

The Center's Film Archive

4CHOSEN: The Documentary

Four young minority basketball players from New York City were traveling to North Carolina for a college basketball showcase when they were profiled by two NJ State Troopers and then shot 13 times.

ABC News 20/20 Segment, 2/27/98 (by Investigative Reporter Arnold Diaz)

African-American shoppers share racist treatment directed at them by store clerks and security agents while European-Americans are left untargeted.

ADL's Anti-Semitism on the College Campus (11/92)

College students share their personal experiences with anti-Semitism, examine attitudes which foster it, and explore ways in which to effectively respond to it.

African Americans in World War II: A Legacy of Patriotism and Valor

Never-before-seen footage of African-American servicemen and -women in Europe and the Pacific. Interview with Vernon Baker, the only African-American serviceman who lived to receive the Medal of Honor—fifty years after his acts of heroism.

America Beyond the Color Line

Coming face to face with the people and places that constitute the African-American experience today, Gates confronts the issues he spends his time writing and thinking about: race, identity, integration, culture, class, and the legacy of history and what it means to be black and American today.

An Act of War

This film confronts the violent process of American colonialism: a violence of mass death, American missionizing, cultural destruction, & American military, as well as the exploitation of Hawaiians, their culture & their lands.

Anti-Semitism on the College Campus

Anti-Semitic incidents on the American campus reveal a trauma for each student who has been affected and for the college community which must respond. Eleven students grapple with their reactions and search for appropriate responses and solutions.

An Unlikely Friendship

The true story of how C.P. Ellis, an embittered Klansman, and Ann Atwater, an outspoken black woman activist, overcame their hatred for one another and formed a life-long friendship.

Asian Stereotypes

An examination of stereotypes of Arab and Japanese cultures which fuel prejudice.

A Time for Justice

Historic footage and voices of movement participants are powerfully presented from the perspective of ordinary people who lived through these events.

Bell Hooks: Cultural Criticism & Transformation

Setting us straight on how culture constructs filmmakers who construct films in culture's image. And what a shared image it is, bristling, according to hooks, with "white supremacist capitalist patriarchal" fangs and warts.

Beyond Barbed Wire

An "emotionally charged" telling of a "bizarre moment in America's . . . history." Its stories, poignant and humorous, recount the struggle that the offspring of interned Japanese Americans faced when they fought for the United States in WWII.

Blacks and Jews

During the Civil Rights movement, African Americans and Jews fought together for equal rights. This film is an invaluable tool for increasing mutual understanding and building coalitions for social justice, not just between Blacks & Jews, but between all ethnic groups.

Black and White in Springfield

A penetrating view of how racism affects the economic, social, educational and religious spheres of a community. It also points out some positive efforts toward bringing the community together and affecting change.

Black Is . . . Black Ain't

Marlon Riggs locates the essence of "blackness" in African Americans' courage from slavery down to the present, improvising a positive meaning for their lives in face of overwhelming discrimination and suffering. This film weaves together the testimony of those whose complexion, class, gender, speech or sexuality has made them feel "too Black" or "not Black enough."

Black Pioneers: True Faces of the West

Focuses on African-American pioneers who in the past four hundred years became explorers, guides, cowhands, teachers and professionals as they moved into remote areas west of the Mississippi River. Most of their stories have eluded history books. This two-part documentary sets the record straight.

Breaking Through Stereotypes

This video is an excellent discussion starter for a multicultural curriculum, conflict resolution and human dynamics training. Produced by teenagers, this documentary explores how stereotypes influence human reaction.

Center for the Healing of Racism: Teach Me

Promotional video for the center of healing racism

Dark Passage

Shot on location in West Africa and in Virginia. Tells the story of impact of the Atlantic slave trade.

Edward Said - The Myth of 'the Clash of Civilizations'

In this important lecture delivered at the University of Massachusetts, Said takes aim at one of the central tenets of recent foreign policy thinking-- that conflicts between different and "clashing civilizations" (Western, Islamic, Confucian) characterize the contemporary world.

Eyes on the Prize: America's Civil Rights Years 1954-1965, Awakenings (1954-1956)

Meet ordinary people who played extraordinary roles—from grass roots protests to Supreme Court victories, launching the modern movement for civil rights. This film captures the courage of Black Americans as they strode toward freedom.

Family Gathering

Examines repercussions of internment of Japanese Americans during the Second World War by the granddaughter of a detainee.

Generation M: Misogyny in Media & Culture

For all of the achievements of the women's movement over the past four decades, misogyny remains a persistent force in American culture. In this important new documentary, Thomas Keith, Professor of Philosophy at California State University-Long Beach, looks specifically at misogyny and sexism in mainstream American media, exploring how negative definitions of femininity and hateful attitudes toward women get constructed and perpetuated at the very heart of our popular culture.

In the White Man's Image

Recounts how Captain Richard Pratt experimented on Native Americans in order to "kill the Indian and save the man." Pratt obtained government funding to set up schools where Native American children were stripped of everything they had learned in their own cultures. His experiments ended in failure in the 1930s.

The Angola 3: Black Panthers and the Last Slave Plantation

Tells the gripping story of Robert King, Herman Wallace and Albert Woodfox, men who have endured solitary confinement longer than any known living prisoner in the United States. Politicized through contact with the Black Panther Party while inside Louisiana's prisons, they formed one of the only prison Panther chapters in history and worked to organize other prisoners into a movement for the right to live like human beings.

The Jena 6

In a small town in Louisiana, six families are fighting for their sons' lives. The Jena 6 is the story of racism and violence becoming visible. It is a powerful symbol for and example of, how racial (in)justice works in America—where the lynching noose has been replaced by the DA's pen.

Legacy of Torture

The War against the Black Liberation Movement

Life and Death of Malcolm X

Fascinating documentary that shows dozens of speeches, interviews, and a special TV show. Hear the secret recording of an FBI agent trying to bribe Malcolm and a never-before-seen confession from Tallmadge Hayer, one of Malcolm's assassins.

Light in the Shadows

A frank conversation about race among ten women who participated in the ground-breaking video *The Way Home*. These American women of Indigenous, African, Arab, European, Jewish, Asian, Latina and Mixed Race descent, use authentic dialogue to crack open a critical door of consciousness.

Living on the Fault Line

Explores the intersection of familial love and racial injustice in the experiences of transracial families created through adoption. An unflinching look at race in America, it is an intimate portrait that reveals the difficulties families face as children of color grow up in communities where racism and white privilege are unspoken and undeniable realities.

Lost Boys of Sudan

This film focuses on Santino and Peter, members of the Dinka tribe, during their first life-altering year in the United States. Safe at last from physical danger-but a world away from home- the boys must grapple with extreme cultural differences as they come to understand both the abundance and alienation of contemporary American life.

Los Vendidos

A biting satire of cultural stereotypes of Mexican Americans

Media that Matters

Sixteen shorts on big issues. Produced by independent and youth filmmakers from around the country.

Mickey Mouse Monopoly Disney, Childhood & Corporate Power

Takes a close and critical look at the world these films create and the stories they tell about race, gender and class and reaches disturbing conclusions about the values propagated under the guise of innocence and fun. This daring new video insightfully analyzes Disney's cultural pedagogy, examines its corporate power, and explores its vast influence on our global culture.

Mirrors of Privilege: Making Whiteness Visible

This film is a moving call, long-overdue, coming from the heart of white people working to restore their own humanity. Undoing the false teaching of racial supremacy, which are all-pervasive and quite subtle, requires a lifetime of work.

Navajo Code Talkers

The U.S. recruited over four hundred Navajo Indians for duty as communication specialists. They devised an unbreakable voice code to transmit battlefield messages during the Pacific Campaign whose amazing skills played a vital role on America's victory.

None of the Above

A documentary about people of mixed heritage based on the filmmaker's own search for identity and community—an emotionally compelling and particularly relevant message in today's multicultural society.

Not In Our Town!

This dramatic video documents what happened in Billings, Montana where white supremacists had victimized some residents because of their race, religion or ethnicity. It also chronicles the actions of citizens throughout the country who respond to hate crimes and other acts of intolerance. Hosted by comedian Will Durst.

Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome

Delves into the primary values that have shaped African culture, and the impact that slavery as a historical trauma, has had on African American culture.

Postville: When Cultures Collide

This charming program looks at what happened when 300 Hasidic Jews descended on Postville, a town in Iowa with a population of 1500, where the pigs outnumbered the humans 3:1. This film is a prism through which to understand ethnic, cultural and religious conflicts in towns across America that is faced with increasingly heterogeneous populations.

P.O.V.'s Color Adjustment (narrated by Ruby Dee)

This film explores the changing images of Blacks on TV. "The country's image of the Negro, which hasn't very much to do with the Negro, has never failed to reflect with a kind of frightening accuracy the state of mind of the country." James Baldwin

Prejudice: Answering Children's Questions

This video scrutinizes some of the influences that shape children's ideas about the world and examines stereotypes based on ethnicity, sex, religion and disability.

Race-Power of an Illusion

Three-hour series by California Newsreel claims. Race - The Power of an Illusion **questions the very idea of race as biology, suggesting that a belief in race is no more sound than believing that the sun revolves around the earth.**

[Episode 1- The Difference Between Us](#) examines the contemporary science - including genetics - that challenges our common sense assumptions that human beings can be bundled into three or four fundamentally different groups according to their physical traits.

Episode 2- The Story We Tell uncovers the roots of the race concept in North America, the 19th century science that legitimated it, and how it came to be held so fiercely in the western imagination. The episode is an eye-opening tale of how race served to rationalize, even justify, American social inequalities as "natural."

Episode 3- The House We Live In asks, If race is not biology, what is it? This episode uncovers how race resides not in nature but in politics, economics and culture. It reveals how our social institutions "make" race by disproportionately channeling resources, power, status and wealth to white people.

By asking, What is this thing called 'race?', a question so basic it is rarely asked, Race - The Power of an Illusion helps set the terms that any further discussion of race must first take into account. Ideal for human biology, anthropology, sociology, American history, American studies, and cultural studies.

Race is the Place

A high definition performance documentary on America's most explosive social issue

Shattering the Silences: The Case for Minority Faculty

Across America campus diversity is under attack; affirmative action programs are banned, Ethnic Studies departments' defunded, multicultural scholarship impugned. This video offers an opportunity to see United States campuses through the eyes of faculty of color.

Skin Deep

Takes the viewers on a journey into the minds of college students as they confront racism. They share their anger, pain, confusion and hope. This film encourages self-examination and dialogue as it delves beneath the surface of America's racial divide.

Strange Demise of Jim Crow: How Houston Desegregated Its Public Accommodations, 1959-1963

This documentary reveals emblematic quiet, almost stealthy way many cities in the South ultimately desegregated . . . revealing secret agreements, controversial news blackouts which accompanied desegregation of lunch counters, hotels, restaurants and theaters in Houston between 1959-1963. It is a hopeful story of compromise and negotiation, as well as a cautionary tale about the complex trade-offs between press censorship and racial conflict.

Street Stories

Revisit Los Angeles, California, April 30, 1992, as it aired on CBS.

That's Black Entertainment

Compilation from many forgotten movies by the underground film industry which emerged in the Black community in the 30s and 40s because of prejudice and segregation. It shows how African American producers, directors and actors more accurately depict the lives and concerns of African Americans in contrast to films produced by their European American counterparts.

Teaching the Levees

One powerful response to the disaster of Hurricane Katrina was the Peabody Award-winning HBO Documentary Films event, *When the Levees Broke: A Requiem in Four Acts*, by Spike Lee. Now, through the generosity of the Rockefeller Foundation, faculty and staff at Teachers College, Columbia University have taken the documentary and created a compelling curriculum guide that is being made available for distribution free of charge to high schools, colleges, and community groups.

The Bluest Eyes

Ethnically diverse group, including teachers, police, social workers and others of both genders take part in a blue-eyed/brown-eyed experiment that provides an opportunity for them to learn what it is to be a minority in this race-based nation.

The Buffalo Soldiers

From the Indian wars to the Spanish-American War, relive the heroism, drama and adventure of this legend. Chronicles the history and accomplishments of the all-African American cavalries and infantries during the last half of the nineteenth century.

The Children's March

The story of how the young people of Birmingham, Ala., braved fire hoses and police dogs in 1963 and brought segregation to its knees. Their heroism complements discussions about the ability of today's young people to be catalysts for positive social change.

The Color of Fear

Award winning film about the pain and anguish that racism has caused in the lives of eight North American men of Asian, European, Latin American and African descent. An emotional and insightful portrayal of the type of dialogue most of us fear, but hope will happen sometime in our lifetime emerges out of their confrontations and struggles to understand and trust one another.

The Eye of the Storm

Prize-winning documentary of well-known work of teacher Jane Elliott who separated her students into groups based on their eye color to teach them about prejudice.

The Golden Door: Our Nation of Immigrants

This video shows how the diversity within the U.S. has made us a unique and powerful nation. It looks at the history of immigration, the patterns of change, recent laws and renewed debates over immigration policies.

The Longest Hatred: The History of Anti-Semitism

How anti-Semitism has shaped the experience of Jewish people from the first century to the present. Viewers will learn that this prejudice has its roots long before the Holocaust and continues to rear its ugly head in surprising places today.

The Politics of Love: In Black and White

This documentary confronts forthrightly the issue of interracial romance. The joys and strengths of so-called mixed relationships, along with the pain and anxieties are discussed. It shuns pat answers in favor of revealing America's continuing ambivalence about its ethnic diversity.

The Trouble Behind

Explores the roots and persistence of racism in a powerful documentary about Corbin, Kentucky, the home of Colonel Sanders.

The Two Nations of Black America

Measure the widening gap between the beneficiaries of affirmative action and those left behind. With the largest middle class in history but more than half of its children born into poverty, black America has overcome segregation only to face new walls of class.

The Tuskegee Airmen

Not welcomed in the Air Force, four newly recruited pilots are united to serve their country. They must undertake the riskiest mission of their lives—to prove to America that courage knows no color.

The Shadow of Hate

History of intolerance in America through documentary footage and eyewitness reports. Three centuries of struggle is expressed from the perspective of ordinary people who lived through the times.

Tim Wise: On White Privilege

An ideal introduction to the social construction of racial identities, and a critical new tool for exploring the often invoked - but seldom explained - concept of white privilege.

Traces of the Trade

In the feature documentary **Traces of the Trade: a Story from the Deep North**, filmmaker Katrina Browne discovers that her New England ancestors were the largest slave-trading family in U.S. history. She and nine cousins retrace the Triangle Trade and gain a powerful new perspective on the black/white divide.

Unnatural Causes: Is Inequality Making us Sick?

This is a story about health, but it's not about doctors or drugs. It's about why some of us get sicker more often and die sooner in the first place.

Viva la Causa: 500 Years of Chicano History

A compelling introduction to the history of Mexican-American people depicting Mexican-Americans from their pre-Columbian origins through Spanish colonization. This is a unique, inspiring tool for everyone to learn about one of our oldest yet least known peoples.

When Ireland Starved

Using archival sketches, this film recreates the horror of one of the most catastrophic events in Irish history—the Great Potato Famine. It exposes the British orchestrated disaster that has been hidden from the public eye.

White Privilege 101

This film deals with the issues of White privilege, White supremacy and other forms of institutional and systemic oppression in a direct and positive way. The film allows for the viewers to engage in a conversation about how these issues saturate our society. White Privilege 101 is a collection of keynote speeches and interviews of presenters and participants from the Annual Conference on White Privilege

World Cultures: Similarities & Differences

Provides a thorough explanation of culture: what it is; why cultures are alike and different; and what role religion, environment, and historic events play in shaping cultures.