

# HOT TOPICS in SOCIOLOGY

42 DVDs from ICARUS FILMS

## Middletown

A six-film series created & produced by Peter Davis



Inspired by the immensely influential Depression-era studies of Robert and Helen Lynd—

Middletown: A Study in Modern American Culture (1929) and Middletown in Transition: A Study in Cultural Conflict (1937)—this series of six films made for PBS in 1982 explores middle-class life, American values and customs in “Middletown”—a.k.a. Muncie, Indiana.

### DIRECTORS

**The Campaign:** Tom Cohen

**The Big Game:** E.J. Vaughn

**Community of Praise:** Richard Leacock & Marisa Silver

**Family Business:** Tom Cohen

**Second Time Around:** Peter Davis

**Seventeen:** Joel DeMott & Jeff Kreines

The MIDDLETOWN films transform the studies into an unprecedented overview of American life seen through the prisms of local politics (The Campaign), high school sports (The Big Game), a family business (Family Business), religion (Community of Praise), marriage (Second Time Around), and education and race (in the controversial Sundance Grand Jury prize winner, Seventeen).

Filed at the dawn of the Reagan revolution, the six films that comprise MIDDLETOWN demonstrated how the society and culture of Muncie, perhaps of the entire American social fabric, had changed less than one might have expected in the six decades after the Lynds' studies.

Now, a generation later, watching the films again (as they are released on DVD for the first time), could that still be true?



*“A masterpiece! One of the most important films ever made of the American experience.”*—**Boston Globe**

*“Brimming with shrewd insights and unsettling observations.”*

—**The New York Times**

*“An uplifting, disquieting, ultimately haunting status report on the American dream.”*—**Newsweek**

 **Grand Jury Prize  
(for SEVENTEEN), 1985  
Sundance Film Festival**

6 films on 4 DVDs + 16-page booklet  
480 minutes | color | 1982

Sale/DVD: \$449 *special offer* \$398

**Order # S101**

## Aging in America

A Film by Julie Winokur & Ed Kashi

There are now more Americans over 55 than under 18 for the first time in history and this stunning reality is impacting every community in the country. This riveting documentary explores the reality of today's elders through a series of intimate portraits—from the wedding of two octogenarians, to aging athletes, activists, even strippers, to inmates growing old in



our nation's prisons. AGING IN AMERICA issues a ringing challenge to our preconceptions about what it means to grow old.

*"A candid unflinching look at aging."*—**San Francisco Chronicle**

 **Freddie Award in Geriatrics, 2005 International Health and Medical Media Awards**

 **Best Educational Film, 2003 Silver Images Film Festival**

56 minutes | color | 2003  
Sale/DVD: \$199 ~~now~~ \$195  
**Order # S102**

## Exit: The Right to Die

A Film by Fernand Melgar

Social taboos about death have generated legal, medical, and ethical prohibitions against voluntary euthanasia or physician-assisted suicide. Switzerland is presently the only country in the world where suicide assistance is legal. EXIT: THE RIGHT TO DIE profiles that nation's EXIT organization, which for over twenty years has provided volunteers who counsel and accompany the terminally-ill and severely handicapped towards a death of their choice.

In chronicling several real-life stories, EXIT confronts us with the question: Why, when necessary, shouldn't one have the right to choose the means and time of one's own death?



★★★½ *"Highly Recommended! Serenely paced... this poignant, thought-provoking film endows [the issues] with a powerful human dimension."*—**Video Librarian**

*"The humane, direct approach says much more about the fraught issue than any political speech ever could."*—**New York Magazine**

 **Best Documentary, 2006 Swiss Cinema Awards**

75 minutes | color | 2005  
Sale/DVD: \$440 ~~now~~ \$298  
**Order # S103**

## The Boy Inside

A Film by Marianne Kaplan

Filmmaker Marianne Kaplan tells the personal and often harrowing story of her son Adam, a 12-year-old with Asperger Syndrome, during a tumultuous year in the life of their family. Adam's condition makes life in seventh grade a minefield, a place where he finds himself misunderstood, isolated, and bullied.

Marianne and Adam attend an international conference where they share their experiences with other AS children and parents, deal with continued conflicts at school and at home, which land Adam temporarily in foster care; As high school approaches, Adam questionable transition to young adulthood causes much anxiety.



*"Stresses and concerns that parents and families must face are admirably depicted. Recommended."*

—**Educational Media Reviews Online**

 **Video Librarian, Best of 2007**


 **2007 CINE Golden Eagle Award**

 **2006 Vancouver Film Festival**

47 minutes | color | 2006  
Sale/DVD: \$279 ~~now~~ \$248  
**Order # S104**

## Chain of Love

A Film by Marije Meerman


 The demand for domestic help is increasing in the West and one consequence is migration: escalating numbers of women in the Third World are leaving their own children to take care of kids in the West, with Filipina nannies being particularly desirable.

CHAIN OF LOVE is a film about the Philippines' second largest export product—maternal love—and



how this export affects the women involved, their families in the Philippines, and families in the West.

*"An excellent and timely documentary that focuses on important gender aspects of work in the global economy."*—**Asian Educational Media Service**

 **2003 Award of Excellence, Society for Visual Anthropology**

50 minutes | color | 2001  
Sale/DVD: \$390 ~~now~~ \$348  
**Order # S105**



## The Inheritors

A Film by Eugenio Polgovsky



**new** The most highly praised and awarded Mexican documentary in many years, *THE INHERITORS* by Eugenio Polgovsky immerses us in the daily lives of children who, with their families, survive only by their unrelenting labor.

The film takes us into the agricultural fields, where children barely bigger than the buckets they carry, work long hours, in often hazardous conditions, picking tomatoes, peppers, or beans, for which they are paid by weight. Infants in baskets are left alone in the hot sun, or are breast-fed by mothers while they pick crops.

*THE INHERITORS* also observes other labor routines, including the production of earthen bricks, cutting cane, gathering firewood, ox-plowing fields and planting by hand, and even more artistic endeavors such as carving wooden figures and weaving baskets to sell.

The indelible impression conveyed by *THE INHERITORS*, in which everyone—from the frailest elders to the smallest of toddlers—must work reveals how the cycle of poverty is passed on, from one generation to another.

*"Remarkable... a sometimes harrowing but also poetic and thoughtful film."*

—**ScreenDaily.com**

*"The harsh, relentless arduous conditions experienced by children toiling in the Mexican countryside are observed with striking vision and cinematic poetry."*

—**Variety**

**Grand Prize, 2008  
Festival of New Latin  
American Cinema**

**Best Documentary, 2009  
Mexican Academy of Film  
Arts and Sciences**

90 minutes | color | 2008  
Sale/DVD: \$398  
**Order # S106**

## Oblivion

A Film by Heddy Honigmann

The latest documentary from Heddy Honigmann (*FOREVER, METAL AND MELANCHOLY*, *O AMOR NATURAL*) focuses on Peru's capital city of Lima, revealing its startling contrasts of wealth and poverty, and how many of its poorest citizens have survived decades of economic crisis, terrorism and government violence, denial of workers' rights, and political corruption.

Demonstrating anew Honigmann's extraordinary talent as one of the most empathetic documentary filmmakers at work today, *OBLIVION* provides intimate portraits of street musicians, singers, vendors, shoeshine boys, and the gymnasts (some mere children) and jugglers who perform at traffic stops.

The moving interviews and reminiscences of these resilient and resourceful Peruvians are interwoven with scenes of contemporary political protests and archival footage of the rogues' gallery of the nation's presidents—Fernando Belaúnde (1980-1985), Alan García (1985-1990), Alberto Fujimori (1990-2000)—whose mismanaged or corrupt regimes have turned the majority of Peru's citizens into perennial victims of economic impoverishment and political abuse.

For most viewers, who are reminded of Peru only by news reports of a major earthquake, a presidential election or the discovery of a decades-old mass grave of army massacre victims, *OBLIVION* introduces us to the everyday reality of Lima, celebrating a people who, albeit politically powerless, have resisted being consigned to oblivion.



*"A masterpiece... you feel a direct, easygoing and warm approach from the director to her characters."*

—**Dox Magazine**

*"A multilayered cinematic cocktail which reveals a poetical and Chaplinesque vision of the resilience of humanity."*—**International Film Critics Federation**

**Mayor's Prize, 2009  
Yamagata International  
Documentary Film  
Festival**

**International Film  
Critics (FIPRESCI) Prize,  
2008 Leipzig Festival  
for Documentary and  
Animated Films**

93 minutes | color | 2008  
Sale/DVD: \$440 ~~now~~ \$398  
**Order # S107**

## My American Family

A Film by Jerzy Sladkowski

More than a century ago most members of the Merenda family emigrated to America from southern Italy. Over the decades, the growing family's ties to their homeland deteriorated but in 2002, in an effort to restore the broken link, 70-year-old Gaetano Merenda and his wife decide to fly from Italy to Kansas to attend a family reunion.



*"Highly Recommended! This delightful documentary explores the strength of that unseen bond that can only be created by sharing family ties. [The film's] warmth and vitality... are infectious."*

—Educational Media Reviews Online

 **2005 Northern Lights Documentary Festival**

70 minutes | color | 2004  
Sale/DVD: \$348 ~~now~~ \$298  
**Order # S108**

MY AMERICAN FAMILY shows them being joined by their son, Antonio, a documentary filmmaker, who helps his father make a video diary of their village and chronicles their journey to America. Their research into family history leads to unexpected revelations of both a historical and personal nature that finds them reassessing the importance of family tradition in this universal tale of familial bonds.

## North-South.com

A Film by François Ducat

In Cameroon, a country where nearly half the population lives under the poverty threshold, many young women, who dream of escaping a life of misery by marrying a rich, white foreigner, surf the Internet for European marriage prospects.

NORTH-SOUTH.COM interviews many of these young women who see Europe as a "paradise." The film also tells the stories of several Cameroonian women who married white Europeans, showing their current situations, the cultural differences with which they deal, and the personal sacrifices they made in exchange for economic security.

In relating these stories of dreams, hopes, disappointments and happiness that develop from on-line encounters between black women and white men, NORTH-SOUTH.COM also provides a provocative contemporary portrait of the relationship between the "developed" and "developing" worlds.



*"Examines this situation with much intelligence, know-how and sensitivity."*

—Philippe Simon, Webzine


 **2008 Festival International du Grand Reportage d'Actualité**

53 minutes | color | 2007  
Sale/DVD: \$390 ~~now~~ \$348  
**Order # S109**

## State of Mind: Healing Trauma

A Film by Djo Tunda Wa Munga



 In war torn countries people will struggle to be productive and development may fail until they overcome their trauma. Yet, is it even possible for a country overwhelmed by five million deaths, like Congo, to successfully heal and move on?

That is the underlying question in Congolese documentary filmmaker Djo Munga's STATE OF MIND, in which psychotherapist Dr. Albert Pessu is invited to Kinshasa, to train health practitioners in symbolic interaction, a form of short-term, group-based psychotherapy. In the training sessions the health care workers, many also survivors of terrible violence, work through the therapeutic process with Dr. Pessu.

Capturing the sessions in fly-on-the-wall scenes, and with candid interviews to put the effort in a larger context, STATE OF MIND is a layered and engrossing look at a national collective trauma, and one initiative to try and heal wounds.



*"Psychotherapist Dr. Al Pessu demonstrates how the language of trauma and recovery transcends language and culture, and that it is possible to install a sense of safety and protection in even the most traumatized individuals."*

A remarkable achievement."  
—Bessel van der Kolk, MD,  
Director, National Complex  
Trauma Treatment Network

52 minutes | color | 2010   
Sale/DVD: \$298  
**Order # S110**



## Malls R Us

A Film by Helene Klodawsky



Combining nostalgia, dazzling architecture, pop culture, economics and politics, *MALLS R US* examines North America's most popular and profitable suburban destination—the enclosed shopping center—and how for consumers they function as a communal, even ceremonial experience and, for retailers, sites where their idealism, passion and greed merge.

The film blends archival footage tracing the history of the shopping mall in America, visits to some of the world's largest and most spectacular malls—in Canada, the U.S., the U.K., Japan, Poland, France, and Dubai—and interviews with architects, mall developers, sales managers, environmentalists, labor activists and social critics, as well as commentary from mall shoppers themselves. *MALLS R US* discusses the psychological appeal of malls to consumers, how architects design their environments to combine consumerism with nature and spectacle, how suburban shopping centers impart social values, how malls are transforming the traditional notions of community, social space and human interaction.

As entertaining as it is informative, *MALLS R US* offers a trip to the mall like no other, reveling in their architectural splendor as consumerist paradises but also showing how the social dynamism they represent can be a destructive force, one that confuses the good life with the world of goods.

*"A fascinating, sumptuously filmed investigation into the history, design, function and future of the shopping mall in modern life. With its global sweep, vintage footage, and searching assessment of the mixed blessings that malls are in our lives, MALLS R US is instant classic—the documentary you want to see on this subject."*

—Alex Shoumatoff, *Vanity Fair Magazine*

 **2009 International Festival of Films on Art (Montreal)**

78 minutes | color | 2008   
Sale/DVD: \$398  
**Order # S119**

## A Sentence for Two

A Film by Randi Jacobs



Pregnancy inside this Oregon prison for women is anything but a joyous celebration of new life. Women who deliver their babies in prison have few options; if they can't find a family member to care for the infant, they will need to place it in foster care, or choose adoption. In any case, the newborn will be separated from its mother at birth, with a very real possibility that the two will never be reunited.

Christina, Trisha and Kristin are pregnant, and are facing years behind bars. Their newborns will face an uncertain future. The three women share the personal details of their pregnancies, incarceration and deliveries as they struggle with the agonizing search for safe and healthy homes for their babies—and as one plan after another falls apart. A fourth inmate, Tangerine, adds the perspective of someone who has already been through it.

By contrast, a few states have prison nurseries where inmates can keep their newborns with them. The documentary visits Bedford Hills Correctional Facility in New York, where Dr. Mary Byrne of Columbia University has been studying the development of babies during their first year of life inside a prison environment. As the number of women in prison continues its dramatic rise, her findings may have a major impact on planning to better meet the needs of incarcerated women and their babies.

★★★½ *"Three pregnant inmates and one former prisoner who had a child while incarcerated are the focus of this moving and revealing documentary. Highly recommended."*  
—Video Librarian

 **2008 Northwest Film & Video Festival**



58 minutes | color | 2008  
Sale/DVD: \$248  
**Order # S112**

## Surrounded by Waves

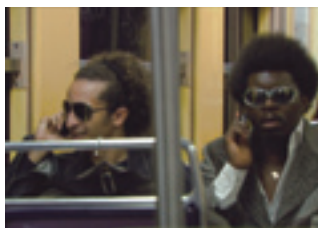
A Film by Jean-Christophe Ribot



**new** As wireless technology keeps expanding the debate surrounding the health impacts of electromagnetic waves keeps growing. Filmed in France, Israel, Sweden, and the U. S., **SURROUNDED BY WAVES** uses an elegant blend of interviews, archives, experiments and 3D animation to investigate what is known, and unknown, about the potential risks.

Around the world scientists are exploring cognitive troubles, sleep disturbances, risks of neurodegenerative diseases, brain tumors, cardiac rhythm abnormalities, disturbances of the immune system, and even decreases in fertility. In **SURROUNDED BY WAVES** we meet a number of experts in the field, including Dr. Andrew Marino of LSU's Health Services Center; Joe Wiart, a physicist employed at Orange Labs in France; and Professor Rony Seger, a biologist at the Weizmann Institute in Israel. In Sweden, Olle Johansson, professor of neuroscience at The Karolinska Institute studies electro hypersensitivity, officially recognized in Sweden as a disability.

**SURROUNDED BY WAVES** provides both a subtle observation of society's growing distrust of its industries, and the crucial role of science in the debate.



**2010 International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam**

52 minutes | color | 2009 **CC**  
Sale/DVD: \$390  
**Order # S113**

## Recipes for Disaster

A Film by John Webster



Concerned about the world's addiction to oil, and its disastrous environmental consequences for the planet such as global warming, the filmmaker convinces his family to go on an "oil diet" for one year to reduce their carbon footprint.

**RECIPES FOR DISASTER** chronicles their efforts on a month by month basis, revealing the personal difficulties involved in making such a radical change in lifestyle, and the surprising extent to which petroleum-based products figure in our everyday lives, including home heating and electricity, transportation, food, plastic products and packaging, clothing, even toothpaste, lipstick and shampoo.

At the end of the year, having survived an emotionally fraught experience that tested their values, the family members discuss the surprising statistical results. Although they learn that people can overcome almost any problem, even a deep-seated, systemic problem such as our dependence on oil, they realize that first we must overcome ourselves. The recipes for environmental disaster reside in mankind's psychological denial, persistence of error and rationalization of bad behavior.

*"At turns funny and insightful, this is a fresh take on ecological problems, solutions, and individual responsibility."*

—**Candace Smith, Booklist**

*"Engrossing and often amusing... The film not only investigates how our daily routine affects global warming, it also paints a candid portrait of an exceptional family dynamic."*

—**EyeWeekly.com**

*"An original form among ecological documentaries... excellent... this adventure speaks to each of us!"*

—**DOX Magazine**

63 minutes | color | 2008  
Sale/DVD: \$390 ~~now~~ \$348  
**Order # S114**



## Food Design

A Film by Martin Hablreiter & Sonya Strummerer



Food reflects our cultural standards, values and tradition yet we rarely eat food which has not been deliberately manipulated from its natural form. FOOD DESIGN looks at how our nourishment is scientifically engineered to appeal to all our senses, to engage us, to tell a story and to express our individual personalities.

Each year thousands of new consumer food products appear on supermarket shelves. Professionals from products developers to sound designers to texture analyzers, study how to maximize the emotional and psychological pleasure derived from food.



*"FOOD DESIGN is a beautifully filmed look at the complex process of food product design, in which the appeal of foods to all the senses is considered and manipulated, using sophisticated science and psychological insights."*

—J. Peter Clark, **Food Technology Magazine**

52 minutes | color | 2009  
Sale/Order: \$390  
**Order # S115**

## Seeds of Hunger

A Film by Yves Billy & Richard Prost

The current global economic crisis has created food shortages, skyrocketing prices, and food riots in some countries.

Film in Africa, China, Latin America and the

U.S. SEEDS OF HUNGER examines issues involved in creating such a crisis, including the politics of food security and scarcity, declining food production and the need for increased production to meet population growth, the impact of genetically modified foods, water shortages, famine, food aid programs, the loss of crop land, and national food production, distribution and export policies.



*"Serious. Educational. A very good lesson in geography and social economy."*

—**Telerama**

*"A remarkable documentary."*

—**Le Monde**

★★★½ *"A powerful look at a timely and important topic, this is highly recommended."*

—**Video Librarian**

52 minutes | color | 2008  
Sale/DVD: \$390  
**Order # S116**

## Judith Butler: Philosophical Encounters of the Third Kind

A Film by Paule Zadjermann

Author of the best-seller *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*, Judith Butler is one of the world's most important and influential contemporary thinkers in fields such as continental philosophy, literary theory, feminist and queer theory, and cultural politics.

In the film, Butler covers a wide range of subjects, broaching not only controversial gender issues—including transsexuality and intersexuality—but also modern Jewish philosophy, AIDS activism, criticism of state power and violence, gay marriage, and anti-Zionism.



*"A warm and illuminating portrait that enables us to discover the personality and thought of this engaged intellectual."* —**Le Monde**

52 minutes | color | 2006 **CC**  
Sale/DVD: \$390  
**Order # S117**

## One in 2000

A Film by by Ajae Clearway



Each year an estimated one in two thousand babies are born with anatomy that doesn't clearly mark them as either male or female—with what is known as an intersex condition. This provocative documentary demystifies the issue of sexual difference. At a time when five babies a day in the United States are having "gender reassignment" surgery, it argues that there is little evidence that such surgery is beneficial to the child.

The film profiles several people born with ambiguous sexual anatomy, who have managed to deal with some very difficult family and social issues, but today are living "ordinary" and productive lives. Interweaving their stories with educational films from the 1950's, *One in 2000* invites us to take a serious second look at how the media have dealt with sexual "normality."



*"One in 2000 demonstrates that the umbrella term 'intersex' covers a huge range of bodies and experiences. It shows that truly effective care for intersex people means recognizing that there are many paths to health and happiness, and that the real experts are the people themselves. The program should be required viewing for every doctor, advocate, and academic dealing with this issue."*

—**Thea Hillman; Author of For Lack of a Better Word; Former Board Chair, Intersex Society of North America**

**2008 CINE Golden Eagle Award**

26 minutes | color | 2006 **CC**  
Sale/DVD: \$229 ~~now~~ \$225  
**Order # S118**

## The Democratic Revolutionary Handbook

A Film by Tania Rakhmanova

As seen on the news the democratic revolutions throughout Eastern Europe—Serbia in 2000, Georgia in 2003, and the Ukraine in 2004—all seemed to follow a quick and easy pattern: the exposure of rigged elections, followed by massive street protests, and a regime that collapsed without a fight. But THE DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTIONARY HANDBOOK reveals the lengthy and meticulous preparations behind these seemingly spontaneous demonstrations, showing how modern marketing techniques have combined with revolutionary politics to transform the region's governments.



*"Fascinating... The visuals in this documentary are often arresting, frequently switching scenes from the apparent chaos and mayhem of street actions where riot police pound the bodies and skulls of helpless demonstrators to the cool tones of cathode ray tubes on which simulated street actions are rehearsed and tactics refined. And the talking heads engage us as well."*—**Journal of Communist Studies and Transition Politics**

52 minutes | color | 2006  
Sale/DVD: \$399 ~~now~~ \$348  
**Order # S119**

## Working Women of the World

A Film by Marie France Collard

Focusing on Levi Strauss & Co., WORKING WOMEN OF THE WORLD follows the relocation of garment production from Western countries to nations such as Indonesia, the Philippines, and Turkey, where low wages are the rule and employee rights are nonexistent. The film also presents the stories of her western counterparts who are losing their jobs.

Behind the new gospel of free trade are the real lives of women in the North and South. Filmed in Indonesia, the Philippines, Turkey, France, and Belgium, WORKING WOMEN OF THE WORLD puts these women's stories into the larger history and development of globalization.



*"Informative... Exposes the treatment of garment production employees. The viewer will learn of the conditions which plague these women daily: low wages, strenuous schedules, ambiguous contracts, and the constant threat of job loss due to company relocation and/or closure."*

—**Educational Media Reviews Online**

 **2001 Vancouver International Film Festival**

53 minutes | color | 2002  
Sale/DVD: \$399 ~~now~~ \$348  
**Order # S120**

## Awakening from Sorrow: Buenos Aires 1997

A Film by John Knoop & Karina Epperlein



AWAKENING FROM SORROW is about that

crucial moment in history when the grief of young Argentines—whose parents disappeared and were tortured and killed during the 'Dirty War' (Argentina's dictatorship organized mass killings of civilian dissidents during the 1970s until 1983) erupts into public action, and becomes a cornerstone for social movements from South America to Serbia. The film documents the power to transform pain into action and lift the veil of repression that has gripped a generation of young people left with emotional and physical scars.



*"Chilling in scope and effect."*—**San Francisco Chronicle**

 **2009 Mill Valley Film Festival**

40 minutes | color | 2009  
Sale/DVD: \$229 ~~now~~ \$225  
**Order # S121**

## Famous 4A

A Film by Mike Attie



With an astute sensitivity for his surroundings, director Mike Attie captures the rhythms of hospice life where caring and patient hospital staff attend to one goal, "keyword is comfortable" is the mantra. The patients reflect on finding God before death, reminisce about fishing with the president during World War II, pose for pictures with Miss California and claim minor medical victories.



FAMOUS 4A captures the bond shared between patients and caregivers, grown children and their ailing parents, and challenges stereotypes of aging and dying. The film is a universal look at seeking out humor, truth, purpose, uplift and grace in the final moments of life.

 **2010 Sebastopol Documentary Film Festival**

19 minutes | color | 2009  
Sale/DVD: \$225  
**Order # S122**



## Selling Sickness

Directed by Catherine Scott



**SELLING SICKNESS** exposes the unhealthy relationship between society, medical science and the pharmaceutical industry. Drug manufacturers today fund aggressive marketing campaigns designed to create public awareness of previously unknown diseases, or known by less dramatic names. Shyness thus becomes branded as 'Social Anxiety Disorder,' constant worry becomes 'Generalized Anxiety Disorder,' and premenstrual tension is now 'Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder.' The sale of SSRI anti-depressant medications used to treat these and other diseases, such as Paxil, Zoloft and Prozac, has become an annual \$20 billion market.

Co-written by Ray Moynihan (author of the book *Selling Sickness*, 2005), an internationally respected health journalist, the documentary reveals aspects of the drug trade not mentioned in commercials or magazines, including the deceptive use of clinical trials sponsored by the pharmaceutical companies, the highly addictive nature and many adverse side effects (like suicidal impulses among adolescent patients) of popular SSRI anti-depressants.

In a society where the techniques for selling diseases has become even more sophisticated than the medical science which develops cures for them, where everyday emotional problems are touted as epidemic diseases, *SELLING SICKNESS* sounds a vitally important cautionary note.

★★★ "Recommended!  
A thoroughly researched and  
well-made film."  
—Video Librarian

"Provocative... Bracing...  
A welcome, bitter tonic to the  
surfeit of glossy advertising  
and lucrative enticements  
that surround any practicing  
physician today."  
—Journal of the American  
Medical Association

"This film is sure to prompt a  
valuable discussion about the  
medicalization of everyday  
problems, the difficulties of  
anticipating atypical reactions  
to new drugs, and the impact  
of new advertising and  
marketing methods on the  
relationship between doctors  
and patients."—Bulletin of  
the History of Medicine

★ 2005 American  
Sociological Association  
Film Festival

★ 2005 American Public  
Heath Association  
Conference

52 minutes | color | 2004 CC  
Sale/DVD: \$390  
Order # S123



## Banking the Unbanked

A Film by Sarah Vos



Ever since microfinance entrepreneur Muhammad Yunus won the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize, microfinance projects have played a growing role in international development.

For executives like Reliance Financial CEO Baboucarr Khan and COO Ismaila Faal, the field offers opportunities to raise people out of poverty—and to make money.

*BANKING THE UNBANKED* is a verité documentary that follows Khan, Faal and other members of the Gambia-based Reliance team as they try to build the bank into a viable West African financial institution. Their target clients: those who make under five dollars a day—taxi drivers, small shopkeepers, seamstresses, fishermen.

The film captures the tension and drama in the surprisingly cut-throat world of microfinance—a world where many small loans add up to a whole lot of money. Can promoting development by lending to those at the bottom of the economic ladder co-exist with the need to provide investors with attractive rates of return?



★ 2009 International  
Documentary Film Festival  
Amsterdam

★ 2010 Netherlands  
Film Festival



56 minutes | color | 2009  
Sale/DVD: \$390  
Order # S124

## The La\$T Market

A Film by Shuchen Tan

Featuring an interview with C.K. Prahalad, author of the global best-seller, *The Fortune at the Bottom of the Pyramid*, THE LA\$T MARKET explains how the world's poor, who collectively have enormous buying power, represent an untapped engine of global economic growth. By developing new business models, corporations can democratize commerce, not only reaching underserved markets but also helping millions to escape poverty.

The film explores the pros and cons of strategies to market to the poor, questioning whether it is truly possible for corporations to revamp capitalism so that it works for everyone.



**2007 International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam**

48 minutes | color | 2007  
Sale/DVD: \$375 **now** \$348  
**Order # S125**

## Losers and Winners

A Film by Ulrike Franke & Michael Loeken

Two cultures collide in this unusual tale of globalization, which documents the dismantling of a massive smelting complex in Germany for shipment to and reassembly in China.

LOSERS AND WINNERS chronicles the entire amazing process, featuring interviews with the Germans, who must watch as their former workplace is broken down and their tension with the Chinese managers and low-paid workers, who are isolated from their homes and families. The film reveals the ironies and ambiguities inherent in such global economic changes, the respective sensations of loss and accomplishment, and of differing personal prospects for the future.

*"Excellent... both a film of subtle ironies and one of enormous cultural contrasts... highly recommended."*—**Educational Media Reviews Online**

**Best International Feature, 2007 Hot Docs International Documentary Festival**

98 minutes | color | 2006  
Sale/DVD: \$398  
**Order # S126**



## We All Fall Down: The American Mortgage Crisis

A Film by Kevin Stocklin

This timely and informative documentary chronicles the history of America's mortgage finance system, from its origins in the 1930s, when the federal government first made available long-term, fixed-rate loans to new American homeowners, to its current state of crisis, after an excess of risky mortgage financing led to the system's collapse, which in turn triggered a wider economic recession.



*"Stands out as one of the clearest and most in-depth examinations of the financial crisis to date. It is invaluable for anyone who wants to truly understand how we got into this mess. Highly recommended."*—**Financial History Magazine**

*"A clear, concise, and at times emotionally wrenching explanation of a national tragedy."*—**Video Librarian**

**2009 CINE Golden Eagle**

65 minutes | color | 2009 **CC**  
Sale/DVD: \$398  
**Order # S127**

WE ALL FALL DOWN features dozens of interviews and commentary from a wide variety of industry experts and Wall Street insiders—including mortgage brokers, appraisers, bankers, lawyers, analysts, economics scholars as well as interviews with families who have been devastated by loan defaults.

## The World's Next Supermodel

A Film by IJsbrand van Veelen

With America's version of capitalism seemingly on the verge of bankruptcy, is there a better economic model to shape the 21st century? In THE WORLD'S NEXT SUPERMODEL, three economists argue for three alternatives: the Northern European, Asian, and Brazilian models.



The proposals are then discussed by a "jury," consisting of Willem Butler, professor at the London School of Economics, New America Foundation's Parag Khanna, analyst of geopolitical issues, and author and Yale law and globalization professor Amy Chua. They engage in a lively debate, examining the three models on the basis of issues such as growth potential, social stability, environmental sustainability, and their crisis-proof nature. Their decision is sure to be provocative!

*"Erudite yet blunt... This work is simply outstanding. Highly recommended!"*

—**Educational Media Reviews Online**

48 minutes | color | 2009 **CC**  
Sale/DVD: \$398 **now** \$348  
**Order # S128**



## Disco & Atomic War

A Film by Jaak Kilmi



**new** This witty, charming, and provocative film recounts how in the mid 1980's, the nation of Estonia still lay firmly in the grip of the Soviet Union, and the authorities controlled virtually all aspects of Estonian life. The totalitarian government's power was derived in no small part from its ability to censor cultural life and keep Western culture on the other side of the border.

DISCO AND ATOMIC WAR is a true personal coming of age story against the backdrop of the rapid collapse of the Soviet government in Estonia. As illicit television antennas sprung up in Northern Estonia, rumors about the attempted murder of Dallas' J.R. Ewing spread by word of mouth to the rural south, and the nation of Estonia was as gripped by the saga as the USA had ever been.

Teenagers went to their school dances and imitated the disco moves they saw on television, clothing and hairstyles began to change radically, and things would never be the same. The government controlled media scrambled to create western-style soap operas and disco-saturated television programming that vaguely reinforced communist values, but it was far too little, and much too late as the West had already won the media war.

*"DISCO is a funny, inventively made work of true-life science fiction about the futility of trying to keep brains safe from outside influence."*  
—Spout.com

*"A witty, insightful and thoroughly entertaining political thriller about how the Iron Curtain did battle with contraband Western-tinged airwaves from Finland."*  
—NOW Magazine

**Winner of Best Documentary Prize, 2009 Warsaw Film Festival**

**2010 Los Angeles Film Festival**

80 minutes | color/b&w | 2009  
Sale/DVD: \$398  
**Order # S129**

## Children of the Stars

A Film by Alexander Haase & Rob Aspey

**new** Hundreds of thousands of families in China are affected by autism yet in a society with little understanding of developmental disabilities, parents face hostility, discrimination, and extreme financial hardship.

Five-year-old Feng Jia Wei does not speak and is often violent; he does not seem even to recognize his parents. He has been rejected from the local schools, and his parents' careers have been destroyed because of his constant need for care and attention. Pursuing their last remaining hope, they make the long journey from their North China home to Beijing, where a small school called Stars and Rain offers a program of behavioral changes that might enable their son to make enough progress to be accepted at school.



**Breaking Down Barriers Film Festival, Moscow**

**Global Community International Film Festival, Toronto**

49 minutes | color | 2007  
Sale/DVD: \$248  
**Order # S130**



## When Billy Broke His Head

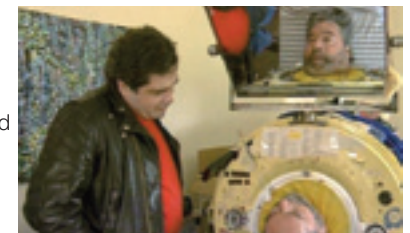
A Film by Billy Golfus & David E. Simpson



When Billy Golfus, an award-winning radio journalist, became brain injured in a motor scooter accident, he became one of the forty-three million Americans with disabilities—the nation's largest and most invisible minority. But this film, as he says, "ain't exactly your inspirational cripple story." It's a documentary with attitude, which will entertain, enlighten, and even enrage its viewers.

*"An irreverently insightful film. Funny and shocking, but always down-to-earth."*  
—Variety

57 minutes | b&w | 1994  
Sale/DVD: \$225  
**Order # S131**



Disability is not just a medical fact, it is also a political reality. In this irreverent, first person road movie, Billy meets disabled people around the country, and witnesses the strength and anger that have been forging a powerful disability rights movement in America.

## Made Over in America

A Film by Bernadette Wegenstein & Geoffrey Alan Rhodes



In the age of surgically enhanced beauty and reality television, how do we perceive body image? **MADE OVER IN AMERICA** combines the style of reality television with experimental film to weave together the voices of producers and consumers, surgeons and their patients, clinical psychologists, media theorists, and youth who are coming of age in a culture where bodies seem to be customizable. Together they form a picture of how the desire for a better self operates within consumer culture and how this desire is fed by media, the makeover industry and culture at large.

Among those in the film are Cindy, a housewife who was made over in the first season of FOX's *The Swan*, a plastic surgery makeover show; *The Swan* producer Nely Galan, who says she invented the show to empower women; Cathy, a 21-year-old college student who dreams of carving her own belly into a six pack and her roommate's nose and bottom down to average size; and Beverly Hills celebrity cosmetic surgeon Dr. Randal Hayworth, who uses the metaphor of Michelangelo carving beauty from marble to describe his instinctual approach to surgery.

**MADE OVER IN AMERICA** includes archival material on child development, actual plastic surgery procedures, art video and collage montages showing popular imagery, combined with powerful stories of how far Americans will go to fit in, showing the power of media in shaping ideas of beauty.

*"Looks at the wide range of plastic surgery options, while also exploring how the practice has become a major element in popular culture... a collage of images and observations in a variety of visual forms and narrative tones that range from darkly humorous to deadly serious."*

— F. Swietek, Video Librarian

65 minutes | color | 2007  
Sale/DVD: \$398  
Order # **S132**

## Agustín's Newspaper

A Film by Ignacio Agüero

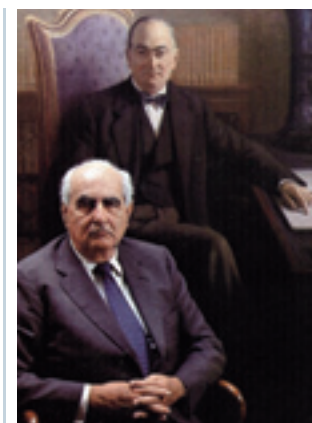


The new film by Ignacio Agüero, **AGUSTÍN'S NEWSPAPER** follows journalism students from the University of Chile as they launch an investigation into the work of the newspaper, and its reporting of and role in their country's political history, in particular around the election of Salvador Allende in 1970, the violent coup against him in 1973, and the subsequent seventeen years of the military regime.

**AGUSTÍN'S NEWSPAPER** features archival footage, interviews with former editors, journalists and other staff members at *El Mercurio*, Pinochet's political advisor and press secretary, relatives of political dissidents who were "disappeared," as well as John Dinges, former Washington Post correspondent in Santiago.

Together, the students and the film dig into the particulars of several key events and their coverage in *El Mercurio*. They also look into relations between the owners and managers of the newspaper and Chilean political parties, the church, military, secret police, and the CIA.

In the end, through its attention to the details of one country's journalistic history, **AGUSTÍN'S NEWSPAPER** raises profound questions not only about the role and responsibilities of Chile's most important newspaper, but of all those who control or manage the dissemination of information and the reporting of news in every country.



2009 Guadalajara Film Festival

2009 Santiago Documentary Festival

2009 Mexico City Festival of Independent Cinema

80 minutes | color | 2008  
Sale/DVD: \$398  
Order # **S133**



## Black Sun: The Mythological Background of National Socialism

A Film by Rüdiger Sünner

For more than sixty years, historians, political scientists, psychologists and others have attempted to explain the murderous ideology of National Socialism—in particular the theories of its founders Adolf Hitler, Heinrich Himmler and Alfred Rosenberg.

BLACK SUN sheds new light on the sources of Nazi ideology by examining its roots in the world of myths, symbols and fantasies. It traces this development from the writings of various mystics in the early 20th century, which located the original home of the Germanic peoples in sunken continents such as "Thule" and "Atlantis," and propagated the mythology of a superior Nordic race whose heroes fought the forces of decadence and racial impurity.

The film uses interviews, archival footage and contemporary scenes, to chronicle how the Nazis used these mythological foundations to develop Nazism as a political religion, with the SS conceived as a "Holy Order" defending "Aryan light" from the "Jewish-Bolshevik darkness." It profiles some of the more eccentric members of the SS—including Karl Maria Wiligut, Richard Anders and Otto Rahn—plus cofounders of the Ancestral Heritage Society—Wolfram Sievers and Herman Wirth—who conducted anthropological and archaeological research to confirm their theories of a "master race."

While BLACK SUN deconstructs the nationalist mystical beliefs that infused National Socialism, the film also documents the disturbing perpetuation of these beliefs among certain groups in Germany today.



*The mythological morass of Nazism ... is seemingly impenetrable.... And yet the picture becomes clear when one makes the effort—as Rüdiger Sünner does in his documentary 'Black Sun'—to closely examine the tangled thicket of arguments in Nazi mythology.*—Die Welt

*"An intelligent, intensely focused study tracing the roots of Nazi ideology in German legend, religion, and mythology."*—David Sterritt, Cineaste

90 minutes | color | 2009  
Sale/DVD: \$449 ~~now~~ \$398  
Order # S134

## Shi-ISM: Waiting for the Hidden Imam

A Film by Saïd Bakhtaoui & Mohammad Ballout



Adherents of Shi'ism comprise less than ten percent of the more than one billion Muslims in the world today, but ever since the 1979 Islamic Revolution in Iran, Shi'ism has been perceived by most Westerners as a religious sect characterized by violence and fanaticism. The American ouster of Saddam Hussein in 2003 and the continuing U.S. occupation of Iraq, which have led to a resurgence of Shia political activity after decades of oppression by Saddam's Sunni-dominated regime, has provided Shi'ism with newfound political influence as well as an opportunity to improve its image.

SHI'ISM illuminates the historical roots of this branch of Islam. Filmed in Iran, Lebanon and Iraq, SHI'ISM blends both contemporary and historical footage and graphics with interviews with Muslim scholars, philosophers, writers, politicians and religious leaders. SHI'ISM offers valuable insights into the complex and largely unknown history, at least for Western viewers, of this small branch of one of the world's largest faiths, which recent events have transformed into one of the most politically influential and controversial religious movements

*"A fine portrayal of the origins, defining features, and contemporary impact of...Shi'ism. The film's major contribution is the collection of interviews with prominent Shi'ite religious scholars and intellectuals [who] powerfully convey the significance for Shi'ites of the imams. Deeply moving...thoroughly recommended!"*

—Middle East Quarterly

 2005 FilmFest, Middle East Studies Association

52 minutes | color | 2005  
Sale/DVD: \$390  
Order # S135



## Red Persimmons

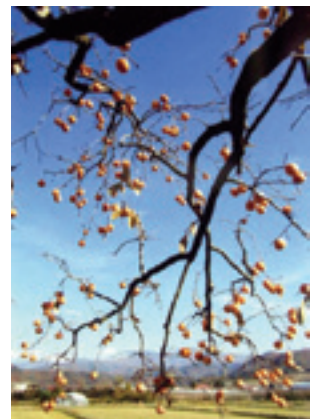
A Film by Shinsuke Ogawa & Peng Xiaolian



The ostensible subject of this remarkably beautiful film is the growing, drying, peeling and packaging of persimmons in the tiny Japanese village of Kaminoyama. The film's larger subject, however, is the disappearance of Japan's traditional culture, the end of a centuries-old way of life.

In portraying the basic process of peeling and drying the persimmons, the film chronicles the improvements since the 1920s through the periodic introduction of more efficient, mechanized methods. A series of discussions with elderly farmers illustrates the progressive mechanization that gradually introduced modernity to rural Japan.

Apart from its fascinating record of a vanishing way of life and its colorful anecdotes about human inventiveness, however, RED PERSIMMONS is a film of stunning visual beauty. Its scenes of time-lapse photography, whether revealing the gorgeous deep red-orange colors of the fruit in full blossom or drying after having been peeled, bathe the screen in radiant beauty.



"A moving revelation of a microcosm soon to vanish."  
—**The Village Voice**

"Recommended! Thoughtfully conceived and beautifully filmed... It not only offers facts about persimmon growing, but insights into the inner workings of traditional Japanese rural life."  
—**Educational Media Reviews Online**

90 minutes | color | 2001  
Sale/DVD: \$440 **now** \$398  
**Order # S136**

## Do Communists Have Better Sex?

A Film by André Meier

At the end of the Second World War, Germans shared the same culture, lifestyle, morals. But four decades later, everything had changed. Forty years of division left their mark in many places—including the beds of the German people. After the Berlin Wall falls, sociologists investigate—from a strictly scientific point of view, of course—everything to do with sex in the former East and West Germany.

Is dictatorship plus a planned economy the sure-fire formula for a natural aphrodisiac? At least in bed, according to the statistics, the communists were victorious. How could it have happened? Didn't the West do everything to intensify the desires of its citizens? DO COMMUNISTS HAVE BETTER SEX? reveals an up-to-now unknown and curious chapter of political and entertaining erotic history.



"Entertaining and informative... One can use this video as a discussion starter in a variety of classes... a valuable addition to the history of sexuality."—**Electronic Journal of Human Sexuality**

52 minutes | color | 2006  
Sale/DVD: \$390 **now** \$348  
**Order # S137**

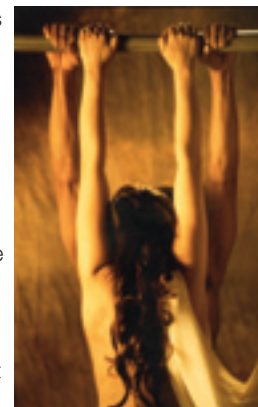
## Untold Desires

A Film by Eva Orner & Sarah Stephens



From Oscar-winning producer Eva Orner (TAXI TO THE DARK SIDE), this powerful, unusual documentary gives voice to people with disabilities who are struggling to be recognized as sexual beings, free to explore their sexuality and to lead sexually fulfilling lives.

UNTOLD DESIRES confronts common stereotypes, instead offering positive and appealing images for people with disabilities, affirming that they can be outspoken, intelligent and sexy. It is thought-provoking and challenging viewing for those whose lives are untouched by disability, and addresses issues which non-disabled people too may encounter at points in their lives.



"A frank, challenging and exhilarating examination of sexuality."—**The Age**

**Best Documentary, International Human Rights Awards**

**Best Documentary, Australian Film Institute Awards**

**Silver Medal, Prix Leonardo, Italy**

57 minutes | color | 1994  
Sale/DVD: \$269 **now** \$248  
**Order # S138**



## How Happy Can You Be?

A Film by Line Hatland



HOW HAPPY CAN YOU BE?, seeks an answer to this question by interviewing and showing the work of some of the world's leading researchers on happiness, or "objective well being," including psychologists, anthropologists, sociologists, and neuroscientists. Among many other things, we learn the three main factors contributing to happiness, including life circumstances, intentional activity (what one chooses to do), and one's genetic makeup.

Filed throughout the world—including the U.S., Greenland, Europe, and Asia, the film combines the interviews with archival footage and scientific experiments. HOW HAPPY CAN YOU BE? examines many factors that determine the extent of satisfaction with one's life, and their implications for one's personal well being and social relationships.



*"An engaging guide to happiness research... While the tone of the film is light, the questions raised are thoughtful ones that bear further discussion. Recommended."*

—Educational Media Reviews Online

2006 Eurodok,  
European Documentary  
Film Festival

52 minutes | color | 2005  
Sale/DVD: \$399 ~~now~~ \$348  
Order # S139

## Human Weapon

A Film by Ilan Ziv

For those unsatisfied with sensational television coverage featuring "terrorism experts," HUMAN WEAPON provides the first sober, in-depth examination of the complexities of the suicide bombing phenomenon.

Filed in Iran, Lebanon, Sri Lanka, Israel, Palestine, Europe and the United States, HUMAN WEAPON weaves dramatic, previously unseen footage together with interviews of key militants whose organizations use suicide bombing as part of their strategy. It supplements these scenes with powerful human stories.



*"Debunks many of the stereotypes about suicide bombers. Truly disturbing."*

—Janus Head

*"An in-depth view into the global trend of suicide bombing and contextualizes resistance groups in their appropriate place in history."*

—Middle East Studies Association Bulletin

★★★★"Chilling and instructive."  
—Christian Science Monitor

55 minutes | color | 2002 CC  
Sale/DVD: \$399 ~~now~~ \$348  
Order # S140

## Sociology is a Martial Act

A Film by Pierre Carles

*"I often say sociology is a martial art, a means of self-defense. Basically, you use it to defend yourself, without having the right to use it for unfair attacks."*

—Pierre Bourdieu



Pierre's Bourdieu's forty books and countless articles represent probably the most brilliant and fruitful renovation and application of social science in our era. SOCIOLOGY IS A MARTIAL ART is a portrait of this highly influential, at times controversial intellectual.

A "committed" thinker in the vein of Foucault, his work is concerned with elucidating the processes of symbolic violence and cultural domination in various areas of social life. His most well known book, *Distinction* (1979), addressed these themes in an effort to overcome the opposition of objectivist (Marxist) and subjectivist (Weberian) theories of class.

In the nineties he became something of a celebrity scholar, one of the world's most important academics associated with the anti-globalization movement. Bourdieu himself argued that scholars and writers could and should bring their specialized knowledge to bear on social and political issues. His powerful critiques of the neoliberal revolution were the natural outgrowth of a lifetime of research into economic, social and cultural class domination among peoples as disparate as Algerian peasants and French professors, and as expressed in everything from amateur photography to posture.

Filed over three years shortly before his death, SOCIOLOGY IS A MARTIAL ART follows Bourdieu as he lectures, attends political rallies, travels, meets with his students, staff, and research team in Paris, and includes Bourdieu having a conversation with Günter Grass.

The film's very title stresses the degree of Bourdieu's political engagement. He took on the mantle of Emile Zola and Jean-Paul Sartre in French public life, slugging it out with politicians because he considered those lucky enough to have spent their lives studying the social world could not be indifferent to the struggle for justice.



*"The perfect representation of Bourdieu... The various contexts of action it captures are essential for understanding the person and his activities."*

—Teaching Sociology

*"If there is a central theme to this documentary it is precisely this: intellectualism is a practice, reflexive, engaging, informative, insightful, and critical. All characteristics exemplified in this tour de force."*—Film & History

*"The finest documentary a social scientist could ever dream of... a vital documentary that should be part of every college or university library."*

—International Sociology

146 minutes | color | 2001  
Sale/DVD: \$499 ~~now~~ \$398  
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