

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: The term “gaslighting,” widely used now in both psychological and political contexts to refer to ways an abuser manipulates a victim’s sense of reality through obfuscation and deceit, originates from the 1938 stage play on which this film is based.

Our Featured Speaker for Tonight

Dr. Catherine Borshuk is Professor of Psychology and Assistant Director of the Honors Program at Indiana University-South Bend. A social psychologist, Dr. Borshuk specializes in intergroup relations, prejudice, the psychology of women (especially domestic violence), and theories of pedagogy. She is a member of IUSB’s Faculty Colloquium on Excellence in Teaching (FACET), and is the former Director of Women’s and Gender Studies. In 2019, Dr. Borshuk was selected as IUSB’s Lundquist Faculty Fellow, the university’s highest faculty award.

Potential Questions for Discussion

1. What do you think about the character of Nancy (Angela Lansbury)? How are both her sexuality and her socio-economic status presented in the film?
2. Do you notice any similarities between *Gaslight* and last month's film, *Enough*? Think about both the way they represent an abusive and manipulative partner, but also the way the films represent their female protagonists' "getting even."
3. What gender stereotypes contribute to the characterization of Brian Cameron? Gregory Anton?
4. The film contrasts two patriarchal institutions, marriage and policing. How does the movie represent women's roles within/in relation to these institutions?
5. If Paula had stayed on her career path, how might this movie have played out?

Further Resources

Haider, Arwa. "A Cultural History of Gaslighting." BBC Culture Nov. 22,

2019. <https://www.bbc.com/culture/article/20191122-cultural-history-of-gaslighting-in-film>

Shoos D.L. (2017) “*Gaslight*, Gaslighting, and the Gothic Romance Film.” In: *Domestic Violence in Hollywood Film*.

Palgrave Macmillan, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-65064-7_2

Sweet, Paige L. "The Sociology of Gaslighting." *American Sociological Review* 2019, Vol. 84(5) 851–

875. journals.sagepub.com/home/asr

Winter, Jessica. "The Language of the Trump Administration is the Language of Domestic Violence." *The New Yorker*. 11 June 2018

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
kimberly.simon@ttu.edu

