of the peace process and the danger that violence posed to the peace process, as well as understand the depth of the conflict.


This article explains how, after reading the Good Friday Agreement, politicians on the unionist side were willing to work with their mortal enemies, Sinn Feín, in order to bring about democracy and peace. This showed us Northern Ireland was ready to compromise, and how amazing it was that the compromise created by Mitchell could convince people to work with each other.


This article explained how important David Trimble was to the negotiations, and how he was the one who would get the referendum passed. It mentioned that Trimble was targeting the undecided unionist vote, which was 44%. It helped us see how important the unionist vote was, and how influential David Trimble made himself.

This newspaper article described how the Orangemen, a group of unionists, oppose the deal because they viewed the agreement as a betrayal by David Trimble. It helped us understand how the unionists were much more split on the agreement than the final results may have seemed.

This article discusses the passing of the Good Friday Agreement shortly after, and how peace had finally been achieved. It expressed the joy many felt in Northern Ireland after the compromise, and how Ireland would be a much less violent place. The article also helped us understand the events of Good Friday and the agreement itself.

This article reveals how John Hume, leader of the Catholic SDLP, was happy with his role in the peace making, and in the agreement created. John Hume was a very active civil rights advocate and leader of the largest Republican party in Northern Ireland, and started the peace process. It also described how Hume was not given nearly as much credit as Trimble or Blair, but his compromise was just as important.

This article discusses how unionists had two choices on the referendum, ones which would determine the course of Northern Ireland. It demonstrated how the majority unionist vote was the most important, as the nationalists were expected to vote for it with significant majority, and it explained how 44% of the unionists were undecided.

This article discusses how one former IRA member is trying to “inject democracy into an argument he believes Sinn Feín has hijacked for political means.” This article shows that while divisions were deep, it was possible to resolve issues with democracy. It also showed that after having been denied the right to so many things, including demonstrations, Catholics wanted rights to be given to Protestants.


This article details the night Blair and Ahern spent hammering out Strand Three, the section that set up an intergovernmental council between Ireland and the United Kingdom. They worked through the night to make sure they were able to get an agreement that worked. This showed us the dedication needed by negotiators to ensure the compromise would be met.

Mitchell, George, Harri Holkeri, Prime Minister, and John De Chastelain. Letter to David Trimble. 29 July 1996.

This letter to Trimble, the leader of the biggest UUP party, was written at the beginning of Mitchell’s work in the Northern Ireland peace process. In this letter, Mitchell acknowledged Trimble’s position, and expressed hope compromise could be made in the future. This helped us to understand how from the very beginning of his work, Mitchell was using his skills and working for compromise.

This editorial’s position was that the IRA and Sinn Fein were the only groups that really didn’t get anything from the talks. It explained how what they wanted they should have had since the very beginning, including equal rights. This also helped us to understand how the former agreements, such as the Sunningdale and Anglo-Irish Agreements, shaped the negotiations for the compromise and the Good Friday Agreement itself.


This article described how Paisley got angry with reporters during a press conference, along with becoming infuriated with them for speaking in Gaelic. It helped us to understand how much Unionists were against anything Irish, and why Paisley was so hard for the negotiations.


This story describes how Gerry Adams wanted to end the conflict, and to reach a fair agreement that would end it immediately. It showed to us that on both sides, people were ready to stop fighting and reach a fair compromise. This also helped us to see how leaders were important in the peace process.


This article is an invitation for the UDP to rejoin the talks after they left. The UDP had quit because Sinn Fein, a Catholic party, was allowed into the talks. The letter was sent
to attempt to let everybody have a chance at getting what they wanted and reaching a fair compromise. It showed us how important many thought it was to have all-party negotiations.

Mullen, John. "Peace Deal Brings Hope on the Long Good Friday." *The Guardian*, 11 Apr. 1998: George J. Mitchell Papers Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print. This article broke the story of the peace agreement for *The Guardian*. It shows how after the original deadline was passed, the negotiators worked all through the night to ensure the compromise would be made. It helped us understand the relief Northern Ireland felt after the peace was made, especially since the deadline was passed.

Mullen, John. "The People Say Yes - but the Orangemen Say No." *The Guardian*, 16 Apr. 1998: George J. Mitchell Papers Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print. This article explains how steadfast Unionists, including the DUP, disapproved of the agreement, arguing that it was a sell-out to the Nationalists, and that the compromise was totally one sided. This helped us to understand how and why some people did oppose the agreement, even though it offered a brighter future for Northern Ireland.

Mullen, John. "Please Make It Work." *The Guardian*: George J. Mitchell Papers Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print. This article gave an overview of the Good Friday Agreement, and made a plea for it to pass in the referendum, citing the intense bloodshed and the conflict that had been going for centuries. It helped us see what the media thought of the conflict, and how this version of compromise was necessary for Northern Ireland to live in peace.

Dr. Irwin, Colin. *Public Opinion and the Northern Ireland "Talks"*. This report laid several statistics and poll results in one place, which allowed us to easily
see the public opinion. We used some of the polls in our documentary, and the results helped us see the make-up of the conflict and how in favour many were of the agreement.

This shows that once the agreement was coming together, the Unionists were willing to examine some of the crimes they committed again, by reopening a probe into Bloody Sunday. This shows the willingness of the British to compromise and the lasting effect the compromise had. We interview a former British soldier who reiterated the ideas expressed in the article, saying the conflict isn’t over until the crimes of Bloody Sunday are solved.

This article, published the day of the agreement, shows the process behind the agreements, and the unlikelihood up until the day the agreement was reached that the talks would succeed.

O'Brian, Stephen. "We Stepped In, Then We Stepped out Again." George J. Mitchell Papers Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print.
This article explained how nine prisoners released before the compromise was made went back to jail, in order to be released with the rest of their comrades. This showed us the camaraderie between the IRA prisoners and their belief in the cause they were campaigning for.

This article explains how the leader of the Orange Order, a branch of unionism, threw his weight behind the opposition to the Good Friday Agreement, dealing what at the time seemed a very heavy blow to the compromise. This helped us to understand the opposition the agreement faced, and how it was a miracle that the people approved of it and that it brought peace.


This article shows the problem with the Orangemen, facing large pressure to support Paisley in his “No” campaign. Eventually, from further research, we discovered they did join the “No” vote. This showed us some of the conflict between Unionists on the compromise.


This article showed how Ahern would use the police and executive authority to crackdown on Irish-based paramilitaries who wanted to stop the Good Friday Agreement and the systems it set up. It showed how committed members of the negotiations were in this agreement, as previously such efforts had not been made. It also showed us how violence was expected in the outcome of the referendum.


This article discussed the Protestant opposition after the first release of nine IRA prisoners, who were leased to show Northern Ireland what they could have back. This
helped us to understand why some parties opposed the agreement, even if it was based on one small component.

This letter demonstrated to us Ian Paisley’s hardline opposition of compromise, since he called Sinn Fein a “bunch of terrorists” and made many controversial remarks. This showed us how Ian Paisley was unwilling to compromise, a belief he reinforced greatly two years before by leaving the negotiations, and then by launching a massive campaign against the Good Friday Agreement.

Transcript.
This radio transcript was a breakdown of the Good Friday Agreement. It helped us understand the differences between the newspapers and the radio show. The radio had less flashy headlines, and explained everything in more detail.

This article discusses a business meeting local party where leaders boasted about their economic vision for Ireland, and how much it would improve with the Good Friday Agreement. It shows how important the agreement was to every aspect of Northern Ireland, as the beautiful land would be available for tourism and other economic returns. This helped us to see how the Good Friday Agreement, and eventually the end of violence, would help the economy and give former terrorists jobs. Mitchell actually explained in our documentary how when he arrived at Northern Ireland, one of the first things she learned was the correlation between unemployment and violence.

This editorial expressed disapproval of the Mitchell Agreement for many reasons. It lamented the fact there was no easy way to tell if anyone could prove they had decommissioned, and thought the assembly would not function fairly and the way it was supposed to.


This article discusses how the Good Friday Agreement would bring peace to Northern Ireland, and how much more cheerful Northern Ireland was after the compromise had been agreed upon. This showed us what sort of personal effects the compromise had on Northern Ireland.


This article highlighted the difference in opinion between Paisley and Trimble, and helped us understand exactly what Paisley was saying in opposition, as well as what arguments Timble used to oppose it.


This article highlighted George Mitchell's life, in a review of the Good Friday Agreement. It explained his childhood, early jobs, work as a Senator, and his work in Northern Ireland. This helped us to see how his experiences shaped his role in the peace process.

These published letters showed how the people were very supportive of peace and the George Mitchell agreement. They said things such as “I rejoiced when I heard the news” and “I hope peace will at last be achieved for Ireland.” This showed us how supportive the people were for peace.


These letters showed how the release of the Good Friday Agreement had a large effect on people’s lives. Many wrote open letters to Mitchell thanking him. Others praised God and made wishes the peace would last.

"Prime Ministers Message for All the People of Ulster: "This Is the Best Chance We've Had for Years." *News Letter*, 22 May 1998: George J. Mitchell Papers Special Collections - Bowdoin College. Print.

This is an article written by Tony Blair in strong support of the agreement. He wrote as the Prime Minister, and made sure people understood his full support was behind the compromise he made. It helped us see that the politicians would stick their neck out in order to make peace, as Blair was not hidden in his support for the agreement.


This article described the agreement finalized the day before, and outlines the terms of the agreement. This helped us to develop our section explaining what the Good Friday Agreement did, and it helped us to see the importance of the compromise.
This article explained Tony Blair’s desperate plea for the people to vote for the compromise in the upcoming referendum, and how important it was to bring Northern Ireland out of conflict. It showed how Tony Blair worked hard to bring about compromise and how unsure many voters were just before the referendum.

This article gave a message to move forward, and forget the conflict of the past and move in to the future, so as to not destroy it. It meant as a way to convince people to vote for the referendum and leave the violent conflict behind.

This article details a draft of the document that unionists immediately rejected because they assumed something drastic had been changed. This helped us see how weary the unionists were over the compromise, and further illustrates the tense attitude of the negotiations.

This story discusses the doubt of the ability for the peace talks to succeed. It helped us understand how the unionists were mostly undecided, and how important their vote was to carry the agreement, as well as what the agreement could do if it was accepted.

This article shows the violence in Northern Ireland, as it describes how a man was shot and was found to be on a hit list. This helped us see the violence in Northern Ireland, and see how important it was the a compromise be reached and the violence ended.


This is a journal article from 1996 about the the current peace process and how Mitchell was involved. This helped us to develop our sections of the documentary on the Mitchell Principles and how George Mitchell was crucial to the process.


This article analyzed a poll, and found that most people in Northern Ireland wanted a fair rule of law from the agreement, once it was delivered. This showed us how Catholics and Protestants both wanted equal liberty and rule by Northern Ireland, not England.


This article describes how some parties opposed the agreement. It also showed how the agreement was referred to as the Mitchell Agreement, so it was used in our documentary in the Mitchell Agreement collage.
This editorial supported the agreement, and showed how many newspapers took a firm “Yes” stance, as we found hardly any major articles in heavy criticism of the agreement. Mostly Ireland was urged to vote yes, showing us the agreement and compromise was a fair and balanced approach to the issues.

This article discussed a speech by George Mitchell about his role in the Northern Ireland peace process, and including many quotes from his speech. This article showed us Mitchell’s opinion of the peace talks a year after the agreement, and helped us understand Mitchell’s role and its importance.

This article is about the first prisoner release. It explains how the unionists now strongly opposed what was happening, the IRA terrorists being freed, and they did not want Clinton to visit because they did not want to support him, or Mitchell, or the agreement itself. This helped us to understand the concept and importance of prisoner release, as well as understanding why some opposed the agreement, and how steadfast some were in what they wanted, not willing to compromise.

This article explains how, after the peace agreement was reached, people started wanting to visit Belfast and Northern Ireland again, and the city removed restrictions. This
showed the lasting effect of the Good Friday Agreement.


This article discussed the tradition of how Unionists celebrated their conquering of Ireland on July 12th, and marched through the middle of Catholic communities. This often provoked riots. This article showed us the importance of something as simple as a parade could be an important factor in a conflict as big as The Troubles.


This document was a statement by Sinn Fein in response to remarks made by the English government. It explains its role in decommissioning and how it hoped for a better future for Northern Ireland. It helped us better understand Sinn Feín’s position on the Good Friday Agreement and the negotiations.


This article explained the Unionist opposition to the Good Friday Agreement due to the fact that Intergovernmental councils would give Dublin and the Republic of Ireland some say in what happens in Northern Ireland. This helped us to understand the arguments of the opposition and to understand intergovernmental councils themselves.


This article describes an attempted bombing by the IRA in the middle of a crowded bank. It explains the terror of Londonderry after the event and the small effect it had on the peace process. It helped us see the attempted ways to disrupt the process and the near
normality of violence in Ireland.

This is a newspaper article about the first and most famous release of prisoners. It explained how the release was a gesture of peace and thanks Gerry Adams for accepting the deal. It argued that the compromise itself was leaning more towards the Unionists’ side, so they wanted to give something to Adams who had accepted the deal. Of course, the Unionists, in this instance, wanted everything their way, so they still didn’t like the agreement or the release of prisoners.

This article discusses how a 1000-pound bomb was seized in a port destined for Britain, and how the CIRA claimed credit for the bomb. The article expressed the opinion the IRA and Sinn Fein had something to do behind it, but still gave hope that the peace process would stop future event similar to this one from occuring.

This article explains the conflict called the Drumcree, which was an ongoing conflict over parade routes in the heart of Belfast. The parade by the Orange Order often goes directly through the most Catholic areas of Belfast. This title explains the irony of marching through Catholic areas when the Protestant heart of Belfast is only a mile away. These parades are one of the many examples of the divisions and how some really are not attempting to heal them.
This article discusses how the Orangemen refused to back the deal as a warning to David Trimble. This showed us not everyone was in favor of the deal, as a significant part of Unionists backed the Orange Order.

This showed us the people were supportive of the politicians and allowed us to see the other side of our argument. It showed for how popular George Mitchell was, he never would get as much credit in Ireland as he probably deserved.

This article, written by David Trimble, gave us an inside look into the mind of one of the key negotiators and why he supported the Mitchell compromise. He claimed the agreement allowed the best chance of peace throughout the troubles.

This article shows how the most important part of the compromise was the need for decommissioning. So long as the parties kept control of the paramilitaries, peace and cooperation would hold. However, a breakdown could spell doom for the compromise. This showed us how despite all the efforts by Mitchell, it was up to Northern Ireland to remain at peace.

This article shows how world leaders from all over the globe were impressed with the “peacemakers of Ulster” and gave their congratulations. Bill Clinton was especially proud of George Mitchell, and the peace his administration took partial credit for. This showed us how the world paid attention to George Mitchell’s agreement.


This article showed us the importance of the church in Northern Ireland, and how, despite the media seeing the church as separate from the state, it still needed to be an influence in Ireland to keep the violence from erupting again. It showed us how important the religious aspect of the conflict and compromise is, even though the conflict was not about differences in religion.


This article shows the politicians’ reactions when the agreement passed with an overwhelming majority, as well as explained details such as the dates when things would be set up and information about the upcoming assembly elections. It helped us see this larger picture when the agreement passed.


This editorial explains how important it was the the people would vote for the peace agreement in the upcoming referendum, and that while the agreement may have
problems, it was the best shot Ulster had for peace. It helped us see the desire of Northern Ireland to have peace, and their willingness to compromise to achieve it.


This letter shows how the Unionists were willing to compromise, but felt there were issues with the way the talks were going. The Unionists were willing to compromise, but wanted to see more of their side represented in the current negotiations.


This article reiterates remarks made by Bertie Ahern saying voters have an extremely large decision to make for the future of Northern Ireland, and the importance of the vote cannot be underestimated. It helped us understand the importance and significance of the agreement, something that hadn’t been there before.


This article explains that with the likelihood of the agreement drawing ever closer, many thought Paisley (who opposed the agreement) had lost his political sway in Northern Ireland. Those allegations might have been proven true with the overwhelming majority of people that passed the agreement.


This editorial expresses doubt that the agreement would work. In Waugh’s opinion, the IRA was made for the sole purpose of a united Ireland and would not rest until that goal
was achieved. This showed how the animosity between the two sides was very deep seated, and if some had a choice, there wouldn’t have been a compromise.

This newspaper article expressed a sign of support for David Trimble in his role in the compromise, and the work he put into getting the agreement passed. It showed how the media mostly sided in favor of the agreement, and how most of the public also wanted peace to be achieved.

This article predicts the makeup of the first Irish Assembly and what parties would be in power. It made the case the Unionists would be in control with a majority. This article gave us background information on the politics of Northern Ireland after the agreement.

This newspaper article discusses how the Orangemen, a group of Unionists, opposed the deal because it would release IRA prisoners, which they viewed as a severe threat to the people of Northern Ireland. This helped us to see the importance of compromise, and how those who lacked the ability to compromise would miss out on opportunities to bring peace to Northern Ireland.

This opinion article argued that jail releases are a key factor for the agreement to
include. This article was written before the actual agreement was passed, which helped to bring support for why jail releases were important for the public. This helped us to develop our argument on why the Good Friday Agreement itself was successful, and why release of prisoners was important.

"Wide Gap Revealed on Role of All-Ireland Struggles." *The Irish Times*


This article explained the differences between the government and UUP through the Mitchell Agreement, explaining a conflict of opinions in the agreement, one of its flaws. It helped us see how the Good Friday Agreement was not a perfect compromise, and let us develop our opposition side.


This article detailed an interview with Heather Mitchell, George Mitchell's wife. It gave us some interesting stories and perspectives about the peace process, and we used it to understand George Mitchell's life during and before the negotiations.


This article discussed what Tony Blair said in a talk the night before the referendum. He insisted the agreement was a fair compromise, and said a yes vote would stop the terroristic conflict. The piece showed us how Tony Blair targeted the undecided Unionists in his votes, and how Tony’s presence in Ireland the night of the referendum helped sway the vote towards yes.

This editorial argues to vote for the agreement in the referendum the next day, and explains that the agreement is Ulster’s only hope for peace, and to vote no was to vote for endless conflict. It showed the compromise was a good solution and helped us see the desperation for peace by the people of Northern Ireland.


This article explains all of the effort and work that had been put into the peace talks up until a week before the agreement was reached. It explained how the negotiators needed to really make an effort to finish out the talks and provide a good compromise to the people of Northern Ireland.


This article showed that the younger unionists, specifically the ones who had never known anything but conflict, would mostly vote no, with 75% expected to. This shows how the conflict had shaped lives, as well as the extreme realms of the political spectrum. The younger voters would vote no because they had been taught to never settle for anything less the complete victory, meaning no compromise.

This is a transcript of an interview of George Mitchell. We read it during the summer to prepare for our interview of George Mitchell in September. This helped us to see how George Mitchell felt about Northern Ireland, focusing on the peace wall, and helped us to understand his other experiences.


This is a transcript of an interview with George Mitchell. We read it during the summer to prepare for our interview of George Mitchell in September. This helped us to see how even George Mitchell saw that conflict could not always be resolved quickly, and helped us with the context of his work in Northern Ireland during his life.


This is the transcript of an interview of George Mitchell. We read it during the summer to prepare for our interview of George Mitchell in September. This interview explained many things about George Mitchell's life, but also focused on George Mitchell’s safety in Northern Ireland. Mitchell explained how often he had to change hotels, his route to
Stormont Castle, and other routines due to death threats and other personal safety issues. This helped us to understand how violent the conflict was, how courageous George Mitchell was in Northern Ireland, and how the process was so tedious and violent.

“Trinity College Dublin.” Ownership by Religion | The Down Survey Project, downsurvey.tcd.ie/religion.php#.

This is a site that had an interactive map of ownership of land in Ireland by religion over time. It is an amazing research project that has mapped land and ownership over time. This demonstrated the dramatic change in who owned land between 1641 and in 1701. It showed how a large amount of land that belonged to Catholic owners had been transferred to Protestant landowners by 1701. This change in land ownership laid the foundation for the potato famine in the mid-1800’s, although we did not include the potato famine in our historical context.
Secondary Sources

Websites and Articles


This website included the front page of a newspaper and an article that had the exact transcript of the article. The article was entitled “Heroic H-Block Men Undefeated”. It explained how the hunger strikes had come to an end, and talked about the people that had been on hunger strike and died. This showed how much desperation there was and how many people believed in their cause, and thought of them as martyrs. Ten men died, including Bobby Sands, whose funeral was attended by over 100,000 people, with the population of Northern Ireland being only 1,600,000.


This is an interview of George Mitchell. It included information and quotes about Northern Ireland. One very inspirational quote we found in this was “Conflicts are created, conducted, and sustained by human beings. They can be ended by human beings.” This helped us to gain a deeper understanding of both George Mitchell’s work in Northern Ireland and about other experiences he had. This quote helped us to show its relation to the theme and to understand George Mitchell’s views on resolving conflicts.

“Belfast's Murals: Off the Wall?” BelfastTelegraph.co.uk, BelfastTelegraph.co.uk, 11 Dec. 2012, www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/life/features/belfasts-murals-off-the-wall-
This is an article about Belfast's murals. It focused on how the theme of murals is changing from that of violence to those of peace, such as a Catholic boy and Protestant girl shaking hands. This helped us to see how peace, in part, is coming.

Blanck, Maggie Land. “Religion and Folklore in Ireland.”
This article discussed the history of Irish religion and folklore. This was most helpful because it explained how the penal laws forbade Catholics from attending Mass (church service). It included an old painting that showed a priest celebrating Mass on a mountain on a rock on Christmas morning, because it was not allowed and was done only in secret. It used this painting in my documentary.

“BYU Harold B. Lee Library.” Ireland 1691 to 1922 - EuroDocs,
<eudocs.lib.byu.edu/index.php/Ireland_1691_to_1922.>.
This is a list of primary sources about the early history of Ireland. This led us to multiple primary sources and documents that were used in the documentary, including two of our original penal law documents. It also provided background information and helped us to develop our historical context section.

This article about George Mitchell explained in retrospect, his role in the peace process. This helped us to understand why Mitchell was important, and also what George Mitchell thought about conflict resolution by compromise.
Casalicchio, Emilio. “Mural Remembering Protestant Victims of The Troubles in Belfast Credit: PA Images.” PoliticsHome.com, Dods Parliamentary Communications Ltd, 8 Dec. 2016, <www.politicshome.com/news/uk/uk-regions/northern-ireland/news/81541/minister-questions-new-northern-ireland-soldiers/>. This is where we got the photo for the British mural near the end of the documentary. It had a white painted background with the British flag that said ‘always British’, and above, talked about how twenty Catholic families had successfully been intimidated out of the neighborhood. This mural, painted recently, reflects how the conflict is still not over yet, and there is still segregation, and propaganda against opposing sides.

“Commision on Policing in Northern Ireland.” BBC Northern Ireland, BBC, <www.bbc.co.uk/northernireland/schools/agreement/policing/commission4.shtml>. This article discussed reform of police in Northern Ireland. It helped us to understand how the police were changed (including an equal amount of Catholics, a new name, and different rules). This also helped us to see how this kind of reform had the possibility to end violence, and did.

Donnchadh, Pádraig Mac. “Battle of the Bogside in Derry - History of Ireland.” Your Irish Culture, 31 July 2017, www.yourirish.com/history/20th-century/battle-of-the-bogside-1969. This is an article about the Battle of the Bogside in Derry. The Bogside is the a Catholic part of Derry. The article explained the riots that followed civil rights marches, which helped us to understand why the conflict started, and we used a photo of the riots in our documentary.

**compromise.**

This website had a biography of George Mitchell, which was helpful because we used the photo from this to show international interest.


This is the first place we found the original text of the Good Friday Agreement. We read it early in our research, learning about the detail of the Agreement and all it included. This was helpful because it helped us to understand the Good Friday Agreement.


This website included the abstract of an article about public opinion during "The Troubles". In the abstract, it included the statistics that one in four people experienced an explosion and that one in five had a family member killed or injured. This helped us because it led us to the original and primary source for these numbers, and because it helped us to originally formulate the idea of using it in the documentary to show how much the conflict affected the lives of everyday people. We also checked the numbers to be true against injuries and population.


This is a list of famous photos from the peace process. We included two of these in our documentary (Hume, Trimble, and U2’s Bono together and the signing of the
agreement). Most of the other photos however, were important. Some of the most memorable photos on the list are: The announcing of the Referendum, David Trimble and John Hume with the Nobel Peace prize, the release of prisoners, Sinn Fein leaders in the window at night, Ian Paisley and Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness (political enemies) sitting side by side, and the Queen’s visit to Ireland (which was the first time any British monarch has visited since Ireland gained independence.) These photos helped us to see important moments from the peace process, as well as the significance of the Good Friday Agreement.

“Irish Penal Law - Introduction.” University of Minnesota Law School, 16 Mar. 2017, <www.law.umn.edu/library/irishlaw/intro>. This is a secondary source that described the penal laws. This source helped to understand the penal laws and allowed us to place them in the context of greater Irish history. It also led us to the original text of the penal laws (which was a little hard to understand, since it was from the 1600s). This helped us to understand the penal laws themselves, and exactly what they did.

Jon Stone Europe Correspondent. “Brexit: Irish Government Attacks 'Reckless' Brexiteers for Gambling with Northern Ireland Peace Process.” The Independent, Independent Digital News and Media, 20 Feb. 2018, www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/brexit-northern-ireland-simon-coveney-good-friday-agreement-peace-process-border-a8219536.html. This is an article about the effects of Brexit on Northern Ireland and the status of peace in Northern Ireland. This was helpful because it included a very memorable mural which showed a paramilitary member with a gun and words saying “Prepared for Peace, Ready for War.” This showed how the conflict in Northern Ireland is not yet over.
This article about the Easter Rising helped us to understand the Easter Rising, what led up to it, and the effects of the Rising. We also used a photograph from this in our documentary.

Conflict Archive on the Internet: Peace Process - Newspaper Headlines, 11 April 1998, cain.ulst.ac.uk/events/peace/headline.htm
This is a secondary source website that included three primary source newspapers, including one which we used in our documentary. This also explained how much of an impact this made with the media and what stories were reported. The newspapers were front pages with headlines that said “Today is only the beginning, it is not the end”, “Trimble Facing Revolt,” and “Historic Agreement marks a New Beginning for us All” which we used in my documentary.

This is an article about the winners of the 1998 Nobel Peace Prize, two leading Northern Ireland politicians. It helped us to understand how the world recognized the significance of the Good Friday Agreement and recognized how much courage it took for these political leaders to agree to come to a compromise.

This is where we got the photo for the Irish mural near the end of the documentary. It
was a mural of an Irish man carrying the Irish flag remembering the Easter Rising Rebellion in 1916. It had scenes of Irish men bombing and shooting, and also listed the names of some who had died. This mural, painted recently, reflects how the conflict is still not over yet, and there is still segregation and propaganda against opposing sides.

This website included one of the most touching videos on Northern Ireland. It focused on the lives of former prisoners, sentenced to up to 600 years in prison, who were set free by the Good Friday Agreement. The video followed the lives of multiple prisoners, who had seen what they had done wrong. Some, even those who were Catholic and Protestant former paramilitary members and enemies, are working together to end the sectarianism in Northern Ireland. This helped us to see how the conflict is still not over yet, but people, even those released prisoners, are working to end the conflict. It also aided in understanding why prisoner release was an important, but seemingly ironic, component of the agreement.

This is a long timeline about early Irish history. This was one of my most useful secondary sources because it helped us to understand a very complicated topic. It explained all the events in great detail but very clearly, so that it actually helped us to understand primary sources. We got the idea of making a timeline to help explain historical context from this source.
O'Carroll, Sinead. “Maze Prisoners Badly Treated by 'Out of Control' Officers after IRA Escape.” TheJournal.ie, 27 Dec. 2013, 9:30, www.thejournal.ie/maze-prison-ira-escape-1241171-Dec2013/. This is an article about what prisoners were treated like in Maze Prison, which helped us to understand why the hunger strikes were started. This also helped us because it include photos of Maze Prison, one of which we used in our documentary.

O'Donnell, Liz. “Lessons of the Past Prove the Road to Lasting Peace Is a Long and Rocky One.” Independent.ie, 24 Mar. 2016, www.independent.ie/opinion/columnists/liz-odonnell/lessons-of-the-past-prove-the-road-to-lasting-peace-is-a-long-and-rocky-one-34571090.html. This is an opinion article that explained how peace has not yet been reached. This helped us to understand how tenuous the peace is in Northern Ireland. This article also included a picture of people clapping for George Mitchell. The people pictured clapping for him are Gerry Adams, John Hume, and the leaders of two other parties involved in the talks. This photo was used in the introduction of the documentary.

Shapiro, Ari. “For Northern Ireland, Wounds From 'The Troubles' Are Still Raw.” NPR, 28 Nov. 2014, www.npr.org/sections/parallels/2014/11/28/367183005/for-northern-ireland-wounds-from-the-troubles-are-still-raw. This article about how ‘The Troubles’ are still not over yet. It explained how the Good Friday Agreement ended violence, but did not heal all the divisions and grudges of the people. This helped us to understand how the compromise did not fully end the conflict, but took a large step towards doing to.

“Stanhope and the Catholic Relief Act (1791).” UK Parliament, <www.parliament.uk/about/living-heritage/transformingsociety/private-
This article about the Catholic Relief Act, passed in 1791, explained what the Catholic Relief Act was and how it removed the Penal Laws. This helped us in the historical context of the conflict, and helped develop my early Irish history section of my documentary.

“Statistical Breakdown of Deaths in the 'Troubles'.” Wesley Johnson, www.wesleyjohnston.com/users/ireland/past/troubles/troubles_stats.html. This site compiled the statistics of deaths during “The Troubles” into graphs and chart. This helped us to analyze and understand who was killed, where, and who did the killing.

“The Three Strands.” Northern Ireland Assembly Education, Northern Ireland Assembly, www.education.niassembly.gov.uk/post_16/snapshots_of_devolution/gfa/the_three_strands. This is an article about the three ‘strands’ or sections of the Good Friday Agreement. It was one of the first sources we looked at to help get a clear understanding of the agreement. In our documentary, we did not use the words ‘Strand 1, ‘Strand 2’, or ‘Stand 3’ because we thought it would be confusing for the viewer. Strand 1 deals with within the Northern Ireland Assembly, Strand 2 with relations between the north and the south (i.e. Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland), and Strand 3 with east-west relations (i.e. relations between Ireland and Great Britain.)

“Penal Days in Clogher.” History Ireland, 11 Mar. 2013, www.historyireland.com/penal-laws/penal-days-in-clogher/. This is a site that explained the Penal Laws. This was helpful because it helped us to
understand historical context and why there were such deep grudges. It was also helpful because it included a photograph of the original penal laws that we used in the documentary.


This was an article about the reform of police in Northern Ireland. This helped us to understand how the police were changed (including an equal amount of Catholics, a new name, and different rules). This also helped us to see how this kind of reform had the possibility to, and did, end violence.

University of Ulster. “Accounts of the Conflict - A Digital Archive of Personal Accounts of the Conflict in and about Northern Ireland.” Incore, International Conflict Research Institute. , Ulster University, accounts.ulster.ac.uk/repo24/index.php.

This site included videos of people explaining their experiences of the conflict in Northern Ireland. This was helpful because it showed us how many people experience the conflict in their everyday life.
Videos and Music


This is a movie about the murals of Northern Ireland. It was helpful because it demonstrated the deep divisions and how segregated society is, and the propaganda and emotions communicated with murals. It also included two scenes of bombs and buildings blowing up, which we used in the sequence of bombs in our documentary.

“Endgame in Ireland, 1 Bomb and Ballot box, 2 Talking to terrorists, 3 Ceasefire, 4 Guns and Government, British Broadcasting Company, June 2001.

This is a series of four hour long documentaries on the Northern Ireland Peace process. It is one of our most useful secondary sources. It focused on, though included some background to the conflict, the peace process starting with negotiations for the Sunningdale Agreement and the Anglo-Irish Agreement, all the way up the talks for the Good Friday Agreement. This helped us understand the conflict, the other peace processes, why the other peace process failed and the Good Friday Agreement succeeded, and explained why George Mitchell was important. We also used footage of the other agreements and of the Good Friday Agreement in our documentary, including the section where the narrator explains how Sinn Fein and the UUP had not exchanged a word in 29 weeks of negotiations, but had agreed to go into government together.

Patrick Doyle. “The Blue Sea and the White Horse.” Into the West.

This is our background music for the documentary. We chose it because it was simple, but beautiful, and also non-distracting. It fit with our topic, documentary, and what we were saying.

This is our first song used in the documentary. It was released in 1983, and was not actually focusing on the event of Bloody Sunday, but about how they just wanted the violence to end. It explained that the people could be as one if they wanted to, and then explained all the horrible things that were happening. We used this in the very beginning and during the title page, switching to a older more traditional Gaelic tune when we enter the historical context section. The lyrics of the part used in the documentary are: “I can't believe the news today. Oh, I can't close my eyes, And make it go away. How long? How long must we sing this song? How long, how long? 'Cause tonight, we can be as one, Tonight.” The song goes on to say: “Broken bottles under children's feet. Bodies strewn across the dead end street, But I won't heed the battle call. It puts my back up, Puts my back up against the wall. Sunday, Bloody Sunday, Sunday, Bloody Sunday, Sunday, Bloody Sunday, Sunday, Bloody Sunday (alright). And the battle's just begun, There's many lost, but tell me who has won, The trench is dug within our hearts, And mothers, children, brothers, sisters torn apart. Sunday, Bloody Sunday, Sunday, Bloody Sunday. How long? How long must we sing this song? How long, how long? 'Cause tonight, we can be as one. Tonight, tonight. Sunday, Bloody…


This is our final song in the documentary. It is a Nationalist (Catholic) song written in 1971, protesting internment, or jailing without trial, due to political issues. The title “Men Behind the Wire” is about support the men in jail. The second verse, and the beginning of the first and third verses used in the documentary are about the British Army in Northern Ireland, and what they did to Catholics.
Other


This is a one of our most helpful secondary sources. It covered all the events throughout “The Troubles,” including explaining the peace process and the Good Friday Agreement, the Sunningdale and Anglo-Irish agreements, and events such as Bloody Sunday, while also mentioning the smaller events. The book was organized and compiled clearly, with graphs, charts, and diagrams to help understand this very complicated topic. These diagrams explained information such as who did the killing and who the victims were; the components that the three different agreements included, the places where the killing was done; and maps of cities showing conflict areas, heavily Catholic or Protestant areas, and where the peace walls were. This helped us to understand the conflict in general, while understanding what each side wanted and the different events, including the events leading up to the start of the troubles. It also gave us a very organized explanation of the Good Friday Agreement, which helped us to understand the topic in the very beginning of our research. It helped us to understand how the other agreements failed, and why.


We read a section of this book describing the peace process. We wanted to be able to see the formation of the compromise from the shoes of both the Catholic and Protestant leaders and parties, so we also read a book about Gerry Adams. This showed us how David Trimble was willing to make compromises to let the agreement come through, and what he did and didn’t like about the agreement. David Trimble was the first minister of the new Northern Ireland assembly, the government created by the Mitchell Agreement. We also read about this section to gain a working understanding of how the
government worked, and how it shared power and gave Catholics equal rights as protestants.


This book gave us a first look at the Troubles, and let us know the impact and scope of the conflict. This was one of our most helpful secondary sources, because it gave us a very in-depth understanding of the conflict. It explained all the major events (and minor ones) in great detail, while also explaining the Anglo-Irish and Sunningdale Agreements peace processes, and helped us to understand why they failed.


This was another book that we read the section of concerning the peace process. We wanted to be able to see the formation of the compromise from the shoes of both the Catholic and Protestant leaders and parties, so we also read a book about David Trimble. This showed us how Gerry Adams was willing to make compromises to let the agreement come through, and what he did and didn’t like about the agreement.