



TED UNIVERSITY
Center for
Gender Studies

Archive of Films, TV Series, and Documentaries on Gender

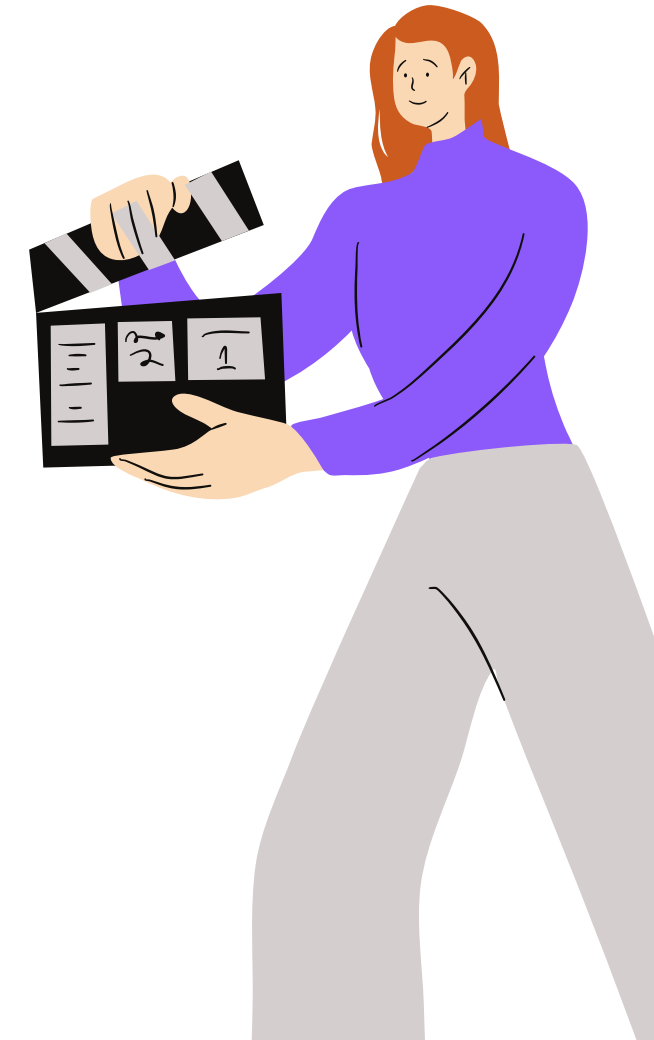
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Films:

A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night (2014 – Director: Ana Lily Amirpour): A vampire woman who lives in the “Bad City” town, punishes men who oppress and mistreat women in her own way.

Agora (2009 – Director: Alejandro Amenabar): The film is about the struggle of a woman who got a good education in Ancient Greece to write valuable theories on mathematics and astronomy.

Antonia's Line (1995 – Director: Marleen Gorris): Antonia, her daughter and granddaughter, who live on a farm in Germany, struggle for life in a world without men around them.

How Asiye Could Be Rescued / Asiye Nasıl Kurtulur (1986 – Director: Nejat Saydam): The film is about the life of a sex worker and how she is viewed by society.

Whale Rider (2002 – Director: Niki Caro): The film takes place among the indigenous people of New Zealand, the Maori. Girls are not allowed to be Whangara chiefs but this is not acceptable for 11 year old Paikea. Paikea thinks that she is destined to ride whales and lead her tribe. Niki Caro's film focuses on notions of bravery, leadership, and challenge.

In Between / Bar Bahar (2016 – Director: Maysaloun Hamoud): The film focuses on the most visible dilemmas of three Palestinian women who live in Tel Aviv: Tradition and modernity, spirituality and worldliness... It is possible to find both contradictions in their purest form on the streets of Tel Aviv; and Director Hamoud brings this feeling of being stuck in the to the film. The abstract and harsh conflict of different lifestyles, different definitions of pleasure taken from life and different devotions are reflected on the screen with a humorous point of view through the three young women.

Brooklyn (2015 – Director: John Crowley): Eilis, an Irish migrant worker woman in 1950s America, lives with the various conservatisms of the immigrant society. When she goes to Ireland on one occasion, she remembers why she wanted to leave there for similar reasons. The film examines the reasons such as immigrants' sense of not belonging, discrimination and exclusion, introverted social structure etc.

Carol (2015 – Director: Todd Haynes): Adapted from Patricia Highsmith's novel *The Price of Salt*, “Carol” deals with the love story of two women in the heteronormative New York of the 1950s. The film, which criticizes the social structure and conservatism of the period, highlights a relationship that feeds each other, which can be established not over power but through equality, despite some hierarchies such as age and experience.

Cries and Whispers (1972 – Director: Ingmar Bergman): The focus of the film, which takes place in the home of an upper-class family in 19th century Sweden, is sisterhood and sisterly relationships. The class criticism in the movie is made through the relationship with the woman who is a worker of the house.

Iron Jawed Angels (2004 – Director: Katja von Garnier): Focusing on the women's suffrage movement in the United States of America in the 1910s, the film especially focuses on the experiences of Alice Paul and Lucy Burns, who used different strategies and dialogue methods for women to gain the right to vote and took an active role in the suffrage process.

Suffragette (2015 – Director: Sarah Gavron): The film focuses on the struggle of women, who started one of the first feminist movements in history, against the increasingly brutal government.

Educating Rita (1983 – Director: Lewis Gilbert): The film, which won the BAFTA Best Film Award in 1983, deals with how a woman named Rita escaped from traditional female roles through education and the difficulties this escape created in her life.

Cairo 678 (2010 – Director: Muhammed Diab): Based on true stories, the film reflects the common problem of sexual harassment shared by three different women in Egypt on the silver screen.

Women without Men / Zanan-e Bedun-e Mardan (2009 – Directors: Shirin Neshat and Shoja Azari): The film is made by Shirin Neshat, who has been banned from visiting Iran for 20 years. It tells the story of four different women whose paths cross while the people were fighting for democracy in Iran before the Islamic Revolution. Extremely symbolic! All the women of the world will find something from themselves in the story of Munes who refuses to get married, Zarrin who is forced to become a sex worker, Faezeh who is sexually assaulted and forced to leave her home, and Fakhri, who is overwhelmed by her unhappy marriage.

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner (1967 – Director: Stanley Kramer): It is a comedy-drama film dealing with racism.

Hidden Figures (2016 – Director: Theodore Melfi): Three black women, Katherine G. Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson, achieve great things at NASA.

In the Time of the Butterflies (2001 – Director: Mariano Barroso): The film tells the story of the Mirabal sisters, who opposed the dictatorship of Rafael Trujillo and were assassinated on November 25, 1960.

İffet (1982 – Director: Kartal Tibet): The film deals with the difficulties experienced by a woman escaping from the pressure of her family and neighborhood and her struggle with men.

Women Has No Name / Kadının Adı Yok (1988 – Director: Atıf Yılmaz): Adapted from Duygu Asena's book, the film deals with Işık's questioning of the situation she is in, living under intense pressure.

La Vie en Rose (2007 – Director: Olivier Dahan): The film is about the life of the French diva Edith Piaf, who struggles hard for her right to live, sing and love.

Ladybird (2017 – Director: Greta Gerwig): In the film, which focuses on the mother–daughter relationship, “Ladybird” is a rebellious young girl. The film focuses on issues of youth and the relationships that shape us.

Love, Simon (2018 – Director: Greg Berlanti): A teen movie that touches on the high school love story of a young homosexual in a heteronormative environment.

Made in Dagenham (2010 – Director: Nigel Cole): The film, which is historically based on women's protest at Ford's Dagenham factory in 1968, deals with how much the leftist movement and union organization over the British working class left women out and tried to maintain it, but women's courage, perseverance and their fight together will get the results.

Malena (2000 – Director: Giuseppe Tornatore): The Italian–German co–produced film takes place during the Second World War and the movie is shaped by the lead role named Malena. We can clearly see masculine domination and gender roles in the movie.

Marianne and Juliane (1981 – Director: Margarethe von Trotta): Marianna and Juliane, the daughters of a priest, fight society for women's rights. But their tools are completely different: Juliane works as a reporter, while her sister joins a terrorist organization. After Marianna is caught by the police and thrown in a jail cell, Juliane becomes her only link to the rest of the world. Although Juliane does not support her sister's view, she continues to help her. Juliane soon begins to question how she treated her sister.

The Virgin Suicides (1999 – Director: Sofia Coppola): A group of boys discover both their own sexuality and the mysteries of femininity through their friendship with five sisters who are their neighbors.

Milk (2009 – Director: Gus Van Sant): The film is about the life of Harvey Milk, who is considered an idol for LGBTI+ rights.

Mine (1982 – Director: Atıf Yılmaz): Adapted from Necati Cumalı's play, this film is about the rebellion of Mine, who is in an unhappy marriage and subjected to male harassment.

Mustang (2015 – Director: Deniz Gamze Ergüven): The film is about the struggle and rebellion of five orphan sisters living in Inebolu with their conservative neighbors.

Bliss / Mutluluk (2007 – Director: Abdullah Oğuz): The film is about honor killings in Turkey, social and class differences between men and women.

Not Without My Daughter (1991 – Director: Brian Gilbert): The film deals with violence against women and domestic violence during the oppressive regime.

Daisies (1966 – Director: Vera Chytilova): Daisies is an avant-garde and feminist film. It was banned in Czechoslovakia at the time, the director was not allowed to make films. Although it seems like the subject matter is two women living a strange life, it is understood that the film is a criticism and a discovery.

Persepolis (2007 – Directors: Marjane Satrapi and Vincent Paronnaud): The film reveals the effects of gender inequality on the life decisions of free-spirited Marjane, who lives with her family in Tehran.

Persona (1966 – Director: Ingmar Bergman): It is a Swedish film made in 1966 directed by Ingmar Bergman and starring Bibi Andersson and Liv Ullmann. It is about the time an actress who has completely cut off communication with her surroundings spends with the nurse who takes care of her.

Philadelphia (1993 – Director: Jonathan Demme): The film is about heterosexism and discrimination against HIV-positive individuals.

Portrait of a Lady on Fire (2019 – Director: Céline Sciamma): It is the love story of a painter trying to exist in the art world as a woman, and an upper-class woman who is arranged to be married to her dead sister's fiancée. While criticizing early modern society, the film also stands out with its intersectional approach to the experiences of women from different classes.

Pride (2014 – Director: Matthew Warchus): The story, which is set in 1984 and develops through the support of the miners' strikes in Britain, the injustices that homosexual individuals are subjected to are expressed. The film has been frequently criticized for its lack of ethnic diversity.

Revolutionary Road (2008 – Director: Sam Mendes): The film, which is about violence against women, especially deals with the subject of psychological violence.

Rosetta (1999 – Directors: Jean-Pierre Dardenne and Luc Dardenne): The Dardenne Brothers, behind films that portray France's working-class, in this movie tell the difficult life of Rosetta, a young girl who lives with her alcohol-addicted mother. Having a hard time finding a job, Rosetta will do her best to not lose her job.

Sibel (2018 – Directors: Guillaume Giovanetti and Çağla Zencirci): The film tells the life of a young girl named Sibel, who lives in a village in the Black Sea Region and has lost her ability to speak. Sibel paints the portrait of a woman who riots and rebels against the order in a patriarchal village dominated by male supremacy.

Sleeping with the Enemy (1991 – Director: Joseph Ruben): It is about violence against women.

Song of the Exile (1990 – Director: Ann Hui): Ann Hui, one of the important names of Hong Kong New Wave, puts emphasis on cultural conflicts and identities in this semi-autobiographical film. With Song of the Exile, in which she deals with her return to Hong Kong and her problems centered around her relationship with her mother, Hui takes a feminist stance against this culture by expressing herself openly in a patriarchal culture.

The Stoning of Soraya M. (2010 – Director: Cyrus Nowrasteh): It is a movie about the murder of Soraya, who was slandered by her husband, by stoning in accordance with sharia law, and is adapted from a true story. It shows how women are treated as second-class people with all its bareness. It is a painful, extremely realistic, awareness-raising work.

Syngue Sabour / The Patience Stone (2012 – Director: Atik Rahimi): A woman stuck with her paralyzed husband in Afghanistan, in the middle of the war. The woman explains, her husband has become patience itself, a patience stone. What we are watching is actually a different form of revenge.

The Apple (1998 – Director: Samira Mahmelbaf): It is about the experiences of girls in a poor neighborhood in Tehran.

The Color Purple (1985 – Director: Steven Spielberg): Whoopi Goldberg brings Alice Walker's Pulitzer Prize-winning feminist novel to life as Celie, a Southern woman who has been abused for decades. This film marks Spielberg's first female lead role.

The Danish Girl (2015 – Director: Tom Hooper): It is a transsexual story from the 1930s and was inspired by a true story.

The Day I Became A Woman (2000 – Director: Marziye Meşkini): There are the stories of many women. A little girl's first hijab, an old woman's crazy shopping, and a woman's divorce on a horse. It's fun to watch them all in one movie.

The Divine Order (2017 – Director: Petra Biondina Volpe): Living in Switzerland in 1971, Nora is a housewife living in a standard family. The revolutionaries who rebelled in Switzerland in 1968 gained some rights, but these are now left behind. The things change when Nora tries to organize those around her on women's rights. It is a film that has won 12 awards and deals with the process of women's suffrage in Switzerland.

The First Wives Club (1996 –Director: Hugh Wilson): Diane Keaton, Bette Midler, and Goldie Hawn dress in their own version of an all-white ensemble and regain their independence from their manipulative ex-husbands.

The Help (2011 – Director: Tate Taylor): The film tells the struggle of women against discrimination in the 1960s, through the friendship story of three different women who come closer to each other thanks to a project.

The Hours (2002 – Director: Stephen Daldry): Inspired by Virginia Woolf's novel Mrs. Dalloway, the film focuses on the experiences of three generations of women: Virginia Woolf herself, Clarissa Dalloway from the book, and a woman reading Mrs. Dalloway.

The Iron Lady (2011 – Director: Phyllida Lloyd): The film chronicles part of the life of Margaret Thatcher, the longest-serving British prime minister of the 20th century.

The Piano (1993 – Director: Jane Campion): Set in New Zealand in the late 19th century, the film focuses on the story of a speech-impaired pianist woman and her daughter. When the woman who came to New Zealand for an arranged marriage begins to meet with a man who wants to take piano lessons from her, she will step out of the conservative structure of society and face oppression, violence, and discrimination.

Thelma (2017 – Director: Joachim Trier): Thelma, who was raised quite religious in a small town in Norway, comes to Oslo to study at university. Although she tries to reject her homosexual tendencies, she will not be able to escape with the impact of the emergence of her superpower.

Thelma and Louise (1991 – Director: Ridley Scott): To sum up the movie in one word, that word would be "friendship". Thelma, who lives in a house where gender roles are effective from A to Z, and Louise, who lives completely outside of these stereotypes, decide to hit the road. The journey of the women is woven with an effort to leave the country in order not to go to jail when they are faced with sexual violence at a place where they go to rest and have fun.

To Take a Wife (2004 – Directors: Ronit Elkabetz and Shlomi Elkabetz): The film is the first of a trilogy about Viviane's unhappy marriage. The second one is, Shiva (2008).

Two Days, One Night (2014 – Directors: Jean-Pierre Dardenne and Luc Dardenne): When Sandra, a factory worker in Belgium, is on leave due to depression, she learns that her co-workers have been offered extra money in exchange for her disemployment, and she has only one week to persuade them to keep her job.

Violette (2013 – Director: Martin Provost): Violette Leduc was born out of wedlock during the First World War. Having a difficult childhood in the shadow of the war, Violette's youth coincides with the Second World War and her living conditions become very difficult. Around this time, she meets the famous female writer Simone de Beauvoir. Violette also wants to be a writer and she puts a lot of effort into it. However, she achieves the success she wanted with *La Bâtarde / The Bastard*, in which she wrote her own memoirs, in 1964. Her novels, in which she honestly deals with issues such as abortion, female sexuality and blends homosexuality, post-war society, and freedom. The film deals with Violette's process of becoming a writer, her friendship with Simone de Beauvoir, and the turning points of her life.

Gett: The Trial of Viviane Amsalem (2014 – Directors: Ronit Elkabetz and Shlomi Elkabetz) (Last Movie of the Trilogy): The film, which was Israel's Oscar nominee, is about the years-long struggle of Viviane with her husband Elisha against the rabbinical judges, who wants to end her 20-year unhappy marriage because the decisions about the institution of marriage are under the control of rabbinical judges and divorce is possible only with the consent of the husband.

Wadjda (2012 – Director: Haifaa Al Mansour): 10-year-old Vecide, who constantly pushes the limits in Saudi Arabia, wants to buy a bicycle one day. This request is turned down as it is not welcome for a girl to ride a bicycle in society. She decides to win the Quran competition held at school and buy the bike with this money.

Where Do We Go Now (2011 – Director: Nadine Labaki): The film is about the Muslim and Christian people living together in a small town in Lebanon, women who try to keep away from the political and religious problems that exist outside the town and to end the endless deaths together. Let's not pass without mentioning the following words in the funeral scene we watched at the beginning of the film, which is fed with drama at times and humor at times: “The story I tell is for all who want to hear. A tale of those who fast, a tale of those who pray, a tale of a lonely town, mines scattered all around. Caught up in a war, split to its very core. To clans with broken hearts under a burning sun. Their hands stained with blood in the name of a cross or a crescent. From this lonely place, which has chosen peace, whose history is spun of barbed wire and guns.”

20th Century Women (2016 – Director: Mike Mills): Set in Southern California in the late 1970s, the film explores the notions of women, family, and time in the 1970s in a deep and entertaining way. Set in Santa Barbara, the story is based on a single mother in her mid-50s. Dorothea Fields lives her quiet life with her young son, whom she raised alone. In an age of cultural change and rebellion, she enlists the help of two young women to keep Jason in line: The punk, free-spirited artist Abbie and the insightful and provocative next-door neighbor Julie...

Die verlorene Ehre der Katharina Blum / 29. Katharina Blum'un Çığnenen Onuru (1975 – Directors: Volker Schlöndorff and Margerethe von Trotta): Based on Heinrich Böll's novel of the same name, this film focuses on the destruction of Katharina Blum's life and the violation of every detail of her private life by a persistent reporter.

TV Shows:

Agent Carter (2015): The show focuses on a woman who is exposed to sexism and misogyny in her male-dominated working life.

Alias Grace (2017): In 19th century Canada, a psychiatrist weighs whether a female murderer should be pardoned for her disordered mental state. It is based on the award-winning novel by Margaret Atwood.

American Horror Story: Coven (2013): In this show about the events in a witch school, the solidarity of women with supernatural powers occupies an important place.

Anne with an E (2017): It is a mini-series available on Netflix and is made in Canada. Anne defies the patriarchal system in the town she came from as an adopted child, despite her young age. It is one of the rare productions in which feminism is emphasized among period pieces. It is a gripping series that can be watched with the family.

Big Little Lies (2017): It is about different family lives, women's solidarity, economic, social, and physical violence, and harassment.

Broad City (2014): It tells the efforts of Ilana and Abbi, who are in their 20s, to exist with their own progressive selves in New York City, USA as a situation comedy.

Cable Girls (2017): It is about friendships, love, and women's solidarity in a telecommunications company in Madrid in the late 1920s.

Fleabag (2016): The main character, Fleabag, is a free-spirited but angry and confused woman living in London. The show deals with the mood that the main character is in after the death of her best friend and mother as dark humor and tragicomedy. It is based on Phoebe-Waller Bridge's one-woman stage show.

Gilmore Girls (2000): It is about the relationship of a mother and daughter.

Girls (2012): It tells the experiences of close friends in their 20s living in New York.

Girlboss (2017): Sophia starts an online business and learns how to be a boss.

Glow (2017): An adaptation of the television show Gorgeous Ladies of Wrestling which aired in the late 1980s, at first, Glow deals with the story of an actress trying to survive. It later focuses on the character and the power of female wrestlers.

Good Girls (2018): Three moms who live in the suburbs rob a local grocery store together to survive financial ruin and gain independence. The show focuses on female solidarity, which is built on the events that develop.

Happy Valley (2014 – 2020): Catherine Cawood, a police sergeant working in the town of West Yorkshire, still experiences the pain of her daughter who committed suicide 8 years ago. Tommy Lee Royce, a drug dealer she suspects of sexually assaulting her daughter and making it look like suicide, is out of prison and back in town. On the other hand, her sister is on drug treatment. Catherine has to deal with the town's huge drug problem while dealing with her sister's treatment. While all this is going on, a kidnapping incident in the town causes everything to get out of hand.

How to Get Away with Murder (2014): It revolves around Annalise Keating's personal and business life. Annalise is a professor of criminal law at the fictional Middleton University in Philadelphia, one of the most respected law schools in the United States. Annalise, who is also a criminal defense attorney, chooses the top five students who took her course and chooses a group on her team to work with her.

Inside Amy Schumer (2013): Amy Schumer switches from sketches, doing stand up, to interviewing people on the street and people of interest usually following a certain theme.

Jeffrey Epstein: Filthy Rich (2020): The show, which tells about the difficulties experienced by women who have been sexually abused and the organization that mediates this, is especially about child abuse.

Killin Eve (2018): It is a dark humor/drama. Jodie Comer plays Villanelle, a psychopathic assassin. Sandra Oh plays a British intelligence agent tasked with capturing Villanelle. This spy show is about the obsession between two characters as the series progresses.

Las Chicas Del Cable (2017-...): It tells the lives of four women who started to work as operators in Madrid in 1928 with the hope of breaking free from the impositions of their fathers, husbands or other men.

Masters of Sex (2013): Dr. William Masters wants to investigate the reactions in women and men during sex, on which no scientific research has been done until that day. Dr. Masters, who starts working with prostitutes at the beginning, together with Virginia Johnson, decides to move the work to the hospital in order to make it a scientific research topic after a while.

Mrs. America (2020): It deals with the history of the women's movement. The mini-series, which tells the rise of feminism and the process leading to the preparation of the equal rights law in the USA through the eyes of the famous activist Phyllis Schlafly, reveals how the women's movement has changed the world of politics and culture.

Orange is the New Black (2013): It is about the life stories and relationships of women in women's prisons.

Orphan Black (2013): In the show, which focuses on women's solidarity, numerous women who were brought into the world by a human cloning method struggle to put an end to this wrong that is against the ethics of science.

Outlander (2014-): After watching a ritual performed by local women on a trip to Scotland, Claire wanders around the place where the ritual was performed and time travels by passing the stones. She goes 200 years into the past and nothing is as it was in the years she lived. Going back a long way from a time when women got their certain rights, Claire struggles with all sorts of things like accusations of witchcraft. Although the focus of the show is divided to various sub-titles from a woman's struggle in the following episodes, it still preserves this element.

Pose (2018–...): The series, set in 1987, deals with the problems experienced by homosexual individuals living in New York in their social and personal lives. In addition to the problems experienced, the sense of entertainment of the period is also reflected in the series, and an entertaining atmosphere is presented.

Queer Eye (2018): It is a Netflix original production. With the information provided by five queers in five different areas (culture, personal care, interior design, fashion, and food) ordinary lives are made over.

Self Made: Inspired by the Life of Madam C. J. Walker (2020): It is a mini-series available on the Netflix platform and is of American production. Inspired by the life of Madam C. J. Walker. It tells the difficulties she experienced in business life, both as a black launderer and a woman.

The Chilling Adventures of Sabrina (2018): This series, which fundamentally tells about Sabrina's creepy adventures on her way to becoming a witch, also draws attention with strong female figures.

The Crown (2016): It is a biographical story about Queen Elizabeth II's reign.

The Cry (2018): A British–Australian co–production, The Cry is about the search for Alistair and Joanna's missing baby, Noah, and the pain, curiosity, and fear experienced in the public eye in the process. It is a series that emphasizes public space and private space, and different representations of gender can be observed.

The Handmaid's Tale (2017): It is about social segregation, discrimination, and violence against certain groups.

Top of the Lake (2013–2017): Detective Robin Griffin, who is investigating a 12–year–old girl who went missing in New Zealand, begins to make discoveries about both the town where the incident took place and herself. The series focuses on sexual traumas and its effects.

Unbelievable (2019): It is an American mini-series consisting of eight episodes. It tells the struggle of Marie, who was subjected to sexual and physical violence by a man, against the patriarchal order. Two female detectives who reach women who have been subjected to similar attacks, delve deeper into the process, and become Marie's biggest supporters in her struggle.

Unorthodox (2020): It is a German-American drama mini-series that debuted on Netflix in 2020. Its director is Maria Schrader. It tells how a community oppresses women to reproduce and does not see women as an equal social class. In this story, the protagonist Esther Shapiro sets out to get out of this community and stand on her own feet.

Documentaries:

A Jihad for Love (2007 – Director: Parvez Sharma): It is a documentary about the struggle of LGBTI+ individuals in 11 Muslim-intensive countries, including Turkey, both against the outside world and in their own inner world.

Afghan Women: A History of Struggle (2007 – Director: Kathleen Foster): It is a documentary about the struggle of women living in Afghanistan for peace and security.

Africa, Africas (2001 – Directors: Agnes Ndibi, Maji-da Abdi and Fanta Regina Nacro): It is a documentary about the life of women living in Africa. It touches on issues such as Western standards of beauty, the effects of war on women and children, and high unemployment.

After the Rape: The Mukhtar Mai Story (2008 – Director: Catherine Ulmer): It is a documentary about the experiences of a Pakistani woman named Mukhtar Mai after she was sexually assaulted. It unravels the importance of school and education for women.

Feminists: What Were They Thinking? (2018 – Director: Johanna Demetrakas): It is a documentary on gender and feminism.

Miss Representation (2011 – Director: Jennifer Siebel Newsom): It is a 2011 American documentary. It was written and directed by Jennifer Siebel Newsom. This production tells how the difficulties that women face every day are imposed on people by the mainstream media.

Our Bodies... Their Battleground (2004 – Director: Integrated Regional Information Networks): It is a documentary about the sexual and physical violence women and children were exposed to during the war. It features the stories of women from Liberia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Paris is Burning (1990 – Director: Jennie Livingston): It is a documentary film about the ballroom culture in New York in the last half of the 1980s. This documentary, which conveys the experiences of black, Latinx, and LGBTI+ communities in New York, reflects the immanence and complexity of the concepts of race, class, gender, and sexuality.

Rape for Who I Am (2006 – Director: Lovinsa Kavuma): It is about the sexual violence that LGBTI+ individuals in South Africa are exposed to because of their sexual orientation.

RBG (2018 – Directors: Julie Cohen and Betsy West): It is a documentary on Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who has become an icon of feminism.