

Section 7: Transgender Oppression

Further Resources

Documentary Films

Boy I Am

<http://boyiam.mayfirst.org/About.html>

Boy I Am is a feature length documentary that promotes dialogue about trans issues through a look at the experiences of three young transitioning FTMs in New York City—Nicco, Norie, and Keegan—as they go through major junctures in their transitions, as well as through the voices of lesbians, activists and theorists who raise and address the questions that many people have but few openly discuss.

The Brandon Teena Story

Documentary film about Brandon Teena, who was brutally raped and beaten, and then, a week later, murdered along with two other people, after his friends became enraged when they discovered that he was transgender. This documentary explores Brandon's identity and the hostility and violence it was met with.

Clocked: An Oral History

<http://clockedmovie.blogspot.com/>

Clocked is a first person portrait of the transgender community through personal insights, stories and reflections on the meaning of community and of being transgender. Interviewees include many leads of the SF Bay Area transgender community.

Cruel and Unusual

www.outcast-films.com/films/cu/index.html

An unflinching documentary on the lives of transgender women in men's prisons. Shot over three years, this high-definition documentary film challenges the viewer's basic ideas about gender and justice through braids of poignantly graphic stories, vibrant landscape portraits and stark prison footage.

No Dumb Questions

This lighthearted and poignant documentary profiles three sisters, ages 6, 9 and 11, as they struggle to understand why and how Uncle Bill is becoming Aunt Barbara. With just weeks until Bill's first visit as Barbara the sisters navigate the complex territories of anatomy, sexuality, personality, gender and fashion.

Paper Dolls

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paper_Dolls_%28film%29

Paper Dolls follows five transgender women who migrated from the Philippines to Israel to work as in-home healthcare providers for elderly Israelis. In their time off they perform together as a drag troupe called Paper Dolls. The film highlights the participants' strength and resiliency, as well as the impact of transgender oppression, racism, and economic migration on their lives.

Paris is Burning

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paris_is_Burning

The award-winning "Paris is Burning" provides an unblinking behind-the-scenes story of fashion-obsessed New Yorkers who created "voguing" and drag balls, and turned these raucous celebrations into a powerful expression of fierce personal pride. *Paris Is Burning* is an intimate portrait of one urban community, a world in which the allure of high fashion, status, and wealth becomes an affirmation of love, acceptance, and joy.

Red without Blue

<http://redwithoutblue.com/>

A documentary that follows a pair of identical twins as one transitions from male to female. Captured over a period of three years, the film documents the twins and their parents, examining the Farleys' struggle to redefine their family.

She's a boy I knew

<http://www.artflick.com/>

Using archival family footage, interviews, phone messages, and animation, *She's a Boy I Knew* is an auto-ethnography that explores not only the filmmaker's process of transition from biological male to female, but also the individual experiences, struggles, and stakes that her two sisters, mother, father, best friend and wife brought to her transition.

Soldier Girl

A television documentary based on the true story of Private Barry Winchell, a 21-year-old soldier whose fellow soldiers beat him to death in their barracks for his relationship with transgender nightclub singer Calpernia Adams (Showtime Entertainment, 2003).

Southern Comfort

<http://www.nextwavefilms.com/southern/>

A documentary about the life and death of Robert Eads, a 52-year-old female-to-male transsexual who lived in the back hills of Georgia. He was diagnosed with ovarian cancer, and then turned away by more than two dozen doctors who feared that taking on a transgendered patient might harm their practice. "Southern Comfort" follows the final year of Robert Eads' life.

Toilet Training

www.srlp.org/films/toilettraining

“Toilet Training” is a documentary video and collaboration between transgender videomaker Tara Mateik and the Sylvia Rivera Law Project. The video addresses the persistent discrimination, harassment, and violence that people who transgress gender norms face in gender segregated bathrooms. Using the stories of people who have been harassed, arrested or beaten for trying to use bathrooms, “Toilet Training” focuses on bathroom access in public space, in schools, and at work.

TransGeneration

<http://www.sundancechannel.com/transgeneration/>

Across America, transgender college students are visible, political and bravely challenging the status quo. In this eight-part original documentary series, filmmaker Jeremy Simmons follows a year in the lives of four transgender students at four different campuses as they define who they are and take control of their gender identity: Gabbie and Raci (born male, but now living as women) and Lucas and T.J. (born female, but now living as men).

Trinidad

www.trinidadthemovie.com

Trinidad uncovers Trinidad, Colorado's transformation from Wild West outpost to “sex-change capital of the world,” and follows three transgender women who may steer the rural ranching town.