

DISSIDENT AND INFORMAL CULTURES AND THE COLLAPSE OF THE USSR

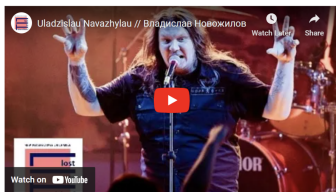
ASSIGNMENT

Duration: 90 minutes

Target audience: Students 14+

Needed materials: Internet, projector, flipchart/board, markers

Watch both interviews (Vladislav and Roby) — split into two groups, each watching a different video, then discussing and comparing together. (30 minutes)



Vladislav:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aldCx_Wfkl4



Robi:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tWX5ZeqnEhA>

Discuss the following questions with the group:

— What niches in the Soviet system did young people find to form their own rock bands that clearly did not meet the normative expectations of cultural functionaries? (20 minutes)

— How did the lives and working conditions of rock musicians change after the collapse of the Soviet Union? (general question, 10 minutes)

— Search the Internet for videos and lyrics by Gods Tower and Outsider. Think back to your favorite musicians, do you see any differences, what and how these bands sing about? (general question, 15 minutes)

— Are any of your friends punk or metal or other subcultures? Are these musical trends a thing of the past, or do they have their place with current youth? (general question, 15 minutes)