



## The Stranglers - Live '78, SF

(Music Video Distributors;  
[www.musicvideodistributors.com](http://www.musicvideodistributors.com))

This is another former Target Video release bumped up to DVD for the first time. The black-and-white, occasionally tinted visuals are crude and the sound average, with only 30 minutes of music, but this DVD does have an exciting San Francisco performance by the early Stranglers, before they became too fluffy and poppy and nearly floated away in the ether. All seven songs are from their soon-to-be-extinct punk period, including the catchy "Dagenham Dave" and "Hanging Around" as well as the once-controversial, sexy/sexist "Bring on the Nubiles." ("Lemme lemme lemme fuck you fuck you fuck you"—how shocking!) It's also a reminder about how often bassist Jean Burnel and keyboardist Dave Greenfield sang lead in the early days alongside singer-guitarist Hugh Cornwell. Perhaps because the band and audience are trying to prove to each other that they're punk, this early show has more of an edge than the Stranglers' other live recordings, which tend to duplicate the studio arrangements too faithfully.

BONUS: A 20-minute Target Video trailer with tantalizing scraps of footage from the Plugz, Flipper, the Weirdos, X, Dead Kennedys, the Lewd, Public Image and many others.