The problem that the movement was trying to address was the 21 year-long rule of the Marcos administration.

The active allies in the movement were Benigno “Ninoy” Aquino as well as the university students who actively protested. Aquino was at the forefront of the Marcos opposition and there was an almost certain prospect of Aquino replacing him. The university students took actions like riots and civil disobedience/disruption against the Marcos administration.

The passive allies of the movement were the lower-class citizens and the church. The citizens in the lower class did not take part in groups or protests as they felt as if they did not have the resources to voice their opinions. The church did not approve of the riots and violent protests that Aquino and students were creating or supporting. However, they felt Marcos was abusing his power so they would spread the word of Marcos’ actions and let the public form their own opinion.

The neutral parties of the movement were the newspapers and Ronald Reagan along with his administration. The media was controlled by Marcos under martial law; however, the newspapers were only prevented from being distributed. This was because newspapers were accessible to everyone in the country and the easiest way to get information. However, newspaper companies obeyed this order which meant no news from either side was distributed through newspapers. Reagan and his administration supported both sides of the conflict. They were moved by the heart of the Filipino people to fight against the regime. However, they also liked Marcos as he was an ally of the US, and they could profit from his administration. They prevented the people from forcefully removing Marcos from office but did not stop Corazon Aquino from being elected to replace him.

The passive opponents were the wealthy and outside powers like the technocrats that supported Marcos. The wealthy had a lot of influence and power in the country. They used their power to suppress the lower class and enforce the status quo. This made it hard for the lower class to voice their opinions. However, they did not financially support or agree with the actions of the Marcos administration. The technocrats, however, did financially support Marcos and this gave Marcos the power to extend his term. They did not care about the politics or views of the administration, however.

The active opponents were the higher ups in the military and Ferdinand Marcos himself. Marcos wanted to extend his term infinitely and did everything in his power to keep it. He used methods like assassination, blackmail, and threats of force. The higher ups in the military also wanted Marcos to keep his power as they could keep their powerful positions as well as financially gain from it. They were the ones who proposed and planned out the use of martial law for Marcos.

The church as well as the active allies could have done more to utilize the newspapers. Newspapers were the most accessible form of media, hence why Marcos prevented them from distributing. However, the church had a lot of resources to give newspapers a safe space to distribute as they did with the lower-class citizens. They were also running radio stations already. If Aquino had given more resources to the newspapers, he would have been able to gain even more support while he was exiled to America.