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Step 4: Final Product

This podcast discusses food efforts during World War II and specifically how victory gardens were the answer to help diminish the fears and worries that U.S. citizens faced. After the Pearl Harbor attacks in 1941, as fear and anger grew throughout the country, the American people prepared themselves to take control and do their part, making sure that there was enough food before any resources became scarce. Through the adoption of these victory gardens by the U.S. Government and promotion from corporations, newspapers, and other forms of media, American citizens were prompted to produce these gardens for the benefit of their families, communities, and others suffering in countries directly impacted by the war. As America was separated from the war that was taking place, this was the best opportunity for the country to rise and take action by providing food during a time of uncertainty. Through these efforts, women took the reins and made it their mission to provide for the masses. With this growth of women's independence from the home, victory gardens provided emphasis on how American citizens left behind were eager to help and came together in taking responsibility for what the country as a whole could do. This rise of local, fresh food, led to industrialized corporations providing commercial goods towards the war effort as civilians harvested produce that could not be tended to by farmers at the time. In the present day, as anxiety and fear has overwhelmed much of the world with the coronavirus pandemic, these same efforts are occurring as families left to their own devices are preparing gardens for themselves and for their neighbors. Is taking control of the food system the answer to easing tension in troubled times and if so, what can we do with those efforts in the modern day?

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Music/Audio:

Victory Garden. (2019). Madeleine [Song]. On *Madeleine* [Album]. Dead Broke Rekerds.