

Sexism|Cinema Film Series: Spring 2021

Fifty+ years ago, the term “sexism” was coined. This film series considers ways in which sexism is embedded, endorsed, and/or challenged in the cinema. Together, these films featuring women as central protagonists offer an intriguing site for the analysis of representations of race/ethnicity, femininities, masculinities, and sexualities. All discussions begin at 7:30pm on Zoom; please register through the links on our website: <https://www.sexismcinema.com/>.

February 3, 2021: *Born in Flames* (1983)

March 3, 2021: *The Joy Luck Club* (1993)

April 7, 2020: *Enough* (2002)

May 5, 2020: *Gaslight* (1944)

Film Facts: *Enough* is based on the *New York Times* bestselling book *Black and Blue* by Anna Quindlen, which was also made into a 1999 made-for-TV movie of the same name. Both film adaptations were directed by men: *Enough* by Michael Apted and *Black and Blue* by Paul Shapiro.

When Slim and Gracie are staying in a hotel the night of their escape, the movie on the TV is *The Lady from Shanghai*, a 1947 film noir that was infamous for star Rita Hayworth's short haircut, and for accounts of her estranged husband and director Orson Welles' bullying behavior on set.

Our Featured Speaker for Tonight

Hali Cardenas hails from West Texas. She is a writer, activist, educator, and mother. She has a BA in English from Texas Tech University. Cardenas's creative work is rooted in gender norms, relationship dynamics, and the way that pop culture shapes us.

Potential Questions for Discussion

1. In what way(s) is Slim's experience of intimate partner violence similar/different to the patterns of violence against women in real life? How do you feel her experience of PTSD is represented?
2. The majority of the characters who help Slim are Black, People of Color, and/or presented as immigrants. At the same time, the fact that Slim is played by a Latina actor (Jennifer Lopez) is underplayed. What do you think about the representation of race in the film?
3. What does Slim mean when she says, "I'm not one of those women," as she confronts the fact that she is being physically and emotionally abused by her husband?
4. Slim's life with Mitch is portrayed as a "fairy tale romance." Later in the film, we see her cut her hair short and put on muscle in order to fight Mitch. How do these markers of femininity/masculinity play in the film?
5. How are issues of class and education represented and/or alluded to in the film?

Further Resources

Herman, Judith. *Trauma and Recovery: The Aftermath of Violence – From Domestic Abuse to Political Terror*. Basic Books. 7 July 2015.

Khaw, L., & Hardesty, J. L. (2007). Theorizing the process of leaving: Turning points and trajectories in the stages of change. *Family Relations*, 56(4), 413-425.

Mailhot, Terese Marie. *Heart Berries: A Memoir*. Counterpoint. 13 February 2018.

Miller, Chanel. *Know My Name*. Penguin Books. 24 September 2019.

O'Neal, E. N., & Beckman, L. O. (2017). Intersections of race, ethnicity, and gender: Reframing knowledge surrounding barriers to social services among Latina intimate partner violence victims. *Violence against Women*, 23(5), 643-665.

Snyder, Rachel Louise. *No Visible Bruises: What We Don't Know About Domestic Violence Can Kill Us*. Bloomsbury Publishing. 7 May 2019.

Sponsored by: Alamo Drafthouse, TTU's International Film Series, TTU Women's and Gender Studies, TTU's RISE (Risk Intervention and Safety Education), and The Humanities Center at Texas Tech

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Additional Resources



SUPPORT & REPORTING OPTIONS FOR SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

ON-CAMPUS RESOURCES

OFFICE FOR STUDENT RIGHTS & RESOLUTION

SUB 232E | 806.742.7233 | titleix.ttu.edu
Reporting for sexual violence, interpersonal conflicts, harassment, and discrimination.
Online Reporting Available

RISK INTERVENTION & SAFETY EDUCATION (RISE)

SWC 204 | 806.742.2110 | rise.ttu.edu
Provide education and services in the following areas: Violence Prevention & Response, Safety, Wellness, Alcohol & Other Drugs, Gender & Sexuality
Online Reporting Available
Jane/John Doe Reporters

STUDENT COUNSELING CENTER

SWC 201 | 806.742.3674 | counseling.ttu.edu
Individual and group counseling
Walk-in Clinic Hours: M-F 12:30-3:30pm
Confidential Services

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

SWC | 806.743.2848 | www.ttuhscc.edu/studenthealth
On-campus medical care exclusively for TTU students. Quality care, right on campus.
Confidential Services

TTU POLICE DEPARTMENT

Emergency: 9-911 | Non: 806.742.3931
www.depts.ttu.edu/ttupd
File a report if incident occurred on-campus

OFF-CAMPUS RESOURCES

COVENANT EMERGENCY ROOM

3615 19th St. Lubbock, Tx 79410 | 806.725.4288
Emergency health care and forensic examinations within 96 hours of sexual assault

LUBBOCK POLICE DEPARTMENT

Emergency: 911 | Non: 806.775.2865 | lubbockpolice.com
File a report if incident occurred off-campus

UMC EMERGENCY ROOM

602 Indiana Ave. Lubbock, Tx 79415 | 806.775.8200
Emergency health care and forensic examinations within 96 hours of sexual assault

VOICE OF HOPE LUBBOCK RAPE CRISIS CENTER

806.763.3232 | 806.763.7273 | voiceofhopelubbock.org
Crisis intervention, support, and following-up for survivors and family members

Call the Texas Tech
CRISIS helpline
806.742.5555
24/7/365 ASSISTANCE FOR STUDENTS

TTU TITLE IX ADMINISTRATOR

Admin. Building 163 | 806.834.1949 | titleix.ttu.edu
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