

NEW FOR 1999-2000!

**In My Corner**

Natl. Educational Film Festival Gold Apple Award  
Best Short Documentary, Nashville Independent Film Festival  
Chicago Latino Film Festival honoree  
PBS National Broadcasts on P.O.V.  
Selected for screening at more than a dozen major film festivals worldwide

**T**HIS ACCLAIMED documentary provides an intimate and powerful portrait of two young Latino boxers on their journey through adolescence into adulthood and self-discovery. Filmed largely at a community boxing gym in New York City's South Bronx, the film draws viewers into the gripping drama of the young fighters' inner battles, their victories and defeats inside the ring, and the challenges and conflicts they face at home, at school, and in the streets.

The film centers on 15-year-old Joey Rios, a young phenom struggling with family problems as he trains for the Junior Olympics, and 13-year-old José Suarez, a newcomer to the gym who shows drive and promise but whose ties to the streets threaten his chances to succeed in the ring. Fueled by the dream of becoming big-time boxing champs, Joey and José unexpectedly get hard lessons in life from two surrogate fathers when trainers Luis and Angel step into their corner. The film is a compelling reminder of how local heroes, wherever they may be found, can shape the lives of young people as they begin sparring with adulthood.

*In My Corner* reaches beyond the stereotypes of break-through champions and reveals how one gym has offered small but steady rewards in a neighborhood more often known for quick deals and short lives. This riveting film is a must for a variety of courses in sociology, criminology, urban studies, social psychology, ethnic studies, and Latino studies. It was produced by Ricki Stern and Anne Sundberg in association with the Independent Television Service and WNET/Thirteen.

*"To escape the grim fate that supposedly awaits poor kids, to break free of drugs and crime and make something of yourself: This is the real story of In My Corner. It's a tough, lyrical, unexpectedly moving documentary — an uppercut to the heart."*  
—Matt Zoller Seitz, *Newark Star-Ledger*

57 min. Color 1999 Catalog #38456  
Sale: video \$195, Rental: video \$70

*In My Corner*

NEW FOR 1999-2000!

**Forgotten Fires**

Golden Spire Award, San Francisco Intl. Film Festival  
Gold Medal, Flagstaff Intl. Film Festival  
Juror's Choice Award, Charlotte Film Festival  
PBS National Broadcasts

**E**VERY FEW YEARS a new documentary comes along that is so powerful, so illuminating, and so unforgettable that it is deemed an instant classic and an essential classroom teaching tool. *Forgotten Fires* is such a film. This riveting exploration of the devastating consequences of racial hatred shines a profoundly revealing light into the darkest reaches of America's heart and soul.

The film investigates the burning of two African-American churches in rural South Carolina by a young convert to the Ku Klux Klan. Told through remarkably frank interviews with both the victims and the perpetrators of these racial crimes, the film puts a surprisingly human face on racism, transforming a seemingly simple story of blacks and whites into a complex tale filled with endless shades of gray. What begins as an investigation into the church burnings becomes an extraordinary meditation on race relations in America today.

Filmed over a one-year period in Manning, South Carolina, *Forgotten Fires* goes behind simplistic news headlines and examines the historical, economic, and social contexts to the epidemic of church burnings in the 1990s. Skillfully interweaving Ku Klux Klan home movies with gripping live sequences, informative historical footage, and startling confessional testimony, the film traces the coming of the Klan to this sleepy rural town and shows how the group's twisted logic of racial enmity found fertile ground among the region's dirt-poor whites. In a place where blacks and whites had lived side by side for years, the fiery oratory of the Klan attracted eager white converts ready to blame their black neighbors for their own lost opportunities and impoverished lives.

One young man who found purpose in the Klan's seductive rhetoric was Timothy Welch. As a boy, he would perch in the pecan tree outside Macedonia Baptist Church and listen to the Sunday service, waiting for his black friends to come out and play. At age 23, Welch would burn that same church to the ground. He now resides in a federal prison, sentenced to 12 years for civil rights violations. Through his remarkable commentary Welch initially emerges as a starkly candid homegrown white supremacist, but his portrait gradually softens to reveal a troubled youth, with deep ties to the black community he betrayed and a burdened conscience turning from hatred toward remorse.

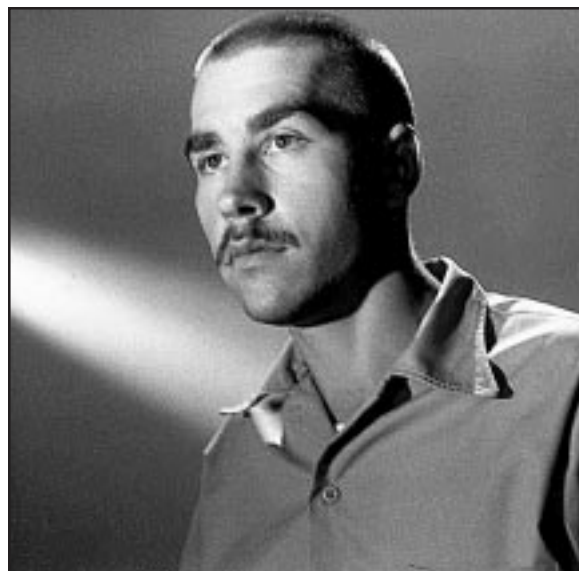
Equally compelling is the quiet fortitude of black pastor Jonathan Mouzon, whose musings on the meaning of the church to the black community and its ties to the past give us a profound insight into the roots of community. His compassion for the perpetrators of the church burnings is a marvel of racial tolerance and empathy.

Rarely has a film on race relations granted such deep humanity to all its participants, and it is this inclusiveness that gives *Forgotten Fires* its overwhelming impact. It will inspire thought, discussion, and analysis in a wide variety of courses in American social problems, criminology, sociology, psychology, African American studies, and multiculturalism. *Forgotten Fires* was produced by Michael Chandler and Vivian Kleiman for the Independent Television Service with funding provided by the Corp. for Public Broadcasting. *Forgotten Fires* is a presentation of the Independent Television Service.

*"If we wanted a real dialogue about race in America, we'd start with this film. Its strong dose of reality begs for an honest response from a wide audience."* — Bill Moyers

*"A stunning film, deeply felt, deeply moving, and worthy of repeated viewings. With excruciating even-handedness and generous compassion — even for those who might not deserve it — the film shows us the victims and the victimizers and reveals the true, heartbreaking dimensions of the tragedy and the ongoing suffering and struggle for redemption of all involved. The film provides a clear window into the connections and disconnections of a small southern American town, which becomes, as the film plays on, a microcosm for the nation as a whole."* — Anthony Walton, author of *Mississippi, An American Journey*, and Visiting Asst. Prof. of English, Bowdoin College

57 min. Color 1999 Catalog #38447  
Sale: video \$295, Rental: video \$95

*Forgotten Fires*



Changing from Inside

A 1998-1999 RELEASE!

## Changing from Inside

**T**HIS COMPELLING documentary provides an eye-opening and in-depth account of an intensive pilot meditation program for inmates at a minimum security jail near Seattle. Under the guidance of both meditation community volunteers and the incarceration facility staff members, seven women inmates doing time for theft, drug sales, assault, and prostitution undertake a program of ten days of total silence. They practice an ancient meditation technique, called *Vipassana*, for ten hours each day, delving ever deeper into themselves to understand and ultimately master their behavior and their compulsions. In the end, the women are transformed by their inward journey and come away with the tools they need to maintain that transformation.

The film also chronicles the personal and professional journey of the articulate and determined facility director, Lucia Meijer, as she rallies her staff to this new and unconventional program. Candid interviews among the prison staff reveal initial doubts, skepticism, and even resistance, as well as formidable obstacles such as physical facility challenges and security concerns, not to mention the demanding meditation course requirements themselves.

However, in the end the results of the program prove an inspiration to everyone involved, leaving both the facility and the inmate participants in the program powerfully transformed.

This unique documentary is all the more forceful and convincing as a result of its restraint and its comprehensiveness. It is a positive portrait, but not one that simply proselytizes. The video will richly reward viewing in any course that studies penology and corrections or the criminal justice system. It was produced by David Donnenfield.

42 min. Color 1998 Catalog #38439  
Sale: video \$175, Rental: video \$60

## What Reviewers Are Saying about Changing from Inside

*"As an historian of prison reform, I found the film compelling for its unusual insight into the challenges faced by staff and inmates alike in the quest for a rehabilitative, rather than merely punitive, correctional program. The portrait of Lucia Meijer, a rare prison administrator who combines authority with compassion, helps explain the success of this experiment in meditation as a route to recovery. The film, much like the jail course it chronicles, is carefully structured, unsentimental, yet deeply moving and inspirational. I recommend it highly for classroom use; it is sure to promote thoughtful discussion of the criminal justice system."*—Estelle Freedman, Prof. of History, Stanford Univ.

*"We have seen that the physical boot camp approach doesn't work, but this 'mental boot camp' is showing lasting results. Vipassana meditation gives inmates a pathway to enact what they've learned. With 10 million men, women, and children passing through 3,300 U.S. county jail facilities each year, it is important that we have found a program that can produce positive results in 10 days. This film destroys the myth that jails can't do anything positive because the inmates' length of stay is too short. This is the shortest 40-minute film I have ever watched."*—Ray Coleman, Founding President, American Jail Assn.



Methamphetamine: From the Streets of San Diego

NEW FOR 1999-2000!

## Methamphetamine: From the Streets of San Diego

Lurking behind San Diego's sunny image of swaying palm trees and beautiful beaches is a drug subculture that is so pervasive that it affects the lives of most Americans. This subculture knows no social boundaries. School-age children, affluent women, and the working class have all been seduced by the intoxicating effects of methamphetamines, only to lose control of their lives. This chilling investigative documentary explores the reasons why San Diego became the center of methamphetamine production and distribution in America. The film traces the history of the drug, examines its effects on users, and demonstrates how it has been a factor in some of the nation's most bizarre and violent crimes and contributed to the flooding of courts, jails, and hospital emergency rooms with meth-related cases. Produced by Lee Harvey for KPBS-TV.

27 min. Color 1999 Catalog #38461  
Sale: video \$175, Rental: video \$60



From One Prison...

## From One Prison...



Natl. Educational Film Festival Gold  
Apple Award  
Human Rights Watch Intl. Film Festival  
honoree  
Women in Film Foundation honoree

This unforgettably powerful documentary exposes the failures of America's police, criminal justice, and penal systems with regard to the human and civil rights of women. Shot inside a Michigan prison, the film is entirely narrated by four women who are serving life or long-term sentences for killing abusive men in self-defense.

The women's stories, echoing and reinforcing one another, are told with warmth, dignity, and eloquence. Their faces fill the screen, bringing the viewer into visceral contact with the realities of the women's lives as they relate their stories and recount the injustices and abuse they have suffered.

The four women are neither heroines nor vigilantes. They reflect on the social institutions that have failed them—police, health care, social service agencies, courts—and reveal that virtually their entire defenses were left out of their trials, since in most cases they were not allowed to testify or bring up their histories of abuse. They also relate their experiences in prison, where rape and sexual harassment by guards, nonexistent medical care, unhealthy food, and rat-infested, overcrowded living conditions are the norm. Produced by Carol Jacobsen.

*"A staggering, face-to-face encounter with women who typify many of the 'murderers' in our women's prisons. This film is an unforgettable experience that will especially inspire students of criminal justice, women's studies, law, and social sciences."*  
—Carole Vance, Prof. of Anthropology, Columbia Univ.

*"Provides powerful images and new understanding of women serving long sentences for killing their batterers. The video allows each woman to tell her own story, and makes an extremely important contribution to an area in which there is so little visual material available. This is a 'must see' for students of criminology, sociology, and women's studies."*  
—Prof. Mary Lou Dietz, Chair, Dept. of Sociology, Univ. of Windsor

*"A riveting, appalling documentary. Here is an exposé that will make you think twice. Sadly, that's not enough."*—Critic's Choice, America Online

70 min. Color 1996 Catalog #38313  
Sale: video \$225, Rental: video \$70

A 1998-1999 RELEASE!

## The Poet and the Con



*Intl. Assn. for Psychology and the Performing Arts honoree  
Vancouver Intl. Film Festival honoree  
Visions du Réel Intl. Film Festival (Nyon, Switzerland) honoree*

**T**HIS RIVETING documentary explores the multifaceted relationship between the filmmaker — noted poet and performance artist Eric Trules — and his uncle, Harvey Rosenberg, a career criminal, mob “enforcer,” and confessed murderer. It is also a provocative examination of the criminal mind, family ties, social deviancy, morality, and the psychology of personal recovery and redemption.

Through its compelling narrative structure and its eloquent first-person narration, the film deeply probes the many surprising parallels between the lives of the filmmaker and his uncle and reveals how both the artist and the criminal share a deep-rooted willingness to flout normal societal conventions. The similarities come together in the film when Trules is arrested and charged with a felony for his illegal use of a copying facility at a Hollywood studio.

Meanwhile his uncle, after his release from prison and going “straight,” experiences a life-changing spiritual reawakening through a 12-step recovery program and becomes a counselor of ex-cons and drug and alcohol offenders in Los Angeles. In a bizarre twist, however, he is suddenly indicted for an unsolved murder he committed ten years earlier. He flees, becomes a fugitive from justice for two years, is finally apprehended, and confesses to the murder in Judge Lance Ito’s courtroom.

As his and his uncle’s stories become increasingly intertwined, the filmmaker must come to terms with his own moral conflicts and conscience. In the revelatory conclusion, as Trules loses his uncle to terminal lung cancer, viewers discover that life, crime, and morality all require tough personal choices, and that we often reap and are responsible for what we sow in our lifetimes.

This remarkable film will provoke analysis and discussion in a wide range of courses in criminology, psychology, sociology, and philosophy. It was produced by Eric Trules.

58 min. Color 1998 Catalog #38432  
Sale: video \$195, Rental: video \$75

## What Reviewers Are Saying about *The Poet and the Con*

*“Having worked in the field of independent film for more than 12 years, I have rarely seen the courage, passion, and insight demonstrated in this film. Not only is it a very personal document of a unique relationship between the filmmaker and his uncle, it also deals with universal themes such as crime, family, morality, and redemption. It once more confirms for me the belief that ‘real-life’ in film — when presented with artful candor and story-telling skills — at least equals, and sometimes surpasses, any fictional creation.”* — Robert Hawk, Advisory Committee, Sundance Film Festival

*“A powerful case study that illustrates how low self-esteem, isolation from family and society, and lack of a cohesive self can result in anti-social and self-destructive behavior. Through the lives of its two protagonists the film explores the social dimensions of deviance not as parallel worlds viewed across unbridgeable distances, but as worlds whose edges, roots, and histories touch, separate, and finally are woven into the social fabric. It is an excellent teaching tool that demonstrates the recovery process from drug addiction and despair to transformation and healing.”* — Dr. Robert Beckhardt, M.D., Psychiatrist, South Shore Hospital, Weymouth, Mass.

*“Highly recommended.... An outstanding teaching tool that explores how one family’s values, taboos, and secrets impact the lives of two of its members in dramatically similar and different ways.... Highly useful in the classroom for illustrating how issues of social deviancy and anti-social behavior cut across both class and ethnic stereotypes.”* — Katherine Freemire, LCSW, Adjunct Faculty, Graduate School of Professional Psychology, John F. Kennedy Univ.

*“The filmmaker confronts with brutal honesty the events in his life which led to his arrest. His take is both amusing and poignant, with an ending that is impossible to anticipate. A must-see for anyone willing to explore the fine line between the incarcerated and the free.”* — Mary Weaver, Exec. Dir., Friends Outside (support services for families of the incarcerated), Los Angeles



*The Poet and the Con*

A 1998-1999 RELEASE!

## Death in the Hood



*Natl. Educational Film Festival Award  
Northwest Region Alliance for  
Community Media Award*

This hard-hitting, thought-provoking documentary uses Portland, Oregon (considered one of America’s most “livable” cities) as a case study to examine how the acceptance of a “gangster” attitude and the spread of crack cocaine has led to a dramatic increase in youth homicides, particularly among African Americans. The video explores the reasons behind the alarming rise in youth homicides and illustrates the effects on schools, the community, and friends and relatives of homicide victims. It also shows some innovative efforts in Portland to deal with the problem — including graphic presentations by health professionals to at-risk kids of the impact of bullet wounds (one student’s reaction: “*I didn’t know it would hurt...*”). The video includes commentary by community members and activists, educators, law enforcement professionals, and gang members. This is a powerful viewing experience that is sure to generate discussion in any class dealing with juvenile crime, urban problems, or contemporary American social issues. Produced by Lanita Duke.

*“Able captures the fears and realities of today’s youth, their families, and communities. The video provides practical insights on what it takes to keep young people safe and out of gangs.”* — Sharon McCormack, Manager, Crime Prevention Programs, City of Portland, Oregon

29 min. Color 1997 Catalog #38421  
Sale: video \$150, Rental: video \$50



*Death in the Hood*

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Laid to Waste

photo courtesy of CRCQL

**A 1998-1999 RELEASE!****Laid to Waste**

 Natl. Educational Film Festival Award  
World Population Film and Video Festival Award

**S**IMPLY PUT, this acclaimed documentary is the best case study of environmental injustice and racism available on video. In the economically depressed, largely African-American "West End" of Chester, Pennsylvania, Zulene Mayfield lives next door to the fourth-largest trash-to-steam incinerator in the nation and a few doors away from a large processing facility for infectious and hazardous medical waste. The county's sewage treatment plant sits adjacent to her neighbors' homes a block away, and additional toxic-waste processing facilities have been proposed for the community.

Daily, trucks from as far away as Virginia roll past homes on Chester's Second Street, delivering thousands of tons of waste. Residents believe that their lives are being disrupted, their health threatened, their community destroyed, and the very air they breathe dangerously polluted. A grassroots organization called Chester Residents Concerned for Quality Living (CRCQL) has taken an active role in opposing the facilities and in publicizing the plants' impact on their community. Representatives of the waste-processing companies argue that their facilities are safe and that they bring much-needed jobs to Chester.

*Laid to Waste* documents a community's attempt to deal with the complex issues of environmental injustice. The story unfolds dramatically as the residents seek to discover and confront the secretive forces that have chosen their community for such facilities. Though CRCQL receives threats and its office is vandalized, the group continues to protest and to challenge the waste industry. Ultimately, a controversy surrounding an obscure legal maneuver used by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court draws statewide attention to the situation, and brings the Pennsylvania House Judiciary Committee to Chester's West End to investigate charges of corruption and collusion at the highest levels of government and the waste industry.

*Laid to Waste* is a must-see in any course dealing with environmental issues, urban studies, public policy, or social problems. It was produced by Robert Bahar and George McCollough.

52 min. Color 1997 Catalog #38427  
Sale: video \$225, Rental: video \$75

**What Reviewers Are Saying about Laid to Waste**


"I highly recommend this powerful video for classroom use. It exposes the ugly underbelly of environmental racism and it is an excellent treatise on grassroots organizing and networking." — Robert D. Bullard, Director, Environmental Justice Resource Center and Ware Prof. of Sociology, Clark Atlanta Univ., author of *Dumping in Dixie: Race, Class and Environmental Quality*

"This filmed case study presents a microcosm of contemporary American social relations: environmental racism, development of grassroots leaders, coalitions that cross racial and ethnic divisions, the structure of political and corporate power, the impact of de-industrialization on old urban centers, and the will of a community to protect itself and survive. This is an outstanding resource for classes in urban studies, American studies, sociology, the environment, criminology, and law." — Elizabeth Petras, Prof. of Sociology, Drexel Univ.



In the Shadow of the Law

**In the Shadow of the Law**

 Emmy Award  
American Psychiatric Assn. honoree  
Houston Intl. Film Festival Award  
Natl. Educational Film Festival Award

An outstanding portrait of four families who have lived illegally in the U.S. for many years. This acclaimed documentary explores the daily lives of the family members, showing their constant fear of apprehension by the INS and their vulnerability to exploitation by those who capitalize on their illegal status. Produced by Paul Espinosa for KPBS San Diego.


"Captures every major obstacle — legal, social, and cultural — that these individuals have to overcome to meet even the most basic necessities, like feeding their families. This will be a welcome addition to all courses in sociology, anthropology, and American studies." — Prof. Carlos Velez-Ibanez, Dept. of Anthropology, Univ. of Arizona

58 min. Color 1990 Catalog #38065  
Sale: video \$195, Rental: video \$60



The Democratic Promise: Saul Alinsky and His Legacy

**NEW FOR 1999-2000!****The Democratic Promise: Saul Alinsky and His Legacy**

 Best Documentary Award, Philadelphia Intl. Film Festival  
Special Jury Award, USA Film Festival  
Worldfest Houston Award  
Dallas Intl. Film & Video Festival honoree

**T**HIS COMPELLING documentary, narrated by Alec Baldwin, examines the life and legacy of legendary community organizer Saul Alinsky. From the late 1930s until his death in 1972, Alinsky led the movement to empower disenfranchised communities through collective action. Today, hundreds of community organizations nationwide have embraced Alinsky's vision and are using it to reshape America's body politic.

The first half of the film focuses on Alinsky's organizing methods and is filled with a rich combination of archival film clips and photographs as well as eyewitness commentary. Case studies of three key Alinsky organizations trace the development of his methods over time: The Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council in Chicago's stockyards neighborhood; The Woodlawn Organization in Chicago's predominantly African-American South Side; and the FIGHT organization in Rochester, New York. The film also shows how Alinsky's ideas influenced the Civil Rights Movement, the farmworkers' struggle, and Vietnam-era political protests.

The second half of the film examines two contemporary organizations that share Alinsky's legacy. The East Brooklyn Congregations is struggling to build 1,200 low-income housing units in one of America's most blighted neighborhoods. In Texas, members of Dallas Area Interfaith lobby state legislators in an effort to increase funding for an innovative public education program.

*The Democrat Promise* will inspire discussion and analysis in a wide variety of courses in American history and American studies, sociology, urban studies, criminology, and African American studies. It was produced by Bob Hercules and Bruce Orenstein and is a presentation of the Independent Television Service.

"A powerful and revelatory documentary on one of the pioneers of grassroots organizing... It could never be more timely than now." — Studs Terkel

57 min. Color 1999 Catalog #38463  
Sale: video \$225, Rental: video \$75

## Dreams of a City: Creating East Palo Alto



Natl. Educational Film Festival Award  
American Cinematheque's "Rediscovering America" Series honoree  
Film Arts Foundation Festival honoree  
Council on Foundations Film Festival

East Palo Alto is a racially and ethnically diverse low-income community located south of San Francisco. In 1992 it gained widespread notoriety as "the nation's murder capital." This incisive, in-depth case study digs beneath the media clichés to examine the dreams and goals of the community's residents and show what happens when they decide to begin taking control of the planning for their future. The story of East Palo Alto holds national significance since the issues faced here are those facing urban communities all across America: taking back the city's streets from drug dealers, armed gangs, and criminals of all types; overcoming regional imbalances in power and planning; confronting inequality in education; achieving local political control; and grappling with the challenges of economic development, racial and ethnic diversity, and demographic change. Produced by Michael Levin of the Stanford Univ. Libraries.

*"A powerful teaching tool. The film tackles some of America's most entrenched conflicts and problems, recounts voices and viewpoints seldom heard in the classroom, and triggers remarkable discussions of a variety of issues. I recommend it for courses in urban studies, sociology, criminology, and American history."* —Pat Aufderheide, Prof. of Journalism, American Univ.

*"I found this film invaluable in teaching my Introduction to Sociology course this semester. It's a perfect tool for integrating many of the central themes of the course. The film stimulated excellent discussions of such crucial issues as class structure, crime and law enforcement, inequality, race and ethnicity, and culture and social movements."* —Betsy McEaney, Dept. of Sociology, Stanford Univ.

55 min. Color 1997 Catalog #38414  
Sale: video \$195, Rental: video \$70



*Dreams of a City: Creating East Palo Alto*



*No Place Like Home*

## No Place Like Home



American Psychological Assn. honoree  
Western Psychological Assn. honoree  
American Public Health Assn. honoree  
PBS National Broadcasts on P.O.V.  
Emmy Award  
Honored at more than a dozen film festivals worldwide

This brilliant documentary explores eight months in the life of a broken family in Seattle and powerfully depicts the cycles that keep families tied to poverty, violence, and crime from one generation to the next. The film focuses on a young girl, Barbara, who lives with her mother, brother, and sister in homeless shelters and cheap motels. They spend their days stretching welfare checks and shuttling between shelters while they wait for public housing and a future that never seems to arrive.

Barbara's mother recounts a childhood of abuse and violence and a period of imprisonment as an adult. As Barbara tells her story — trying to make sense of a legacy of domestic violence, poverty, and abandonment — she emerges as the primary target of her own anger. At ten, she's "tired of moving, tired of packing... tired of everything." She speaks dispassionately of being beaten by her father, of homelessness and the fears it engenders, of her mother's prison time. Her eerie calm belies the dangers she faces, and it is clear that her home is only the latest in a long series of losses. Her resignation, her acceptance of the unacceptable, is heartbreaking.

The film makes no pretense of providing easy answers, but it clearly shows, through the eyes of one young girl, what the crucial questions are. Produced by Kathryn Hunt.

*"Exhibits a singular creative courage and reminds us that there are no rules to follow for greatness on the screen, just paths of integrity, commitment, talent, and a willingness to ask the hard questions."* —B. Ruby Rich, Film Critic, *The Village Voice*

*"A complex and richly ethnographic work, with an approach that is both respectful and unsentimental toward its subjects. It makes us rethink terms such as homelessness, abuse, and crime and it provides many avenues for classroom discussion. I highly recommend it for courses in psychology, sociology, criminology, and women's studies."* —Janice Haaken, Prof. of Psychology, Portland State Univ.

25 min. Color 1994 Catalog #38295  
Sale: video \$195, Rental: video \$50

## Caught in the Crossfire



San Francisco Intl. Film Festival "Golden Gate Award"  
Natl. Educational Film Festival Award  
American Psychological Assn. honoree

This remarkable, highly realistic drama is the outcome of a project in which a multicultural group of San Francisco youth, themselves at risk of becoming perpetrators and/or victims of urban violence, collaborated with film professionals and educators in the creation and production of a film based on the social conflicts they experience each day.

As the students arrive at their racially diverse school one overly hot day, many of them anticipate trouble of some kind, but none of them are prepared to be caught in the crossfire just outside the school. What happened? Who caused it? What could have prevented it? These are questions facing the students as they try to make sense of the shooting battle in which many of them participated but which no one saw start.

What this diverse group of young people discover, as they unravel the mystery of who fired the first shot, forces them to confront racial, cultural, and gender stereotypes. In the process, they must rethink the essence of their personal identities and ultimately take a surprising step into collective responsibility.

This film deglamorizes violence, examines its sources in racial, class, and gender conflicts, and presents empathy — the ability to identify the felt experience of another person — as an alternative to violence. It is a compelling depiction of the everyday life of many of America's youth, and will stimulate discussion and analysis in a wide range of courses in sociology, social psychology, multiculturalism, and education. It was conceived and produced by Alice Ray.



*Caught in the Crossfire*

*"Dramatic and honest, the film goes right at the real issues of violence, sexism, and racism that challenge today's kids. It shows youth able to make a stand of their own against serious social problems."* —Jim Dension, Counselor, Seattle Public Schools

*"Better than good, this film is great. It presents a realistic snapshot of inner-city students and their concerns."* —Karen Hart, Coordinator of Health Education, San Francisco School District

39 min. Color 1997 Catalog #38378  
Sale: video \$225, Rental: video \$60



Angola Prison Hospice: Opening the Door

NEW FOR 1999-2000!

## Angola Prison Hospice: Opening the Door

Half of the 5,000 inmates at the maximum-security Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola are serving life sentences, and it is estimated that 85% of them will grow old and die there. This impressive documentary examines one of the nation's first prison-based hospice programs, a program which notably incorporates inmate volunteers into the care of other dying inmates.

The film explores the special needs of Angola's hospice patients and their families and explains the adaptations made to the program to meet the unusual requirements of a correctional institution. It provides a fascinating, often moving account of how the hospice experience can profoundly touch even forsaken lives. By Edgar Barends for the Open Society Institute.

*"Depicts the power of human beings to overcome animosity, fear, guilt, and racism in a truly unlikely place: the maximum security Angola Prison. In the prison hospice program, inmate volunteers, correctional, and healthcare workers team up to provide terminally ill prisoners with comfort and care at the end of life. The video demonstrates humane interdisciplinary solutions to problems studied by those in the social sciences, health care, criminal justice, and law."* — Mary K. Shilton, Co-Chair, Corrections, Sentencing and Guidelines Committee, American Bar Assn.

*"By documenting a model prison hospice program, this video challenges us to provide humane, compassionate care for dying prisoners. In moving dialogue and thought-provoking conversations and scenes, hospice staff, inmate volunteers, and families come together to provide comfort and dignity to this vulnerable population. This is an especially powerful video to change attitudes and behaviors about the health-care needs of prisoners."* — Kathleen M. Foley, M.D., Director, Project on Death in America

23 min. Color 1999 Catalog #38464  
Sale: video \$175, Rental: video \$50

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## Thrall Hall



Emmy Award  
"Audience Choice Award," Film Fest New Haven (Conn.)

**T**HIRTY YEARS AGO, a Connecticut man named Ed Thrall decided to build a square-dance hall on his property. With his bare hands and a great deal of Yankee ingenuity, he erected a majestic and critically praised structure on his land. Unfortunately, Ed's old-fashioned sense of property rights soon clashed with the by-the-book, bureaucratic notions of the local authorities. When city officials intruded on his dream with talk of building codes and zoning violations, he embarked on a property-rights crusade that has consumed him well into his 70s. His crusade has engulfed him in endless court battles, gunfights with local police, and ultimately imprisonment.

With even-handed aplomb and great storytelling flair, this fascinating documentary chronicles Ed's decades-long battle against the local government and what he sees as its blatant violation of his Constitutional rights to life, liberty, and property. This provocative documentary poses two essential questions: how do we regulate the relationship of the individual to society?; and where is the line that divides justified resistance to arbitrary regulation from socially dangerous individual eccentricity? This is a must-see in any course that considers the nature and definition of crime. A film by Doug Cohen.

31 min. Color 1997 Catalog #38410  
Sale: video \$175, Rental: video \$50



Thrall Hall

## "I Lease Wombs. I Don't Sell Babies."



Natl. Educational Film Festival Award  
American Public Health Assn. honoree

This powerful courtroom drama, which is based on actual testimony, explores the legal, ethical, and commercial issues underlying the practice of "surrogate" motherhood and depicts its effects on the "biological" mother, who becomes pregnant through artificial insemination, the father, and his wife. The film forces us to examine what it means when the values of the marketplace collide with the interests of women and children. By Extra-Visuelles Productions.

45 min. Color 1994 Catalog #38272  
Sale: video \$195, Rental: video \$60

## Graffiti Wars: A Matter of Pride



Natl. Educational Film Festival Award  
American Psychological Assn. honoree  
Western Psychological Assn. honoree  
American Anthropological Assn. honoree

This perceptive documentary shows both sides of the conflict over graffiti: those who write it and those who fight it. Filmed in Los Angeles, the video provides an insider's look at the underground graffiti culture by taking viewers "mobbing" with local "writing crews." It also shows the complexity of the problem: while thousands of graffiti writers "bomb" the streets every day in a continual search for attention and fame, the county and private citizens spend millions every year in a vain effort to clean up after them. Through commentary by gang members, graffiti artists, "taggers," judges, police, scholars, and concerned residents, the video explores the frustrations and motivations of everyone involved. By Shannon Sells and Christine Smith.

*"An excellent resource for any course studying gang issues, street crime, and contemporary urban social issues."* — Sherrie Mazingo, Prof. of Broadcast Journalism, Univ. of Southern California

30 min. Color 1993 Catalog #38153  
Sale: video \$195, Rental: video \$50

## Justice Is a Constant Struggle



Natl. Educational Film Festival Award  
Film Arts Festival honoree

Studs Terkel narrates this provocative and informative study of the key role played by the National Lawyers Guild—the first integrated bar association in America—in helping attain and maintain civil rights over the past 50 years. The video includes interviews with some of the most renowned Guild attorneys and traces their strong, if sometimes lonely efforts in support of civil liberties, in opposition to HUAC and the McCarthy hearings, and on behalf of members of the civil rights, antiwar, labor, and sanctuary movements. Produced by Abby Ginzberg.

*"Will stimulate classroom discussion of a variety of issues critical to recent American history."* — Michael Kazin, Prof. of History, American Univ.

28 min. Color 1988 Catalog #37741  
Sale: video \$125, Rental: video \$50



Justice Is a Constant Struggle



Can You See the Color Gray?

### Can You See the Color Gray?



Western Psychological Assn. honoree  
Intl. Film and Video Festival Award  
New York Festivals Award

This unique and provocative documentary examines the development, expression, and communication of racial and ethnic prejudices and stereotypes. It is sure to inspire discussion and self-reflection in any course that deals with the effects of racial differences and prejudices in America. The video shows numerous people from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds as they grapple with probing questions about their racial attitudes and their feelings about their own ethnicity. The video is particularly revealing in its exploration of the subtle development of racial attitudes in children of varying ages, some of whom are followed over a two-year period. This is a must-see for students of psychology, sociology, criminology, ethnic studies, multiculturalism, and American studies. Produced by Alexandra Corbin.

*"This video enables us to discuss what's uncomfortable. It creates a forum for difficult discussion to take place. I find it especially powerful to hear the attitudes of the kids in the video. It's very intense, but it's what kids carry around with them."* —

Millie Fulford, Head of the New Program, a Multicultural School in Brooklyn, N.Y.

54 min. Color 1997 Catalog #38381  
Sale: video \$225, Rental: video \$75

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