



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

SIMPLY 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, public policy, the environment, and law." — Elizabeth Petras, Prof. of Sociology, Drexel Univ.



Death in the Hood

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 contemporary American social issues. Produced by Lanita Duke.

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



Halsted Street, USA

NEW FOR 1999-2000!

Halsted Street, USA

Worldfest Houston Gold Medal Award
Council on Foundations Film and Video
Festival honoree
Nashville Independent Film Festival
Dallas Intl. Film & Video Festival honoree

NOWHERE IN AMERICA does a stretch of pavement slice through a more vibrant and diverse cross-section of humanity than Chicago's Halsted Street. Along its length one can view a dozen nationalities, a thousand lifestyles — the American melting pot at full boil. But who are the people who make up the stew? This riveting, kaleidoscopic "road movie" traces this unique thoroughfare nearly 400 miles, from its origin in the cornfields of southern Illinois to its terminus in the city's boisterous heart. Along the way the film presents a fascinating and profoundly American cultural mosaic with Halsted Street as the thread that links a multitude of seemingly disparate communities.

A varied and colorful cast of characters guides viewers along the route: kids in a rural town, a Latino street-muralist in Pilsen, a junk scavenger in Cabrini Green, revelers at the gay pride parade. Their impressions and anecdotes bring into focus vital issues that simmer up from the asphalt of main streets all across the country: tolerance and racism, immigration, class disparity, ethnic and cultural identity.

Narrated by Studs Terkel, *Halsted Street, USA* is a thought-provoking crash-course in American cultural geography that will enhance a variety of courses in American studies and history, popular culture, sociology, ethnic studies and multiculturalism. It was produced by David E. Simpson.

"Offers stark rural-urban contrasts and vivid portrayals of ethnic and cultural differences. The robust inclusion of class and racial divisions provides plenty to discuss in courses in urban sociology, social problems, American studies, and introductory sociology. Best of all, the documentary style reveals to the viewer a social landscape no textbook can ever hope to convey." — Susan Stall, Prof. of Sociology, Northeastern Illinois Univ.

"More than just a story with the city as a great, uncompromising character.... It's a State of the Union address for America at the end of the 20th century." — PerformInk

57 min. Color 1999 Catalog #38450
Sale: video \$195, Rental: video \$70



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

THIS 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 urban and 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, started by Alinsky in 1939; The Woodlawn Organization in Chicago's predominantly African-American South Side; and the FIGHT organization (in Rochester, New York), which in the mid-1960s took on Eastman-Kodak over racist hiring practices. These organizations show how Alinsky's ideas, in turn, influenced the Civil Rights Movement and Vietnam War 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 urban neighborhoods. In Texas, members of Dallas Area Interfaith lobby state legislators to increase funding for an innovative public education program in the city.


The Democratic Promise will inspire discussion in courses in sociology, urban studies, American studies, and political science. 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

NEW FOR 1999-2000!

Jones Beach: An American Riviera

 *CINE Golden Eagle Award*

This documentary chronicles the love affair some half a billion people have enjoyed over the last seven decades with the treasured New York City public beach that has been described as "the finest seashore playground in the world." Set against a backdrop of the social history of the first half of the 20th century, the film places the pioneering design and construction of noted urban planner Robert Moses' masterpiece, Jones Beach, in the context of the urban history and Depression-era politics of New York, and follows the beach and the evolution of its working-class clientele through World War II and after.

Narrated by noted actor Eli Wallach, the film interweaves rarely seen archival newsreels, evocative still photos, period music, and personal commentary by celebrities and common people to chronicle the social impact of master builder Robert Moses's grandest achievement. Historian Robert Caro and urban planner Lee Koppelman provide fascinating and detailed background on the project, which transformed an isolated island into one of America's most influential urban landmarks. *Jones Beach* will provoke discussion and analysis in a range of courses in sociology, urban studies, and American history. It was produced by George Pozderec.



Jones Beach: An American Riviera

"Offers important lessons for students of urban affairs and social history. This film reminds us that in a democracy, there can be no higher calling than public works, and no more deserving an audience than the American public. The images evoke more than nostalgia. They illustrate an alternative to the contemporary fashion of criticizing the public sector and blaming the government for our problems. As Jones Beach delightfully shows, government can be the solution. And above all, this film is fun!" — Timothy Coogan, Prof. of History, Rutgers Univ.

"Making excellent use of rare archival footage, the film includes outstanding images of Manhattan's tenements, the technology of heavy construction, and the rise of a working-class aesthetic of recreation. It provides a springboard for discussion of American social and urban history, changing patterns of recreation, and the rise of a middle-class sensibility in the first half of this century." — Barbara Kelly, Prof. of History, Hofstra Univ.


30 min. Color 1999 Catalog #38465
Sale: video \$175, Rental: video \$60



The Least Remembered City

NEW FOR 1999-2000!

The Least Remembered City

 *Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery honoree*
Pasadena Armory Center for the Arts honoree

Los Angeles is the most photographed but least remembered city in the world. This fascinating documentary features the critic and historian of mass culture, Norman Klein, who leads viewers on an "anti-tour" of the hidden, forgotten, and completely erased Los Angeles. Klein presents cinematic expression of some of the most intriguing ideas in his provocative book, *The History of Forgetting: Los Angeles and the Erasure of Memory*, by delving into the strange paradoxes between the reality of the city and our collective illusion of it.

Klein contends that the city was promoted into existence by the idea of the place rather than its reality, and that what remains now is a collective illusion of what people think is there — fact has become fiction and fiction has blended into fact. This intellectually dazzling documentary essay will stimulate discussion in sociology courses and in any class that deals with urban studies, popular culture, American studies, or media studies. Produced by Paul Forrer.

"It has been said of Los Angeles that tomorrow brings not just another day but another city. The city's boosters have long sung the praises of this progressive urbanism. As a corrective to such celebratory mythology, Norman Klein's vision is unique and urgently relevant. He is not simply historical in his perspective, but palimpsestic, reading the city like a well worn text which still carries the traces of what was written on it before. Seen this way, Los Angeles is characterized not only by the forward projection of its boosters but by the layered places inhabited by the ghosts of inner-city neighborhoods sacrificed to progress. Paul Forrer's film work captures both the complex associative consciousness of Klein and the melancholia of Los Angeles' haunted cultural landscape." — Raul Homero Villa, Assoc. Prof. of American Studies, Occidental College

30 min. Color 1999 Catalog #38460
Sale: video \$175, Rental: video \$60

A 1998-1999 RELEASE!

Pink's Famous Chili Dogs



Natl. Educational Film Festival Award
Los Angeles Independent Film Festival
honoree
Newport Intl. Film Festival honoree
Los Angeles Freewaves Film Festival
honoree

THIS DEFT and delightful documentary explores the importance of community history and landmarks—however modest or humble—to the quality of the urban experience. A concise, economical, and often humorous case study, the film relates the unlikely survival of Pink's, a 60-year-old hot dog stand that has attained landmark status in Los Angeles, a city notorious for tearing down landmarks and replacing them with parking lots. Pink's attracts the rich and famous, the poor and struggling, and everyone in between. It is one of the few truly democratic institutions in Movie-land, and one of the few that appeals to both young and old and to all of the many cultures that make up the city.



Pink's Famous Chili Dogs

Pink's was founded during the Depression, when a young couple named Paul and Betty Pink borrowed \$50 to buy a hot dog cart and planted it at the corner of Melrose and La Brea—now a fashionable property worth millions. From the beginning, Pink's served high-quality hot dogs and became a popular hangout for celebrities and local characters.

Pink's survival proves the enduring power of a great chili dog, and illustrates the crucial importance of neighborhood landmarks everywhere in establishing and maintaining vital communities. Produced by Elise Pearlstein.

"A snack-sized documentary that delivers a delightful taste of pure, urban, roadside Americana.... A gem of a film."—Jim Heimann, Lecturer in Popular Culture and Architecture, Art Center School of Design, Pasadena (Calif.)

"Captures a remarkable temporal and cultural slice of Los Angeles. So often maligned as a city without a 'there,' Los Angeles is shown here to have heart and rootedness and interacting social groups. The video is a model of compression, the image carrying the tale. It flows with a seamless grace and seeming effortlessness, and it will inspire student discussion, reflection, and writing in a variety of disciplines."—Marilyn Sutton, Prof. of English, California State Univ., Dominguez Hills

20 min. Color 1998 Catalog #38431
Sale: video \$150, Rental: video \$50



Fences & Neighborhoods

A 1998-1999 RELEASE!

Fences & Neighborhoods

Atlanta's political and business leaders promised to cooperate with community groups and use the 1996 Summer Olympic Games to foster widespread urban revitalization, particularly in the city's poor, African-American neighborhoods. This probing documentary explores the reality behind those promises, showing that projects that benefited the downtown business community were completed, while improvements to the neighborhoods adjacent to the Olympics venues were minimal. The film provides historical background and context to the thorny issues it examines, and serves as an illuminating case study of the social, economic, and development dilemmas facing all American cities today. Produced by Roger Torda and Kathleen Sullivan.

"A powerful aid to courses in urban sociology, urban planning and development, social psychology, cultural anthropology, and African American studies. The film uses the Atlanta Olympics as a lens to study crucial dilemmas that face all American cities. Its excellent interviews and visuals reveal the many different constituencies and their varied stakes in urban development efforts today, while posing for viewers such challenging questions as 'what do poor communities want?' 'who really speaks for such communities?' and 'how is community input obtained?' The film eloquently shows how the city's power elite works and how it can bypass community groups while claiming neighborhood participation."—Peggy Barlett, Prof. of Anthropology, Emory Univ.

"The compressed timeframe and the visibility of the five-year run-up to the Olympic Games drew Atlanta's typically hidden decision-making processes into the light. This outstanding film accurately captures the full political and social drama of the struggle—between poor African-American neighborhoods on the one hand and the allied forces of the city's black elected officials and its business elite on the other—over who would bear the costs and who would reap the profits from the 1996 Summer Olympics. All of the plays, ploys, and players are on camera."—Larry Keating, Prof. of City Planning, Georgia Institute of Technology

58 min. Color 1997 Catalog #38415
Sale: video \$225, Rental: video \$70

A 1998-1999 RELEASE!

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: overcoming regional imbalances in power and planning; confronting inequality in education; achieving local political control; and grappling with the challenges of crime, 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 planning, sociology, and American history."—Pat Aufderheide, Prof. of Journalism, American Univ.

"A remarkable and important film that describes the heroic efforts of local residents to build a vibrant community in the face of powerful global economic forces. The film highlights the critical role that skillful community organization, effective civic leadership, and the traditional strengths of African American, Mexican American, and Pacific Island cultures can play in helping older communities respond to the structural changes taking place in our society. I highly recommend this film, which I will use in my classes on neighborhood planning and community development!"—Kenneth M. Reardon, Prof. of Urban and Regional Planning, Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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



Dreams of a City: Creating East Palo Alto



Streetcar Stories

photo by W. Bernadas

Streetcar Stories

*American Assn. for State and Local History Award
Natl. Educational Film Festival Award
American Film Institute Videofest honoree
Museum of Modern Art honoree*

THIS EXEMPLARY historical documentary explores the social and cultural history of New Orleans streetcars and illustrates the vital role that streetcars once played in the everyday life of cities all across America.

Although they are often dismissed as nostalgic icons, New Orleans' streetcars are shown to be "moving monuments" that reveal a dynamic series of stories both about a less-hurried past and about some of the most contentious moments in New Orleans and U.S. history. Highlights include the violent 1929 streetcar strike, the experiences of women streetcar operators during World War II, the segregation and integration of the streetcars, and the role of the automobile companies in the demise of streetcar lines throughout the nation.

This fascinating film will enhance a variety of courses, especially those that deal with urban, transportation, women's, ethnic, and labor issues. Produced by Michael Mizell-Nelson.

"Deeply informed, balanced, and fast-paced, this film richly deserves a national audience. It is not only a superb evocation of New Orleans history, but it touches on many of the central themes in modern U.S. history. Race relations, labor-management relations, urbanization, the struggle for gender equality, the impact of the Depression and wars — all receive careful attention in this admirable documentary." — Patrick Maney, Prof. of History, Tulane Univ.

"A work of rare artistry and profound scholarship which both entertains and instructs. In using local history to help its viewers find 'common ground,' it is a model of urban history at its best." — Joseph Logsdon, Prof. of History and Dir., Center for New Orleans Studies, Univ. of New Orleans

57 min. Color 1997 Catalog #38379
Sale: video \$195, Rental: video \$70

Little Italy



*San Francisco Intl. Film Festival "Golden Gate Award"
Chicago Film Festival Gold Hugo Award
Natl. Educational Film Festival Gold Apple Award
American Italian Historical Assn. honoree
American Assn. for Italian Studies honoree
American Psychiatric Assn. honoree*

Just as the name "Little Italy" defines an immigrant neighborhood, so it describes a state of mind. The Italian-American experience embodies the contradictions of every ethnic group that has struggled to find a place in the American urban landscape. This highly acclaimed film gets behind cultural stereotypes and explores a universal story of assimilation and retention of cultural identity. It examines the struggles and triumphs of Italian Americans through archival footage, photos, and contemporary scenes and commentary. A variety of noted and everyday Italian Americans recall their personal histories and delve into the "Little Italy" of their present lives. Their poignant and humorous stories reveal a resilient culture and comment forcefully on the strength of family, community, and ethnic identity in modern America. Produced by Will Parrinello and John Antonelli.

"A welcome addition to the materials available about American immigrant and ethnic groups, and in particular about Italian Americans, a group whose authentic history and culture is poorly known and whose story is in danger of being washed away in never-ending tidal waves of nonsense in the mass media." — Prof. Richard Gambino, Center for Italian Studies, SUNY at Stony Brook

56 min. Color 1996 Catalog #38362
Sale: video \$225, Rental: video \$70

The Italian Gardens of South Brooklyn



*Museum of Modern Art (NYC) honoree
BACA Film Festival honoree
PBS National Broadcasts*

This infectiously enjoyable and inventive documentary illustrates how "a mixture of old-world values and new-world horse sense" invigorates the traditional Italian-American community of South Brooklyn and infuses it with a strong respect for family, friends, and neighborhood. By Alexandra Corbin and Susan Morosoli.

"Beautifully done! Conveys extremely well the role of ethnicity in forming close-knit communities. It will be quite relevant to anthropology and sociology courses that address urban social structure, ethnicity and race, food and society." — Nan Rothschild, Prof. of Anthropology, Barnard College

26 min. Color 1997 Catalog #38382
Sale: video \$175, Rental: video \$50

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Let's Own It!

A 1998-1999 RELEASE!

Let's Own It!: The Struggle of the Lincoln Place Tenants Association


All across the nation affordable housing remains an elusive goal and, often, the cause of bitter conflicts and struggles. Nowhere is this truer than in urban areas of California, with its large populations of ethnic minorities, the elderly, and immigrants. This excellent case study follows the decade-long struggle of a group of tenants working toward the creation of a permanently affordable housing community in Venice, Calif., a traditionally liberal beach neighborhood on the west side of Los Angeles. The video documents how a group of retired residents joined forces with younger residents — primarily women and single parents — to fight against a demolition and redevelopment proposal that would effectively displace 1,500 people from a large apartment complex called Lincoln Place.

Lincoln Place's residents are ethnically diverse and of mixed ages and incomes — a vibrant community which inspired residents to dream of ownership of the complex and to defend their homes. Their strategies, anxieties, and conflicts with the owner/developer, their efforts to gain the support of other Venice residents, and their unprecedented victory over the owner at City Hall make this important video an outstanding teaching tool for courses in sociology, social psychology, urban studies and planning, anthropology, and women's studies. Produced by Karen Brodtkin and Mary Hardy.

"A wonderfully well-made testimony to the human spirit! This video will be very effective for a number of purposes: in the classroom, in the interstices of classroom and community, and in annual and occasional campus programs. Because the video deals with so many key issues — working class people, women, seniors, ethnic diversity, community-building, grassroots organizing, and the preservation of communities, neighborhoods, and culture, it will be highly useful in a broad range of classes." — Sondra Hale, Adjunct Prof. of Anthropology and Women's Studies, UCLA

31 min. Color 1998 Catalog #38438
Sale: video \$150, Rental: video \$50

Displaced in the New South


 *Natl. Educational Film Festival Award*
Latin American Studies Assn. Award
Assn. for Asian Studies honoree
Worldfest Houston Gold Medal
Chicago Latino Film Festival honoree

In 1980, there were a few thousand Asian and Latino immigrants in Georgia. By 1994, there were more than 300,000. This remarkable documentary explores the cultural collision between Asian and Hispanic immigrants and other residents of the suburban areas of Atlanta, Georgia, in which they have settled. The film provides an informative, sensitive, and insightful case study of a nationwide trend that is bringing explosive political upheaval all across America: waves of people, mostly from Asia and Latin America, coming to cities, small towns, and suburban communities that have never before experienced immigration on such a scale. Produced by David Zeiger and Eric Mofford.

"The best treatment of the emerging ethnic and cultural complexity of the 'New South' that I have seen. In the classroom the film provokes intense discussion.... The film's fast and colorful pace mirrors the pace and impact of new populations on Atlanta and its people as Phad Tai and Mole mix with Grits and Collard Greens."—Arthur Murphy, Chair, Dept. of Anthropology, Georgia State Univ.

57 min. Color 1995 Catalog #38317
Sale: video \$225, Rental: video \$70

Uneasy Neighbors

 *American Film Festival Blue Ribbon*
Natl. Conf. of Christians and Jews Award
Society for Visual Anthropology Award
American Psychiatric Assn. honoree
Latino Film and Video Festival honoree

This powerful, much-lauded documentary investigates the growing tensions between residents of migrant worker camps and affluent homeowners in northern San Diego county, one of the wealthiest and fastest-growing urban areas in the nation. Here, amid half-million-dollar homes and lush golf courses, migrant workers live in camps where conditions are worse than in much of the Third World. Produced by Paul Espinosa.

"This is a great learning tool with up-to-date information for courses in American studies, urban studies, sociology, and ethnic studies."—Prof. Gilbert Gonzalez, Dept. of History, UC Irvine

35 min. Color 1991 Catalog #38066
Sale: video \$195, Rental: video \$50

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No Place Like Home

No Place Like Home


 *American 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 urban families tied to poverty and violence from one generation to the next. The film focuses on a young girl 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. The mother recounts a childhood of abuse and violence and a time of imprisonment as an adult. As the girl 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." Her resignation, her acceptance of the unacceptable, is heartbreaking. The film provides no easy answers, but it clearly shows, through the eyes of one young girl, what the crucial questions are. 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*

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


Homeless Not Helpless: Opening Doors

 *American Film Festival 1992 Grierson Award (Best Social Documentary)*
American Psychiatric Assn. honoree

This eye-opening documentary on homelessness focuses on solutions. It shows what is working and what is merely perpetuating poverty. It explores a wide spectrum of programs, including those of inner-city storefront missions, government social service agencies, and the Union of the Homeless, a nationwide activist group. Narrated by Julian Bond; produced by Jerry Jones.

44 min. Color 1992 Catalog #38144
Sale: video \$195, Rental: video \$50


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. Produced by Shannon Sells and Christine Smith.

30 min. Color 1992 Catalog #38153
Sale: video \$195, Rental: video \$50

Over the Hedge


 *Natl. Educational Film Festival Gold Apple Award*
American Psychological Assn. honoree
PBS national broadcasts on P.O.V.
Selected for screening at more than 25 film festivals worldwide

This acclaimed film provides an insightful and humorous look at a fascinating and eccentric aspect of suburban America—people who shape their front-yard hedges and plants into fantastic topiary shapes. The film shows that the topiary garden represents a strong statement of American iconoclasm—a declaration of individuality and self-expression within the culturally contained context of suburbia. Produced by Karen Davis.

"A model of how to study human institutions, however seemingly trivial, as well as the people behind those institutions. It will be a stimulating eye-opener and ice-breaker in classes on popular culture, folklore, and American studies."—Prof. Josef Nage, Chair, Folklore and Mythology Program, UCLA

10 min. Color 1993 Catalog #38248
Sale: video \$125, Rental: video \$40

Lost Angeles: The Story of Tent City

 *Natl. Educational Film Festival Gold Apple Award*
American Psychological Assn. honoree
PBS National Broadcasts on P.O.V.

This classic and still timely documentary offers a powerful, uniquely intimate look at the lives and struggles of homeless people in an "urban campground" in Los Angeles. The film focuses on the personal stories of several camp residents—while homeless leaders and city officials attempt to deal with the problem of homelessness before the campground must close. Directed by filmmaker Tom Seidman with a crew made up largely of camp residents, this sobering account unsentimentally portrays the complicated social and psychological realities of life on the streets.

50 min. Color 1989 Catalog #37874
Sale: video \$195, Rental: video \$50

The Panel and The Dig



American Planning Assoc. "Education Project" Award

These two artful, tongue-in-cheek videos feature the cartoons of noted San Francisco urban designer and cartoonist Richard Hedman. Each is a humorous, enlightening, and provocative exploration of contemporary urban design and architecture, and each passionately advances Hedman's vision that good planning and design are at the heart of livable communities. *The Panel* tells the story of an inspired design jury whose critique of modern urban architecture offends an audience of architects and leads to a cataclysmic riot. *The Dig* recounts an archaeological expedition of a thousand years from now that is searching for the ruins of a university's design and planning school. Curmudgeon archaeologist Sir Rodney Piltown and his wacky team are dismayed and, ultimately, terrified by what they discover amid the ruins. By Hartmut Gerdes.

"A great teaching tool for urban designers and a kick-off point for exploring important city design considerations. This is the kind of humorous, wry stuff that students and imaginative professionals will love." —Allan B. Jacobs, Prof. of City and Regional Planning, UC Berkeley

50 min. Color 1994 Catalog #38271
Sale: video \$150, Rental: video \$60



The Panel and The Dig

Cities for People



San Francisco Intl. Film Festival Award
Broadcast Media Award
Ohio State Award

This classic essay on the successful humanization of the urban landscape is not a documentary about architecture. Rather, it is a beautiful and thought-provoking exploration of the space left in a city—for people—after the buildings are built. Filmed in San Francisco, Savannah, San Antonio, Atlanta, Boston, and New York, as well as in the age-tested medieval and Renaissance Italian cities of Asolo, Bologna, Milan, Todi, Perugia, and San Gimignano, it demonstrates that beauty, harmony, and spatial complexity—the stuff of aesthetics—need not be cosmetic extras; indeed, they are the factors that make some cities livable and others alien. Produced by Amanda Pope and John Louis Field.

"A striking example of what can be done to educate and encourage people as to how to achieve more livable and beautiful cities." —American Institute of Architects Special Citation

49 min. Color 1975 Catalog #37226
Sale: video \$95, Rental: video \$50



Fishing in the City

Fishing in the City



American Anthropological Assn. selection

Explores the role of fishing in the social and cultural life of the various ethnic groups that make up the population of Washington, DC. By showing who fishes with whom and what each group does with its catch, this unusual documentary provides a window on some of the social bonds that sustain the city's ethnic communities and on some of the activities that help build bridges across them. A fresh example of urban anthropology by Prof. Karen Brodtkin Sacks, UCLA.

"A novel way of looking at the city! It's the perfect film for urban studies and urban anthropology courses." —Brett Williams, Prof. of Anthropology and American Studies, American Univ.

28 min. Color 1991 Catalog #38063
Sale: video \$125, Rental: video \$50

Ave Maria: The Story of the Fisherman's Feast



"Best Independent Production,"
Birmingham Educational Film Festival
Society for Visual Anthropology honoree
American Anthropological Assn. selection

Documents one of the most important traditions of Boston's Italian-Americans: the annual celebration of the Feast of the Madonna del Soccorso, popularly known as the Fisherman's Feast. Its climax is the "Angel Ceremony," an unforgettable piece of street theater. Produced by Beth Harrington.

"An important contribution to the study of popular urban traditions. It explores the many features of a complex celebration with sympathy, affection, and understanding." —Robert Orsi, Prof. of Religious Studies, Indiana Univ.

24 min. Color 1987 Catalog #37423
Sale: video \$150, Rental: video \$50

Island of Saints and Souls



American Film and Video Festival Award
American Anthropological Assn. selection

This perceptive documentary shows how the Catholic traditions of many immigrant groups have influenced and contributed to the rich cultural texture of New Orleans. The film spans a year in the life of the Crescent City, exploring its colorful history, traditions, customs, and feast days. By Neil Alexander.

29 min. Color 1991 Catalog #38098
Sale: video \$150, 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 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? What these students discover, as they unravel the mystery of who fired the first shot, forces them to confront racial, cultural, and gender stereotypes.

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 urban youth, and will stimulate discussion and analysis in a wide range of courses in sociology, social psychology, multiculturalism, and urban studies. Conceived and produced by Alice Ray.

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



Caught in the Crossfire

Can You See the Color Gray?



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

This unique and provocative documentary explores the development and expression of racial and ethnic prejudices and stereotypes. It is sure to inspire discussion in any course that deals with race relations in urban settings. It shows numerous city-dwellers 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 sociology, ethnic studies, and urban studies. Produced by Alexandra Corbin.


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



The Band

A 1998-1999 RELEASE!

The Band

 *American Psychological Assn. honoree
Natl. Educational Film Festival Award
Western Psychological Assn. honoree
PBS National Broadcasts on P.O.V.*

FEATURING refreshingly candid student commentary on everything from anorexia and Ritalin to divorced parents and race relations, *The Band* is a lively, engrossing look at urban American teenage life, 1990s style. The film is a portrait of postmodern adolescence told from the bittersweet perspective of a father with one son on the verge of adulthood and another son who lives only in memories. Taken as a whole, it is a thought-provoking reflection on the state of America as it enters the 21st century.

The film is both moving and insightful, understated and powerful. It is an exceptional work that will provoke analysis and discussion in courses in sociology, urban studies, and social psychology, among other disciplines. Produced by David Zeiger.

"A valuable teaching tool! The film is poignant, richly humorous, and altogether relevant to a wide variety of courses that deal with contemporary urban youth." —Norman Berg, Prof. of Psychology, Antioch Univ., Los Angeles
52 min. Color 1998 Catalog #38429
Sale: video \$195, Rental: video \$75

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