

## Films for Teaching Sociology

**UALIB**-University of Akron Library

**APL**-Akron Public Library

**DEPT**-Sociology Dept.

[Link to OHIO LINK online media](#)

### BILL OF RIGHTS

- **The Pursuit of Justice: A History of Constitutional Rights** by the ACLU of Delaware Total Running Time: 30 minutes This film is both amusing and informative at the same time. with a brief narration by Burt Lancaster, it takes us through a brief look at the Bill of Rights and the amendments. It documents four pivotal cases from history and the Supreme Court's decision on them. these four cases, Brown vs. Board of Education, New Jersey vs. TLO, Texas vs. GL Johnson, and Gideon vs. Wainwright, have been instrumental in changing who the law works for and upholding the rights for all people. It is a quirky film with cheesy but not overbearing qualities.

### COLLGE LIFE

- American Pie 2
- Animal House
- Back to School
- Blue Chips
- Breaking Away
- Bring it on Again
- Campus Man
- College Confidential
- D.O.A.
- Educating Rita
- Fast Break
- Good Will Hunting
- Higher Learning
- Horsefeathers
- Love Story
- Mona Lisa Smile
- Old School
- Oleanna
- Real Genius
- Revenge of the Nerds
- Revenge of the Nerds II
- Rudy
- School Daze
- Spring Break
- The Graduate
- The Human Stain
- The Nutty Professor
- The Program
- The Skulls
- The Sure Thing
- Where the Boys Are
- With Honors
- Wonder Boys
- Van Wilder

## **Corporate and Organizational Deviance**

- A Civil Action - **UALIB**
- A Dangerous Business (*Frontline*)
- Coverup: Behind the Iran Contra Affair (*government deviance*) - **APL**
- Erin Brockovich - **UALIB**
- Fahrenheit 9/11 (*documentary, Michael Moore*) - **APL**
- Manufacturing Consent (*also Media*) **UALIB**
- The Corporation - **UALIB**
- The Trials of Henry Kissinger - **APL**
- Toxic Sludge is Good for You (*documentary – not sure where to put this, but the public relations industry certainly helps perpetuate organizational deviance*) - **UALIB**
- **Turning Point** (*documentary about the Cold War human radiation experiments*) - **APL**
- Wrath of Grapes (*documentary about pesticides, environment, and health*) - **UALIB**

## **Crime & Criminal Justice**

- 12 Angry Men - **UALIB**
- Capturing the Friedmans <http://www.capturingthefriedmans.com/main.html> - **APL**
  - (*documentary – Excellent examination of the social construction of crime, criminals and victims –*
  - *leaves the student question simple black and white responses to guilt versus non guilt*) 3. Deadline [http://deadlinethemovie.com/about\\_the\\_film/about\\_deadline.php](http://deadlinethemovie.com/about_the_film/about_deadline.php) - **Dept.;** **APL**
- (*an excellent documentary...chronicling the flawed criminal justice system in Illinois*)
- Eye for an Eye (*legal system/victim's rights*) –**APL**
- Monster [http://www.film-releases.com/film-information.php?id=4206&linked\\_id=4206](http://www.film-releases.com/film-information.php?id=4206&linked_id=4206)
  - (*explores the sources of violent behavior using social context and gender victimization*
  - *as contextual factors*)
- The Farm - by Seventh Art - 1994 Total Running Time: 100 minutes - An Academy Awards Nominated documentary about death row inmates in the largest all male penal institute in America. Winner of many "Best Picture" awards, including Sundance Grand Jury prize, National Society of Film Critics, New York Film Critics Circe, and Los Angeles Film Critics Association. The film looks at the striking similarities between life for slaves on plantations and modern day prison farms.
- Street Soldiers - funded by the Ford Foundation & CPB (Corporation for Public Broadcasting) 1997 - Total Running Time: 1 hour and 30 minutes - This film is a stirring look inside the lives of three juvenile offenders and their struggle to turn their lives around. It confronts the stark reality that many African American youth face both within their community and from the outside. The film explores the role that Joe Marshall, co-founder of the Omega Boys Club, an innovative non-profit organization that targets at-risk youth, has in their lives. Using a video camera, these three young men document their lives, their mistakes and their struggles in their own words, narrated by Danny Glover.
- Justice Factory: Prisons - by Teen Court TV - September 14, 1996 - Total running time: 25 minutes - This series examines the rising rates of youth crime and whether tougher laws are effective in response to such crime. Students and incarcerated youth discuss pertinent topics such as the juvenile justice and prison systems, the reasons youth commit crimes, and possible solutions. The incarcerated youth describe their lives and take us through a tour of the correctional facilities, allowing the viewer an opportunity to examine the hardships they face and to identify with their humanity.
- Copwatch: Refuse to be Abused - by Copwatch - 1993 - Total Running Time: 20 minutes Copwatch is a grassroots organization based in Berkeley whose mission is to increase community awareness and participation in stopping police misconduct and brutality. Through one of Copwatch's training sessions, this film gives an overview of what our rights are and how to use them when dealing with the police.

## Culture

- CNN's Honor Killings as an introduction to the culture chapter and to convey the concepts of *ethnocentrism and cultural relativism*.
- DNA and the Case for Innocence (*Frontline documentary – great example of how legal culture works to keep innocent people in prison*)
- Not Without my Daughter (culture/religion and their effects on women's rights in Iran) - **UALIB**
- The Lost Children of Rockland County (*Frontline documentary about a syphilis outbreak about wealthy teenagers in suburban Georgia – great example of a sub-culture*)
- Party Monster – Club Kid Culture -This is the true story of Michael Alig, a Club Kid party organizer whose life was sent spiraling down when he bragged on television about killing his drug dealer and roommate.

## Death Penalty

- Dead Man Walking: Judgment at Midnight, by ABC PrimeTime Live, Jan. 17, 1996 - Total Running Time: 50 minutes (divided into four segments) - Cameras follow a condemned man at Angola State Prison in Louisiana during the final days leading up to his scheduled execution. The piece looks at his crimes, interviews family members of the victims, records an unusual meeting between the condemned man and a victim's family member, watches the tearful good-bye between the condemned man and his own family, explores the preparations the prison makes for the execution, and the complicated relationship between the prison warden and the prisoner. This video gives an excellent framework to discuss the conflicting emotions involved for all sides when dealing with the death penalty and violent crimes.
- Procedure 769 - 1995, Total Running Time: 1 hour and 15 minutes - An in-depth interview with the witnesses to the 1993 execution of Robert Alton Harris, the first person to be executed in California in 25 years. The video documents the different reactions to his execution based on the witnesses' relationship to Harris. It gives a detailed account of Harris' family history, his crimes, how his crimes affected the victims' families, and the politics surrounding the death penalty. This video is very engaging and ideal for a classroom that is doing an intensive study of the death penalty.
- Double Justice: Race and Capital Punishment , by ACLU and NAACP Legal Defense Fund 1993, Total Running Time: 19 minutes - An exploration of the patterns of sentencing, with a special focus on the historical and current application of the death penalty. The video uncovers an undeniable pattern of discrimination toward African Americans, especially when the victim is white. This video is probably most appropriate for students in grades 10 through 12.

## Deviance

- ABC's 20/20 show on Girls in Gangs - **UALIB**
- Bang Bang – *HBO special on school shootings*
- Bowling for Columbine (*Documentary – Michael Moore*) - **UALIB**
- Street Life: Inside America's Gangs
- City of Gods

## Family Violence

- A Cry for Help: The Tracey Thurman Story (docudrama about the legal case leading to the Thurman Law and mandatory arrest in domestic violence)
- Black and Blue (based on the novel of the same title by Anna Quindlen)
- Enough (an unrealistic escape from domestic violence) - **APL**
- Machismo (60 Minutes documentary about men who use the honor defense to justify murdering women in Brazil)
- Scared Silent (documentary) – child abuse, including incest, verbal abuse, physical abuse – **Dept.**
- Something About Amelia (sexual abuse – good at dispelling stereotypes)
- Journeys of Survival – **UALIB** - <http://www.dvngi.org/index.asp?p=33> - The documentary focuses on three survivors and a former batterer as they share the stories; what they learned about their

own inner strength; their fears about community reaction and what they hope their stories can do for others.

- Small Justice – UALIB - <http://www.smalljustice.com/thedoc.html> - explores the American family court system which routinely takes children away from the protective parent and puts them in the care of the person the children have named as their abuser. Other Author(s): Alter, Ann. Title: Shifting the paradigm [videorecording] : from control to respect / produced and directed by Ann Alter. Variant Title: Shifting the paradigm from control to respect Publisher: Arcata, CA : Dept. of Theatre, Film and Dance, Humboldt State University , c1999.
- Physical Description: Videorecording Description: 1 videocassette (42 min.) : sd., col. ; 1/3 in. Notes: The film "documents the battered women's movement on the cusp of change as women and men discuss what it will take for us to reach the ultimate goal of zero tolerance for domestic violence."
- "Breaking Our Silence: Gloucester Men Speak Out Against Domestic Abuse" contact [greenbau@shore.net](mailto:greenbau@shore.net) or 978-282-4611 or try Jane Doe Inc. or HAWC (Help for Abused Women and their Children) [http://www.strongmendontbully.com/press\\_coverage.html](http://www.strongmendontbully.com/press_coverage.html)
- Thich Nhat Hanh's "Peace is Every Step." [http://www.parallax.org/cgi-bin/index.pl?funct=video&query=Peace+is%20Every+Step+-+Video&id=\\*\\*ID\\*\\*](http://www.parallax.org/cgi-bin/index.pl?funct=video&query=Peace+is%20Every+Step+-+Video&id=**ID**)
- An APA resource with films listed at end: <http://www.apa.org/pi/iparv.pdf>
- A resource with books and films: [http://www.fvsai.org/Books/FVSAIbooklist41041\\_](http://www.fvsai.org/Books/FVSAIbooklist41041_)

### Freedom of Expression

- State of the Art: Art of the State? - by Deep Dish TV 1991 Total Running Time: 56 minutes (divided into two parts, 28 minutes each) A thought provoking look at the debate over public funding of the arts and the move to abolish the National Endowment for the Arts. Through interviews with lawyers, artists, and historians interspersed with visual art, video art, and performances pieces, the video makes the connection between censorship of art and the silencing of minority voices. This video is guaranteed to arouse classroom discussion and debate. The second part of the video might contain images too graphic for the classroom -- please be sure to preview before showing.
- The Ad and the Ego – by Harold Boihem and Chris Emmanoulides 1996 Total Running Time: 57 minutes This is the first comprehensive documentary on the cultural impact of advertising in America. The film artfully combines clips from over 1200 familiar television ads with insights from some of our most astute media critics. The average American is exposed to 1500 ads a day. This constant stream of messages sells us not just products but values, identities, our sense of "what is normal." The film demonstrates the critical connections between consumerism, our debased public discourse, environmental degradation and our blind faith in economic growth at any cost. This film will cause every viewer to take more seriously the central role of advertising in our society and our psyche.

### Global Inequality

- El Norte (*the hazardous trip of two young Guatemalans across Mexico into Southern California*)
- Zoned for Slavery (*child labor*) – UALIB

### Global Sex Industry

- **Live Nude Girls Unite!** is excellent. After numerous firings, racial discrimination and requests to "date" the owner's friends, disenchantment is brewing among the dancers at San Francisco's Lusty Lady. When the peep show performers learn that they have been videotaped without their consent, a long battle for a union commences. This award-winning documentary by Julia Query and Vicky Funari follows the women from dance floor to picket line. <http://www.sundancechannel.com/popup/?ixFilmID=2691>
- The video **Bought & Sold: An Investigative Documentary About the International Trade in Women** (1997), produced by Witness, is a 42 Minute documentary based on a two year undercover investigation conducted by GSN into the illegal trafficking in women from the Former

Soviet Republics, and features interviews with traffickers, Russian mafia, trafficked women, and groups working to provide services to trafficked women. (<http://witness.org/>):

- The New York Times has a great link to the stories of several workers sold into sex slavery, and a journalist who tried to buy their freedom (N. Kristof) You can play it for your class through the internet: <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/01/19/opinion/19kristof-cambodia.html?ex=110>
- **The Day My God Died** is about sex trafficking of Nepalese girls into India. (<http://www.thedaymygoddied.com>)
- **It's Our Job: Massage in Kathmandu.** An exploration of the sex industry in Kathmandu, and the lives of the women who work within it. Filmmaker Amy Fried is a senior in English at UW-Madison. Documentary Short | USA | 2002 | 18 min | Color | Mini DV Language: In Nepali with English subtitles [http://2003.wifilmfest.org/film\\_details.asp?id=656](http://2003.wifilmfest.org/film_details.asp?id=656)
- **Trading Women** the documentary investigates the trade in minority girls and women from the hill tribes of Burma, Laos and China, into the Thai sex industry. 60 mins. <http://www.der.org/films/trading-women.html>
- **Sacrifice: The Story of Child Prostitutes from Burma** examines the social, cultural, and economic forces at work in the trafficking of Burmese girls into prostitution in Thailand. It is the story of the valuation and sale of human beings, and the efforts of teenage girls to survive a personal crisis born of economic and political repression. 50 mins. (<http://www.brunofilms.com/sacrifice.html>).
- **Sisters and Daughters Betrayed** is about global prostitution.

## Health and Health Care

- **John Q.**
- **As Good As It Gets** - there's a subplot there involving Helen Hunt's son, who is ill, and HMO's
- **Gattaca** - deals with a futuristic world in which you can "custom design" your children, and the tension between those who are "custom designed" and those who are not; and also whether those who are not are necessarily inferior
- **The Doctor** - William Hurt plays a doctor who falls ill and gets to experience what his patients go through
- **Miss Ever's Boys** that focuses on the Tuskegee Syphilis experiment. It's a great illustration for discussions and readings on bioethics and human subjects issues in medical research. In addition, it underscores how aspects of social inequality (like racism) play a role in shaping the creation and dissemination of medical knowledge.
- **"The Pill"**. It was on PBS (I think on their American Experience Series) and still available to purchase off their website for about \$20.
- **"Deadly Deception"** about the Tuskegee syphilis experiment. It's really excellent. Originally aired on PBS, I think produced by the Boston PBS Station.
- **Philadelphia** with Tom Hanks in my Med Soc last year & it went over very well with the students. I constructed an ethics debate to go along with it.
- **Outbreak** with Dustin Hoffman with similar results.
- **Southern Comfort** This documentary chronicles the last year in the life of Robert Eads, a female-to-male transsexual dying of ovarian cancer. We're introduced to several people who figure prominently in Robert's life -- most importantly, Lola Cola, a transsexual who's become Robert's life partner and cares for him full-time. The two prepare to lead a panel at the annual Southern Comfort conference, a yearly event created for transgendered individuals.
- **The link below** gives you access to a Nova film "Cracking the Code of Life" that covers health/ethical issues regarding the human genome project. You can show each segment individually to fit into your class time -- of course you need the type of classroom that give you access to the internet and a projection device to do this. <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/genome/program.html>
- **Passionfish**
- **Lorenzo's Oil**: based on a true story.
- **For reproductive health** there is: The Pill and La Operacion (about sterilization in Puerto Rico) - both by WWM if I'm not mistaken.

- ***For industry and health:*** Trade Secrets - about the repression of information about how chemicals affect our health and the environment
- ***Typhoid Mary:*** The Most Dangerous Woman in America (NOVA) available from PBS, about how a woman who was a carrier of typhoid fever was quarantined against her will by the newly formed New York Health Dept.

#### **Health Care Professionals & Institutions**

- Critical Care
- Gross Anatomy
- House Calls
- John Q
- One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest
- Vital Signs

#### **Reproductive Health**

- A Handmaid's Tale
- Rambling Rose

#### **Experiencing Illness &/or Disabilities**

- Boys on the Side
- On Golden Pond
- One True Thing
- The Other Sister
- Passion Fish
- Regarding Henry
- Terms of Endearment

#### **Mental Health & Substance Abuse**

- Requiem for a Dream
- Girl, Interrupted
- Postcards from the Edge
- 28 days

Without endorsement, I also came across a few films I have yet to screen:

- "The Other Drug War" "FRONTLINE examines the battle between major pharmaceutical companies and American consumers fed up with paying the highest drug prices in the world. Through interviews with consumers, legislators, scientists, top industry leaders and analysts, "The Other Drug War" examines the efforts of states like Maine [Maine Rx] and Oregon to control escalating drug costs in the face of strong opposition from the pharmaceutical industry. The program also explores the tension between the high cost of scientific innovation and society's need to keep drugs and health care affordable"--PBS.
- "A Dangerous Business"; Originally broadcast as a segment of the television program Frontline on January 9, 2003. An investigation of the McWane Corporation, identified as one of the most dangerous companies in America in terms of health and safety violations, employee accidents and deaths. Over the last seven years the corporation has amassed more safety violations than all its major competitors combined.
- "On Our Terms" (4 videocassettes- 360 min.) Bill Moyer 4 part series. Series originally aired on PBS, September 10-13, 2000.
- "Living with Dying" : Describes the search for new ways of thinking and talking about dying. Forgoing the usual reluctance that most Americans show toward speaking about death, patients and medical professionals alike come forward to examine the end of life with honesty, courage, and even humor, demonstrating that dying can be an incredibly rich experience for both the terminally ill and their loved ones. [2] A Different Kind of Care: Presents important strides being made in the area of palliative care at pioneering institutions such as New York's Mt. Sinai Hospital and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. These advances are bringing peace to those who fear that they will be a burden to loved ones, will suffer needlessly, or will be abandoned in their hour of greatest need. [3] A Death of One's Own: Unravels the complexities underlying the many

choices at the end of life, including the bitter debate over physician-assisted suicide. Three patients, their families, and their doctors discuss some of the hardest decisions, including how to pay for care, what constitutes humane treatment, and how to balance dying and dignity. [4] A Time to Change: Presents crusading medical professionals including staff members of the Balm of Gilead Project in Birmingham, Alabama, who have dedicated themselves to improving end-of-life care by changing America's overburdened health system

## Homelessness

- Children of the Night - by Ray Telles for Frontline - 1989 - Total Running Time: 55 minutes A northern California teen runs away to Los Angeles - his life on the streets is documented along with his parents' attempts to bring him home and help him stay there. This powerful documentary shows the struggles and challenges young people on the streets face as well as the heart-wrenching dilemma parents and youth agencies face in trying to help them.
- Black Tar Heroin: The Dark End of the Street - by Steven Okazaki for HBO - 1999 Total Running Time: 120 minutes - A candid and disturbing documentary about the brutal effects of black tar heroin on homeless youth in San Francisco. This powerful movie portrays vulnerable young people addicted to black tar heroin and how their lives are destroyed by the drug. This film is a gripping tale of why young people are homeless and why drugs are such a prevalent part of their lives as they try to escape the realities of the streets. One of the youth portrayed in the film who is now in recovery might be able to make presentations to classes about her experiences. The ACLU would be able to help facilitate contacting this speaker.
- Throwaway Teens - by ABC 20/20 - September 13, 1999 - Total Running Time: 27 minutes A powerful look at young homeless youth who have been kicked out of their homes for being gay. Connie Chung explores the painful consequences of parental rejection, and the real challenges the youth face as they try to survive on the streets. Experts weigh in with insightful analysis about the toll being homeless takes on these youth.
- Streetwatch: The Civil Rights Project - by the Coalition on Homelessness - 1994 - Total Running Time: 40 minutes - After the first 6 minutes of introduction which could be skipped, this video documents live interactions between San Francisco police officers and homeless people and their advocates. The video states the laws that protect homeless people and questions the police directly about why they are asking homeless people to move, seizing property, or making arrests. An excellent tool to spark discussion about the criminalization of homeless people.
- Homeless to Harvard: The Liz Murray Story -Director: Peter Levin - Year film was made: 2003 Genre: Drama - Stars: Thora Birch and Kelly Lynch - "Homeless to Harvard" is the recipient of three Emmy® Award nominations. Liz Murray grew up extremely poor and her parents were drug addicts. Murray's mother also suffered from mental illness and AIDS. At 15, she found herself alone and out on the streets. But instead of crumbling, the troubled teen clung to hope. Her determination took her all the way to Harvard University. Don't miss this incredible true story!
- "It Was a Wonderful Life" Hidden Homeless *Women* (documentary) – UALIB

## Immigration & Stratification

For a great list of films related to issues of immigration, most of which deal with some forms of racial/ethnic/gender stratification, and have a global dimension of some sort (being re: immigration, but many of them also taking place in other countries), see <http://www.murthy.com/films.html>.

- **American History X** is fabulous--maybe less global per se, but it deals with racism, anti-Semitism, sexism, immigration, violence, etc.
- "**Mississippi Masala**" is an interesting one that covers race stratification across nations and deals with gendered relationships.
- **Crash** ...thought it was quite good for precisely racial/ethnic stratification & gender. You could also show a portion of it -- perhaps the parts where gender becomes more salient. It demands lengthy discussion though because the issues presented are complex.
- "**The Constant Gardener**" (African context)
- "**In my Country**" **Pooh's Heffalump Movie** (I kid you not) is basically about racism without being about racism and if you and your students have enough of a sense of humor, you could might be able to pull it off (the advantage is that it's short!).

- "Once Were Warriors" but it is quite violent, and quite intense.
- "Strictly Ballroom" (immigration/race issues on a micro level)
- "Hoop Dreams" for intro soc, and students had to write a paper examining race, class, and gender issues in the film. If you're not familiar with it, it's about two African American boys in Chicago with dreams of playing professional basketball. It follows them through high school and beginning years of college. It's a great documentary.
- **Hotel Rwanda**, they might need a little background on the conflict in Rwanda.
- **Dirty Pretty Things**, set in London, and focussed on undocumented residents, and the sale of organs to get the money for documents. (set in France I think; deals with immigration, racism, body trade).
- **Rabbit Proof Fence**-set in Australia and hence allows you to talk about race outside the US black/white dichotomy. There is a very useful (although disturbing) scene that specifically speaks to eugenics. Also, the protagonists are women and people of color.
- **Maria Full of Grace** for global strat including gender issues
- **Surviving the Good Times?** Two families, one Black, one white, are followed for a decade to see how racial stratification and gender ideologies shape the decisions they make and choices they have following the closing of the plant in their town (Milwaukee). It deals with the global economy in a very tangible and immediate way that students respond to. I have used it very successfully in my classes.<sup>20</sup>
- **Dateline (1992, but still relevant) called True Colors.**<sup>20</sup> Paired male researchers in St Louis and their experiences shopping,<sup>20</sup> housing, jobs, etc. Students LOVE it.
- **Life and Debt** to "explore the system of globalization<sup>20</sup> within an established racialized, global hierarchy that was created during<sup>20</sup> colonization and still persists today."... "It is a documentary about how the IMF and WTO have impacted Jamaica. I used it in my Intro to Social Problems course. It was a real eye-opener for a lot of students." ..... "This searing documentary examines how the policies of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and other aid organizations have changed the Jamaican economy over the past quarter of a century, leaving the local people to struggle in poverty and work in sweatshops."
- **El Norte** (the hazardous trip of two young Guatemalans crossing Mexico into Southern California)
- **Zoned for Slavery** (child labor) -- this is a documentary but definitely deals with gender (young women making Gap sweaters in sweat shops!)

## Media

- Dreamworlds II  
(Documentary) (Explores social sources of sexual violence against women by examining the effects of MTV videos on attitudes)Game Over (Using the critical lenses of gender, race and violence, the program stimulates viewers to ask important questions about the constructed worlds of video games -- how is race represented? What images of masculinity and power are offered? How are women portrayed in the game world?) - UALIB
- The Killing Screens <http://www.mediaed.org/videos/CommercialismPoliticsAndMedia/TheKillingScreens> (Media & the Culture of Violence) - UALIB
- Tough Guise <http://www.mediaed.org/videos/MediaGenderAndDiversity/ToughGuise> (documentary) - UALIB

## Men & Masculinity

- Full Monty - APL
- He Got Game - APL
- Machismo (60 Minutes documentary about men who use the honor defense to justify murdering women in Brazil)
- The Cowboys - APL
- Tough Guise (documentary) - UALIB
- Wall Street – UALIB
- Boys Will be Men – UALIB - <http://www.bullfrogfilms.com/catalog/boys.html> - Some answers for the hard questions about growing up male in America

### Black masculinity in film:

- Men's Lives by M. Kimmel
- Representing Black Men by Blount and Cunningham
- Paris is Burning (film) –
- Tough Guise (film) - works by bell hooks and Cornel West - Dennis Rome's very recent book

### Methods

- Quiet Rage: the Stanford Prison Experiment - **UALIB**

### Political Economy

- The Big One (a Michael Moore film) – **APL**
- Domhoff has a new web site on power, politics, and social change. It includes documents on federal advisory committees, the role of the Ford Foundation in the inner city, and local power structures as well as an updated photo essay on the Bohemian Grove. It is a useful resource for a range of courses, intro, political soc, strat, and social change.  
<http://sociology.ucsc.edu/whorulesamerica/>

### Poverty & Homelessness

- City of Gods (inequality in Brazil)
- God Bless the Child (*family homelessness*)
- Hidden Homeless Women (*documentary*)
- "It Was a Wonderful Life" Hidden Homeless Women (*documentary*) - **UALIB**
- Legacy (*documentary*) - **UALIB**

### Race

- American History X - **APL**
- Do the Right Thing - **UALIB**
- Get on the Bus (*good for masculinity too*) - **APL**
- Incident at Ogalala - **APL**
- Ms. Evers' Boys (*The Tuskegee Experiment – also good for methods*)
- School Daze (*racial attitudes between African Americans*) – **UALIB book – APL (video)**
- Panther (*also Social Movements*)
- The Long Walk Home (*good for gender too*) - **APL**
- Understanding Race (*social construction of race*)
- Zebrahead (*interracial relationships/urban situations*)
- Two Towns of Jasper. (83 minutes). **APL – Ohiolink** - In 1998 in Jasper, Texas, James Byrd, Jr., a black man, was chained to a pickup truck and dragged to his death by three white men. The town was forever altered, and the nation woke up to the horror of a modern-day lynching. The filmmakers set out to document the aftermath of the murder by following the trials of the local men charged with the crime. The result is an explicit and troubling portrait of race in America, one that asks how and why a crime like this could have occurred.
- 187 (inner-city schools/gangs/ethnic and racial issues)

### Race and CJ Inequality

- Rodney King Trial (Court TV special)
- How OJ Won (Court TV special)
- Murder on a Sunday Morning  
<http://www.directcinema.com/dcl/title.php?id=401&list=212%2C10%2C13%2C364%>  
(*documentary*) – excellent film which covers the murder trial of a young black male - focus on racism within policing
- Secrets of the SAT by FRONTLINE PBS - 1999 Total Running Time: 60 minutes FRONTLINE examines the debate over fairness in college admissions in a program that looks at how the rise

of the American meritocracy has created a national obsession with test scores and a multimillion-dollar test-prep industry. With legal challenges to affirmative action spreading across the country, FRONTLINE investigates the impact of standardized tests on racial diversity on college campuses.

- **Making the Grade** – by KQED 1999 Total Running Time: 55 minutes An in-depth look at the lives of two students who want to attend UC Berkeley. One is a white male from a private school in Marin, and the other is a Filipina female from a public school in San Francisco. The video looks in detail at the family structure, the support of their educational environments, economics, race, and the admissions process. The students, their friends and teachers from the two schools discuss with each other how they would make the process more fair. An excellent way to discuss affirmative action with high school students.
- **True Colors** – by ABC PrimeTime Live - November 26, 1992 - Total Running Time: 19 minutes An undercover investigation that takes two young men of similar backgrounds with identical credentials except for race and documents how they are treated differently as they shop, try to buy a car, get a job, and find an apartment. This video will resonate with all students and is an excellent way to start a classroom discussion about affirmative action or racial inequality.
- **Affirmative Reaction** - by Dateline NBC - 1996 - Total Running Time: 14 minutes - An in-depth look at Glen Custred and Tom Wood, the authors of California's Proposition 209 -- the anti-affirmative action initiative passed by voters in 1996. The video explores the authors' claims of reverse discrimination that fueled the passage of Proposition 209. Another excellent video to start classroom discussion about affirmative action and the danger of allowing unsubstantiated personal anecdotes to take precedence over facts and statistics.
- **At the River I Stand** - by David Appleby, Allison Graham, Steven Ross 1993 - Total Running Time: 56 minutes This documentary reconstructs the two eventful months in the Spring of 1968 which led to the tragic death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the dramatic climax of the Civil Rights Movement. As the story begins, Memphis' black community rallies behind a strike by 1300 sanitation workers and their slogan, "I am a man." Soon Dr. King joins their struggle to his growing, nation-wide Poor People's Campaign. During the bitter 65 day strike, his non-violent strategy is sorely tested and on April 4, he is assassinated. Four days later people from around the country mobilize in Memphis for a non-violent demonstration. The city council capitulates to the strikers; the sanitation workers have successfully challenged the white power structure of the South.
- **The Shadow of HATE: A History of Intolerance in America** – by Teaching Tolerance, Southern Poverty Law Center - 1995 - Total Running Time: 40 minutes - Produced by three-time Academy Award winner Charles Guggenheim, *The Shadow of Hate* spans three centuries to examine this country's ongoing struggle to live up to its ideals of liberty, equality and justice for all. Through documentary footage and eyewitness reports, viewers are given a powerful perspective on historical events from the ordinary people who lived through them.
- **A Personal Matter: Gordon Hirabayashi vs. the United States** – by The Constitution Project 1992 - Total Running Time: 30 minutes - This video tells the story of Gordon Hirabayashi, who, in 1942 defied Executive Order 9066, refusing to be interned on the grounds that the order violated his Constitutional freedoms. By documenting Hirabayashi's 43 year struggle to get his conviction overturned, the program presents a profile of a man who not only had the courage to take his stand at a time when anti-Japanese hysteria was high, but insisted on doing so in order to defend American freedom and the Constitution.
- **Changing Images, Mirrors of Life, Molds of Reality** – by the San Francisco Bay Area Civil Rights Coalition - 1990 - Total Running Time: 21 minutes. This is an evocative film that confronts the realities of racism and the stereotypes as they have existed through the centuries. Through harrowing pictures and stark realism we see how different minority groups, from African-Americans to women have been portrayed in the popular culture. It sardonically juxtaposes these images to a parody of patriotic music. In addition, it shows how these social attitudes influence social policies. This film speaks not to one audience, but to multiple ears entreating us to rid ourselves of this plague.
- **Ethnic Notions** - by Marlon Riggs - 1987 - Total Running Time: 57 minutes - This award-winning documentary takes viewers on a disturbing voyage through American history, tracing for the first

time the evolution of the deeply rooted stereotypes which have fueled anti-black prejudice. It is a fascinating and depressing study of seemingly passive images and their corrosive, dehumanizing affect on society. It is nothing less than a history of our racial consciousness. It is also an illuminating view of how popular culture not only reflects but also helps shape public attitudes and public policy.

- Happy Birthday Dr. King – by McDonald's - Total Running Time: 28 minutes - This film documents a tumultuous period of history few can forget, and the man that led us in the war against discrimination, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. It is a beautiful film told by young children, caught in a melody of background music that sings the words to his heroic deeds. It tells of the Civil Rights Movement, and Dr. King's role within it. It is interspersed with the voice and words of Dr. King himself, and his dreams. It concludes with the different ways his meanings are carried on today, from rock music to the classroom. This film reveals a legend in Dr. King.
- KQED 9 Report: Race And Academics – Total running time: 30 minutes - This special report by KQED news station takes a look at the controversy over race and how it has affected academic life. It focuses on UC Berkeley, the most diverse campus in the nation, and questions the issue of whether ethnic needs are being met in the curriculum. With an inside look at the drama department, we see how race issues are submerged in academics, and how students and faculty alike are dealing with it. Some are skeptical as to whether the curriculum needs to be changed, and even questions self-segregation in student unions and ethnic studies. This issue is not contained only within the college campus, but has affected elementary school curriculum as well in regards to who teacher, what they teach, and who writes what they teach. It brings the issue of ethnic diversity into the forefront.
- Not in Our Town - by the California Working Group 1995 - Total Running Time: 25 minutes This is a realistic look into how one town came together to fight against racism and prejudice, and as a community, sent out a message of strength and hope. This small town of Billings, Montana was plagued by hate crimes in the early 90's. Those targeted included, Jewish people and ethnic minorities. To stop the crimes and the hate, the community came together to make it known to those perpetuating the hate it was unacceptable and would not be tolerated.
- The Fight in the Fields: Cesar Chavez and the Farmworkers' Struggle – by Paradigm Productions - 1997 - Total Running Time: 1 hour and 55 minutes - The story of Cesar Chavez, the charismatic founder of the United Farmworkers Union, and the movement that he inspired -- a movement that touched the hearts of millions of Americans with the grape and lettuce boycotts, a non-violent movement that confronted conservative politicians like Ronald Reagan and the powerful Teamsters Union. A story of hope and courage against overwhelming odds. A story of poor people taking control of their lives.
- Zoned for Slavery: The Child Behind the Label - by the National Labor Committee - 1995 Total Running Time: 22 minutes - This film takes a dramatic and disturbing look into the maquiladoras of Central America, showcasing the harsh conditions of adolescent life in garment factories. A \$20.00 Gap shirt is made for only \$ .22 by 15 year old girls. Where does the other \$19.88 go to? asks the NLC. Most of these girls have not finished school, nor do they have an opportunity to. Instead, they are being exploited by the numerous multi-national corporations of the United States, being paid \$ .33 an hour to bring in millions to the U.S. The figures are staggering and shameful. Documenting the words of these teenagers, we come to see how economic exploitation stymies any opportunity for upward mobility. Companies like Osh Kosh b'Gosh, Gap, Arizona, Gitano, and Eddie Bower are here only because those girls exist. In conclusion, this film pleads to the companies for more ethical treatment for these young girls, and appeals to the masses to see what is going on before our own eyes, and not to sit silent.
- When Democracy Works- by National Campaign for Freedom of Expression -1996- Total Running Time: 30 minutes This is a brief look at the rise of the right wing, specifically examining three separate cases where individuals rights have been violated. The first is the national campaign of David Duke, ex-KKK member, and his move into politics. This portrays how his platform of racism and prejudice wielded support, and how the struggle against him eventually won. Next is the Colorado for Family Values that led the passing of Amendment 2 that violated the rights of homosexuals. It also documents the emergence of conservative religious groups in their fervor to suppress rights. Finally we encounter the border patrol of California and Mexico. This examines such issues as Proposition 187 and Proposition 209, and how these affected and

were affected by the border and economic relations that extended into the social world. Each shows how the struggle for rights still continue. Native American History.

- The Columbus Controversy: Challenging How History Is Written, by American School Publishers - 1992 - Total Running Time: 23 minutes - Every student knows about the brave voyage that brought Columbus to a beach in the Bahamas in 1492. But Columbus did far more than explore a part of the world previously unknown to Europeans: he began a desperate search for gold and a slave trade that set the pattern for Spanish conquest in the Americas. This program describes the debate about Columbus' legacy in America and challenges students to examine how a society selects its heroes and what motivates these choices.
- Earth and the American Dream, by Home Box Office and Academy Award Winner Bill Couturie – 1996 Total Running Time: 77 minutes This beautiful, disturbing and moving film tells the story of a people who "discovered" a new world and conquered it, who loved the land and lost it. Beginning with the arrival of Columbus 500 years ago, the movie traces America's development through the basic wilderness life of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, the agrarian lifestyle of the eighteenth century, and the great changes of the Industrial Revolution. Using beautiful and haunting images combined with the words of writers, politicians, historians, businessmen and ordinary citizens, the film moves through the twentieth century into the highly industrialized landscape of today. At the heart of the story lies desire, the desire that defines the American Dream, but at great cost in terms of what has been lost.
- Act of War, by Center for Hawaiian Studies - 1993 - Total Running Time: 55 minutes. This well-timed and intriguing documentary covers the history of the Hawaiian people since their "discovery" by Europeans, through the U.S. invasion and annexation, to the present day. The film makes startling similar parallels with the plight of the American Indian on the mainland and other groups who have suffered from the U.S. grab for control and power. Explores the US rise to a global military power and the price the Hawaiian people have paid.

## **RAPE**

- Calling the Ghosts – UALIB – <http://www.wmm.com/catalog/pages/c171.htm> - An extraordinarily powerful documentary, "Calling the Ghosts" is the first-person account of two women caught in a war where rape was as much an everyday weapon as bullets or bombs.
- Rape: A Crime of War – UALIB – <http://cmm.onf.ca/E/titleinfo/index.epl?id=33157> - It has been estimated that between 20,000 and 50,000 rapes were committed during fighting in the former Yugoslavia. From the perspective of victims, prosecutors and perpetrators, we are drawn into the horrors of rape as a weapon of war. Four women tell their story of forced confinement, rape and degradation in Bosnia and share how their experiences have influenced their perceptions of their partners, their children, society as a whole, and themselves.

## **REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS**

- Abortion Denied: Shattering Young Women's Lives – "Abortion Denied: Shattering Young Women's Lives" Back to top by The Feminist Majority Foundation 1990 Total Running Time: 28 minutes This video uncovers the devastating and sometimes deadly effect parental consent and notification laws have on young women. It looks at why young women fear telling their parents about their pregnancy, how judicial bypass is a cumbersome and frequently inaccessible process, and the realities of adoption. In such a short period of time, the video does an excellent job of covering a myriad of issues associated with teen pregnancy and abortion.

## **Sexual Harrassment**

- In Real Life: Sexual Harrassment in Schools - "In Real Life: Sexual Harrassment in Schools" Back to top by the Altschul Group Total Running Time: 24 minutes An excellent video portraying different realistic situations students find themselves in school and pointing out the sexual harassing behaviors between youth. Great way to segue to a class discussion about sexual harassment. Ideal for staff development as well.

## Sexuality and Gender

- Before Night Falls - **APL**
- Boys Don't Cry (*documentary is The Brandon Teena Story*) - **APL**
- Ma Vie en Rose (*My Life in Pink – English subtitles*) - **APL**
- Paris is Burning
- Southern Comfort (*HBO Documentary about the life of a transgender women who has trouble receiving help for her uterine cancer b/c of her male identity*)
- Stonewall – **APL**
- Out of the Past: The Struggle for Gay and Lesbian Rights in America by Jeff Dupre 1998 - A Sundance Film Festival awardee, this film covers the history of the lesbian and gay rights movement, starting in the 1920s. The struggles and triumphs of civil rights activists and other important figures of American history are profiled in this powerful film. Told through the eyes of Kelli Peterson, a 17-year-old high school student in Salt Lake City, Utah, this film explores Kelli's history-making experience of forming a Gay Straight Alliance in her public school. The protests, legislative battles and national media attention serve as a modern counterpoint to the history of a Human Rights movement.
- Both My Moms' Names Are Judy - by the Lesbian and Gay Parents Association 1994 - Total Running Time: 10 minutes - This video presents a diverse group of children (ages 7-11) who have lesbian and gay parents. In candid interviews, they talk about who's in their families, how it feels to be teased about their parents, how classroom silence about homosexuality affects them, and what they would like to see change.
- We Are Not Invisible - by the Indianapolis Youth Group - 1996 - Total Running Time: 38 minutes - Television and movie star, Wilson Cruz of the highly esteemed television series, "My So Called Life," and the motion picture "Nixon," shares his personal experiences with over 75 gay, lesbian, bisexual, and diversity-sensitive youth from across the United States. In a talk-show format, Wilson and other gay, lesbian and bisexual teens candidly exchange stories about: coming out as a gay youth, their school experiences, gay youth and religion, and the video concludes with powerful youth perspectives about the future for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people.
- Gay Youth - by Pam Walton - 1991 - Total Running Time: 40 minutes - Gay and lesbian youth are a great risk in our culture: The Report on Youth Suicide, published in 1989, found that of all suicides committed in the U.S. each year by people between the ages of 15 and 24, fully 30% are gay and lesbian youth. This group of young people suffers extreme isolation and is especially vulnerable to drug and alcohol abuse, homelessness, and physical and verbal violence. "Gay Youth" breaks the silence surrounding adolescent homosexuality in a way that is both powerful and accessible. It contrasts the suicide of 20-year old Bobby Griffith with the remarkable life of 17-year old Gina Guterrez. This videos shows that information, acceptance and support can make an enormous difference in the lives of these young people.
- All God's Children - by Woman Vision Production - 1996 - Total Running Time: 26 minutes This documentary looks at the Black Church's embracement of African American lesbians and gay men as dedicated members of its spiritual family. Prominent religious, intellectual and political leaders, family members, and activists speak out about the role of the church and the importance of a commitment to equal rights and social justice for all people. They all weigh in with heartfelt stories about exclusion and discrimination, then about inclusion and the call for healing.
- It's Elementary: Talking about Gay Issues in School - by Women's Educational Media 1996 - Total Running Time: 78 minutes - Most adults probably don't see why or how schools should address lesbian and gay issues with young children. With inspiring classroom footage, this video urges educators and parents to re-think their assumptions. This beautifully crafted film shows what actually happens when teachers lead class discussions that address anti-gay prejudice. It makes a powerful case that children need to be taught respect for ALL - and that this kind of education needs to start in elementary school. Winner: Best Educational Film at the Northern Lights Festival.
- The Castro by KQED - 1997 - Total Running Time: 86 minutes - Now known internationally as the world's first "gay hometown," San Francisco's Castro district was a quiet, working-class neighborhood of European immigrants only a few decades ago. In this moving documentary, filled with rare archival film and fresh contemporary footage, the story of the Castro's transformation is

told by those who lived it, young and old, straight and gay. It's a tale of social upheaval, exuberant street culture, political assassination, and the inspiring coming-of-age of an entire community - an ongoing saga even today.

- The Laramie Project – [APL](#) - <http://www.time.com/time/classroom/laramie/> - Documentary on the hate crime death of Matthew Shepard in Laramie, WY.
- Assault on Gay America – [APL](#) - <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/assault/> - the life and death of Billy Jack Gaither

### Social Class and Inequality

- Attica
- Children in America's Schools (*documentary with Bill Moyers*) – [APL](#), [Dept](#)
- Educating Rita (*good for gender too*) - [APL](#)
- Gosford Park - [APL](#) 5. Harlan County USA (*struggle to unionize a coal mine – great example of the conflict perspective on law and class warfare*) - [APL](#)
- Matewan - [APL](#)
- Norma Rae - [APL](#)
- Reds - [APL](#) 9. Roger and Me (*documentary about class and social change after GM closed its plant in Flint, MI*) - [APL](#)
- 10. Slave Wages (*documentary*)

### Social Interaction

- Episodes of the Beverly Hill, Hillbillies for social interaction - [APL](#)

### Social Movements & Social Change

- Bloody Sunday - [APL](#)
- Gandhi - [APL](#)
- Harlan County USA (*struggle to unionize a coal mine – great example of the conflict perspective on law and class warfare*) - [APL](#)
- Long Walk Home (*dramatization of the Montgomery bus boycott*)
- Love and Anarchy - [APL](#)
- Lumumba - [APL](#)
- Medium Cool - [APL](#)
- Roger and Me (*documentary about class and social change after GM closed its plant in Flint, MI*)
- Romero - [APL](#)
- Showdown in Seattle
- Mighty Times: Legacy of Rosa Parks – [UALIB](#)
- Mahatma Gandhi: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Prophet – [UALIB](#)
- PBS **30 Frames a Second: The WTO in Seattle** 30 Frames A Second: The WTO in Seattle, is a compelling first-person account of the events that unfolded during the week the World Trade Organization came to Seattle in November of 1999. It's told from the perspective of 15-year veteran network news cameraman Rustin Thompson, who covered the WTO as an independent journalist. It is the story of how Thompson's objective point-of-view evolved into a subjective account of what became an unscheduled, unruly outbreak of democracy. Thompson, who had press credentials for the event, takes the viewer into the fray of tear gas, pepper spray, and police abuse; behind the lines and inside the convention center and press rooms; and along the marches, sit-ins, and demonstrations. His dynamic, up-close footage captures the passion, the confusion, the anger, and the courage of everyone involved, from protesters to police to delegates to bureaucrats. With Thompson narrating, the film asks viewers to emotionally engage their own conflicting feelings about the demonstrations and behind-closed-doors meetings. "I was intrigued by taking a singular, personal approach to the events," says Thompson, as he recounts how the protests affected him as a journalist and a common citizen. The result is an impressionistic journal of a decisive week that exploded into a massive expression of freedom: of

speech, of assembly, and the press. 72 minutes, Copyright Date: 2000 ISBN: 1-56029-881-2-- Directed by Rustin Thompson Produced by Rustin Thompson and Ann Hedreen for White Noise Productions

- **A Place Called Chiapas** – documents the struggle of the Zapatistas; has interviews not only with Zapatista members, but also with refugees that are caught in the middle as well as interviews with the wealthy landowners, the paramilitary group, Paz y Justicia, and the state police in Chiapas. The documentary is in English or has English subtitles for the interviews in Spanish.
- **Amandla! A Revolution in Four-Part Harmony** is absolutely incredible-- on the role of music and song in that struggle. Goes well with Eyerman and Jamison's Music and Social Movements book.
- **At the River I Stand** - garbage workers strike in Memphis 1968 leading up to the assassination of MLK, Jr.
- **Before Stonewall** - Documents the rise of the gay rights movement.
- **Berkeley in the '60s** - from Free Speech movement to the dissolution and violence at Peoples' Park 1969. Includes footage from the period, as well as interviews with key activists reflecting on the various movements: student, anti-war, women's, black power. Available at California newsreel: <http://www.newsreel.org/>
- **Butterfly** - based on Julia Hill Butterfly's 1990's occupation of a California redwood tree in order to save it from logging. Julia is a member of EarthFirst! and the film gives some background info on the organization and community reaction to Butterfly's occupation of the tree.
- **Canadian Film Board** – recommended as a source for documentaries.
  - **Casting the First Stone** - focuses on six women who regularly confront each other from opposite sides of a police barricade. Three believe that abortion is an inalienable right. Three consider it murder. Shelley Miller, director of the Women's Suburban Clinic in Paoli, Pennsylvania, endures constant harassment from anti-abortion groups camped outside her doors. Joan Scalia, a Catholic mother of six, defies her husband to join Operation Rescue's efforts. Sharon Owens, clinic counselor and adoptive mother of three, is closer to the middle. She cannot decide when human life begins, but feels required - as a Christian - to serve others who must. As it chronicles the daily lives of these and the other women, the camera records anti-abortion blockades, counseling sessions, a visit with a young mother the protesters persuaded to have her baby, and Planned Parenthood's emergency board meetings after the Supreme Court's historic Webster v. Missouri decision. Rare in giving equal voice to both sides, CASTING THE FIRST STONE is among the most insightful documents of the abortion struggle ever made. A Video by Julie Gustafson 54 minutes / color / 1991 [http://www.frif.com/cat97/a-e/casting\\_.html](http://www.frif.com/cat97/a-e/casting_.html)
- **Chicanos!** – four-part film series about the Chicano Movement in US, most recommended the part on Cesar Chavez and the Mexican Farmworkers Association entitled: "**Struggle in the Field**". The film covers issues of mobilizing poor workers, immigrants, leadership, culture and art, etc.
- **Deadly Deception** - about the nuclear industry deception regarding safety to the public and weapon trigger manufacturing of GE General Electric and the boycott effort.
- **Eyes on the Prize** - in-depth look at the U.S. civil rights movement. In particular I've used the segment on the student sit-ins at department stores in Nashville (Ain't Scared of Your Jails) (great for college students) and the segment on the Mississippi Freedom Summer (Mississippi. Is this America?). In Series I (good to combine with McAdams' Freedom Summer since it deals with college student experiences) and the segment in Series II (I think) on the Lowndes County freedom ballot and the march that grew out of James Forman's ill-fated march to Montgomery (I think) where you see the tensions between Stokely Carmichael and ML King and you see the development of the Black Power movement. (I think the title is: The Time Has Come.)
- **The FBIs War on Black America** - about COINTELPRO and the Black Panther Party in US
- **The fight in the fields:** Cesar Chavez and the Farmworker's Struggle, on the Chicano movement/grape boycott, FROM AMAZON.COM -- \$40
- **Freedom on My Mind** - California newsreel, <http://www.newsreel.org/>
- **The Greening of Cuba** (38 minutes, 1996) - The Greening of Cuba profiles Cuban farmers and scientists working to reinvent a sustainable agriculture, based on ecological principles and local knowledge rather than imported agricultural inputs. In their quest for self sufficiency, Cubans

combine time-tested traditional methods with cutting edge bio-technology.

<https://commerce12.pair.com/~pront011/Merchant2/merchant.mv>

- **Greensboro sit-ins** – from California Newsreel
- **Harlan County, USA** - is really a wonderful account of the women's strength in a union struggle.
- **In the Name of the People** – on the civil war in El Salvador from the perspective of the guerilla resistance. The documentary is in English or has English subtitles for the interviews in Spanish.
- **Iron-Jawed Angels** the new HBO movie about Alice Paul.
- **Kilometer Zero** (50 minutes, 2003): A film that documents the September 2003 WTO protests in Cancun, Mexico. You can find out more at: <http://www.bignoisifyilms.com/cancun.htm>
- **Las Madres de la Plaza de Mayo** – excellent documentary on the mothers' movement in Argentina in their search for information about their missing children that were disappeared during the Dirty War in the country from 1976 to 1982; has interviews with some of the primary leaders of the movement as well as with government officials; also addresses the issue of U.S. support to the military junta responsible for the disappearances and the role of the School of the Americas. The documentary is in English or has English subtitles for the interviews in Spanish.
- **Made in Thailand** (Women Make Movies) is about a Thai garment workers' strike.
- **Made in India** – about the Self Employed Women's Association in Gujarat, India. SEWA is one of the best success stories of disadvantaged women coming together and organizing themselves into various self-employed associations such as rag pickers, gum collectors etc. <http://www.wmm.com/catalog/pages/c488.htm>.
- **Making a Killing** - about the effort to curb the tobacco industry, particularly Philip Morris in international context
- **Bottle Babies** - 1970s vintage German produced film that inspired the creation of INFACT - the Infant Formula Action Coalition which continues targeting companies for boycott as a tool to change bad practice. <http://www.infact.org/>
- **Making Sense of the Sixties** - 1991 PBS series (about 5 films, I think) about events occurring in the United States.
- **Matewan** - 1920s coal-mining country
- **Medicine at the Crossroads** - the one called Pandemic is about three different approaches to the AIDS crisis, comparing US, Australia, and Thailand situations and responses of health workers in these different countries.
- **Not for Ourselves Alone**: The Story of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony (PBS @\$30) It is long (3 hours), but lovely on their friendship, their commitment, the movement and its evolution, training new generations, hard political decisions (about the 14th amendment, etc).
- **Occupation** - documents the 3-week sit-in (in the administration building) by a group of Harvard students supporting the increase of wages for low-wage workers. It's very compelling - live footage of the student protesters and of the workers, as they both develop more confidence as leaders of the campaign. Also shows the growing mass of supporters, with rallies outside the administration building, etc. It's narrated by Ben Affleck, and produced by EnMasse Films. ([www.enmassofilms.org](http://www.enmassofilms.org))
- **One Woman, One Vote** - PBS documentary on U.S. women's movement; practically a textbook case.
- **Poverty Outlaw** (60 minutes, 1991): A film that documents the work and organizing of the women in the Kensington Welfare Rights Union. You can find out more at: [http://www.skylightpictures.com/film\\_outlaw.html](http://www.skylightpictures.com/film_outlaw.html).
- **Raiz Forte** (41 minutes, 2001, Portuguese with English subtitles): A film that documents the Landless Workers Movement (MST) in Brazil. You can find out more at: <http://store.globalexchange.org/strongroots.html>.
- **Rebels with a Cause**. It is about the SDS during Vietnam. It has a great clip about the FBI's efforts to thwart their efforts.
- **Salt of the Earth** - produced in the 1950s/labor/early feminism
- **Scout's Honor** - The film chronicles a 13-year-old Boy Scout, Steven Cozza, who, although not gay, galvanizes a national campaign to overturn the ban on gays in the Boy Scouts of America. Also included are the legal stories of James Dale and Tim Curran, ousted gay Boy Scouts, whose cases wound their way to the U.S. Supreme Court. The film shows what happens when gay and

straight people come together to resist prejudice while demonstrating how community organizing and legal action work in tandem to effect social change.

<http://www.ksgcase.harvard.edu/>

- **Standing on My Sister's Shoulders** In 1965, when three women walked into the US House of Representatives in Washington D.C., they had come a very long way. They weren't lawyers or politicians. They were not rich. They were women from Mississippi who had been descendants of African slaves. They had worked the cotton fields in the U.S. State of Mississippi and had come to their country's capitol to seek their civil rights. And they were the first black women to be allowed in the senate chambers in nearly 100 years. A film by Joan Sadoff, Dr. Robert Sadoff and Laura J. Lipson
- **THE TAKE** has opened in several countries. Avi Lewis and Naomi Klein (author of NO LOGO) are the writers/producers. Filmed in Argentina last year.
- **This is What Democracy Looks Like** - by Big Noise Films about the WTO/IMF protests in Seattle. I've shown it in classes and it is very accessible to undergrads and really encourages discussion afterward. There are also quite a few interviews and discussions with the people planning the action.
- **Union Maids** is old, but fabulous.
- **Uprising of '34** - is about the textile mill strikes of 1934, across the country, but primarily in the south.
- **Weather Underground** - about the Weather Underground in US
- **We Can Change the World** - about the Civil Rights Movement. It's really moving and features both activists and academics (such as Doug McAdam).
- **With Babies and Banners** - about the Flint sit down strike that spawned the UAW.
- **YOU GOT TO MOVE** - about the Highlander Folk School in TN and covers a variety of campaigns over decades. Highlander is now called the Highlander Education Center and you can find them on google.
- **Women Organize** (Women Make Movies, [www.wmm.com](http://www.wmm.com))
- **Zapatista** – by Big Noise Films, about the Zapatistas in Mexico

## War and Violence

- The Pianist (*A Polish Jewish musician struggles to survive the destruction of the Warsaw ghetto of World War II – based on biography by Wladyslaw Szpilman*)

## Urban Sociology

- Divided Highways. Post-war development of American cities (80 mins).

## Women and Gender

- Life & Times of Rosie the Riveter (*documentary*)
- One Woman One Vote - *Women's Suffrage* - APL
- Killing us Softly (*media and women*) - APL
- If These Walls Could Talk (I & II) - APL
- The Circle - APL
- Thelma & Louise - APL 9. Personal Velocity 10. The Magdalen Sisters  
<http://www.cinescene.com/reviews/magdalene.htm> - APL (*Good examination of deviance categories reserved for women and their implications*)
- Handmaid's Tale

## Sexuality and Gender

- Before Night Falls
- Boys Don't Cry (*documentary is The Brandon Teena Story*)
- If These Walls Could Talk II (*about lesbian relationships*)
- Ma Vie en Rose (*My Life in Pink – English subtitles*)
- Paris is Burning
- Southern Comfort (*HBO Documentary about the life of a transgender women who has trouble receiving help for her uterine cancer b/c of her male identity*)

- Stonewall

## Sex Work

- "Live Nude Girls Unite!" is excellent.
- The video **Bought & Sold: An Investigative Documentary About the International Trade in Women (1997)**, produced by Witness, might be useful. Below is a description from their website (<http://witness.org/>): This 42 Minute documentary was produced and directed by current WITNESS Director Gillian Caldwell while she was co-director of the Global Survival Network (GSN). It is based on a two year undercover investigation conducted by GSN into the illegal trafficking in women from the Former Soviet Republics, and features interviews with traffickers, Russian mafia, trafficked women, and groups working to provide services to trafficked women.
- **The new york times has a great link to the stories of several workers** sold into sex slavery, and a journalist who tried to buy their freedom (N. Kristof) You can play it for your class through the internet: <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/01/19/opinion/19kristof-cambodia.html?ex=1109826000&en=9f5b86b080b6ab8d&ei=5070>
- PBS just showed a film about a month, or two ago, called, **The Day My God Died**. It is about sex trafficking of Nepalese girls into India. It is very well done and I am showing it to my class, Cross-Cultural Studies of Gender, this quarter. There is also another the **Good Woman of Bangkok**, an Australian production. The filmmaker traces the histories of a few sex workers he met in Bangkok. It is an older film, and a bit on the artsy side. There is also one more film I have used but the title escapes me at the moment (I am away from my desk at the moment). It is about women being trafficked from Burma to Thailand. It is also very powerful, albeit sometimes the art gets in the way of the messages. I can write back with that title. It was also on PBS. I hope this helps.
- At the 2003 Wisconsin Film Festival in Madison, I saw a short documentary about sex workers in Kathmandu. The primary filmmaker was a UW student at the time, and I think she said she made the film while interviewing women during a year abroad. Anyway, I enjoyed it enough that I still remember it! I'd recommend contacting her to see if she could send you a copy. In 2003 her contact information was: Amy Fried [aefried@students.wisc.edu](mailto:aefried@students.wisc.edu) it may have changed, since she was a senior at the time.
- **It's Our Job: Massage in Kathmandu** Documentary Short | USA | 2002 | 18 min | Color | Mini DV **Language:** In Nepali with English subtitles **Director:** Amy Fried, Lori Tashjian **Producer:** Amy Fried, Lori Tashjian (World Premiere) An exploration of the sex industry in Kathmandu, and the lives of the women who work within it. Filmmaker Amy Fried is a senior in English at UW-Madison. [http://2003.wifilmfest.org/film\\_details.asp?id=656](http://2003.wifilmfest.org/film_details.asp?id=656)
- The one "international" film on sex work that I have shown is called "**Shinjuku Boys**" (see film description below). However, this film is probably far off from the focus you are thinking of. It features several Japanese women who dress as men and perform sex work for other Japanese women . It's fascinating! it brings up lots of issues around the performance of gender and how this relates to power and cultural constructions of femininity and masculinity. But this is probably better suited for a course on gender, sexuality, and feminist theory. Good luck! <http://www.wmm.com/catalog/pages/c222.htm>
- I'd recommend the film "**Trading Women**" (see <http://www.der.org/films/trading-women.html> for a great description). It's a very powerful film. For very closely related points on the child sex trade, I'd also recommend "**The Day My God Died**" (<http://www.thedaymygoddied.com>) and "**Sacrifice: The Story of Child Prostitutes from Burma**" (<http://www.brunofilms.com/sacrifice.html>).
- I use a film in my Gender, Work and Global Economy class entitled, "**Sisters and Daughters Betrayed**" about global prostitution.
- A very powerful film is "**Sacrifice**". It's slow moving, but shows the life of and interviews with several young Burmese girls who go into the sex trade in Bangkok, get AIDS, and what happens to them. I'm not sure where to get it; our university owns it

## WELFARE

- "Wage slaves not getting by in America" / produced by Termite Art Productions for A & E Network ; Kurtis Productions ; produced by Julie Harman, Kathleen Kern. I have used this film several

times. Barbara Ehrenreich is interviewed in it. It works well to pair it with her book *Nickel and Dimed* or a chapter from Edin and Lein (*Making Ends Meet*) or Hays (*Flatbroke on Welfare*).

- PBS Point of View documentary, "Take it from Me". It follows 5 families right before transitioning off welfare b/c of the time constraint and it leaves a very stark impression on students.
- An old feature film: *Claudine*. It seemed to be outdated for a long time - but now I wonder if it hasn't come back into timeliness. Worth a preview, at least. (p.s. it's hard to find but really is out on DVD somewhere)
- Consider the PBS offerings on welfare and welfare reform, as well as other social issues, esp if your classroom is a "Smart" classroom that lets you stream video. *The Last Abortion Clinic*, *The Farmer's Wife*, and "Take it From Me" on welfare (which I haven't seen), to name a few. Many/most can be watched on-line for free (inc the *Farmer's Wife*) or are inexpensive to purchase. The shorter time frame of some programs permits more class discussion. Current topics often have programs which aired in recent months. Companion materials are often available too.
- <http://www.pbs.org/pov/pov2001/takeitfromme/index.html> (POV is a great series. For welfare: "Take it From Me" and maybe "Waging a Living")
- <http://www.pbs.org/pov/>
- <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/> -- one of my favorite series.
- Surprisingly good doc on meth and role of regs and pharmaceuticals.  
[http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/welfare/july-dec99/welfare\\_index.html](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/welfare/july-dec99/welfare_index.html)  
[http://www.pbs.org/ttc/headlines\\_society.html](http://www.pbs.org/ttc/headlines_society.html)
- The film that I have used a great deal is *Poverty Outlaw* that covers the experiences of those involved in the Kensington Welfare Rights Union. You can find more information about the film at [http://skylightpictures.com/film/site/film\\_detail/poverty\\_outlaw/](http://skylightpictures.com/film/site/film_detail/poverty_outlaw/).
- This is an excellent documentary that I first saw at an International Film Festival  
<http://www.pbs.org/legacy/documentary/index.html>

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