

Occupy Wall Street Movement



In 2011 following years on inaction by governments around the world a protest movement called Occupy Wall Street was born. This movement focused on how the financial institutions and the part they played in the 2008 global economic crash and how governments throughout the world did not punish any of the financial leaders for the part they played in the crash. The movement's rallying cry was 'We are the 99%'. Occupy began on the streets of New York and Washington, eventually spreading to all corners of the globe including the United Kingdom. The movement had its supporters and detractors, many felt that not enough was being done to support ordinary people who were affected by the crash and that no financial leaders were taken to task for the role they played. Others accused the movement of being a violent radical left wing movement that wanted to overthrow capitalism and many elements of the press portrayed the protesters as deviants and drug users. Almost ten years on since its formation, this social movement still provokes arguments and denials on both sides.

Whilst exploring the Occupy Wall Street Movement, we would like you to research;

- How did it start?
- Where and when did it take place?
- Who were some of the key people involved?
- How / where did the Occupy movement set up in the United Kingdom?
- How did governments react to the movement?
- How did certain elements of the world's press react to the movement?
- Can you find any famous people from the world of sport, music and film that supported the movement/
- What was its conclusion / legacy?
- Did any laws or policies change, or were new ones introduced?
- Do you feel the Occupy Movement was a success or failure?

Recommended viewing

A five year review of the Occupy movement - <https://edition.cnn.com/2016/09/16/us/occupy-wall-street-protest-movements/index.html>

News segment on the protests going global - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bw0ByQA8gtY>

American Autumn, a fully documentary on the Occupy Movement - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iffL-bq1unw>

The legacy of the Occupy movement. - <https://www.vox.com/the-highlight/2019/4/23/18284303/occupy-wall-street-bernie-sanders-dsa-socialism>