

ACCLAIMED AND AWARD-WINNING DOCUMENTARIES FOR

# Criminal Justice & Law Studies



**NEW**

## PRISON TERMINAL: THE LAST DAYS OF PRIVATE JACK HALL

Directed by Edgar Barens

2013, 40 minutes

Purchase: \$350 **\$315** | Classroom Rental: \$125

**2014 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINEE**  
Best Documentary, Short Subject

*Prison Terminal* breaks through the walls of one of America's oldest maximum security prisons to tell the incredibly moving story of the final months in the life of a terminally ill prisoner, Jack Hall, and the hospice volunteers (prisoners themselves) who care for him.

Hall has spent nearly a decade in the prison infirmary, grappling with a chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. In the hospice, he is cared for by a group of African-American prisoners, all "lifers" as well. For these volunteers, their work in the hospice allows them to show compassion, love and respect for a fellow human being, perhaps for the first time in their lives. In return, they provide unique social, emotional and spiritual support.

Shot over a period of six months with unprecedented round-the-clock access to the Penitentiary, *Prison Terminal* is a poignant chronicle of death and dignity behind bars; a fascinating documentary that shows how the hospice experience can profoundly touch even the forsaken lives of the incarcerated.

★★★★ "Highly Recommended."  
—Video Librarian

"A profoundly tender experience."  
—The Boston Globe

"Moving and intimate, an extraordinary film."  
—ABC News

"A deeply layered story of how the human spirit overcomes the greatest fear of all prisoners—the degradation and isolation of dying alone in prison." —Susan Rosenberg, Human rights activist, award-winning writer

"The simple, stark scenes of lifers tending to other lifers shakes a lot of assumptions about prison life and makes a quiet point about the rising number of elderly inmates in America's prisons." —The Salt Lake Tribune



**NEW**

## LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

Directed by Thomas G. Miller

2014, 74 minutes

Purchase: \$395 **\$355.50** | Classroom Rental: \$125

Decades before The Defense of Marriage Act and Proposition 8, one gay couple fell in love and took on the US government to fight for marriage and immigration equality. *Limited Partnership* tells the poignant story of Filipino-American Richard Adams and his Australian husband, Tony Sullivan, who in 1975, became one of the first same-sex couples to be legally married in the world. This award-winning documentary recounts their 40-year struggle to stay together, and parallels the history of the LGBT marriage and immigration equality movements.

Immediately after getting married in Colorado in 1975

thanks to a courageous county clerk, Richard filed for a green card for Tony based on their marriage. Richard received a denial letter from the Immigration and Naturalization Service stating, "You have failed to establish that a bona fide marital relationship can exist between two faggots." Outraged at the tone, tenor and politics of this letter and to prevent Tony's impending deportation, the couple sued the U.S. government. This became the first federal lawsuit seeking equal treatment for a same-sex marriage in U.S. history.

"An excellent film. This potent doc retrieves a fascinating chapter in LGBT history."  
—The Hollywood Reporter

"The documentary serves as a relevant LGBT-rights history lesson and is equally a poignant love story. Adams and Sullivan come across as unsung civil-rights pioneers and inspiring examples of enduring love." —San Francisco Examiner

## Life Behind Bars



NEW



### ME FACING LIFE: CYNTOIA'S STORY

Directed by Daniel Birman

2010, 52 minutes

Purchase: \$310 ~~\$279~~ | Classroom Rental: \$125

According to the latest census, tens of thousands of juveniles are imprisoned, and more than two thousand of them are incarcerated for life without parole. Following the controversial case of Cyntoia Brown, a 16-year-old girl forced into prostitution, who faces life without parole for killing one of her clients, *Me Facing Life* was filmed over the course of six years, with the permission of Nashville's justice system. The film features interviews with Cyntoia, her family, doctors, psychologists, and lawyers about the role of genetics and social environment in the legal defense of a minor on trial for murder.

"A heart-wrenching documentary. Captures the drama of Brown's case and a seemingly misguided justice system, providing insight into one of thousands of cases involving juveniles imprisoned for life." —*Booklist*



### 17 AUGUST

Directed by Alexander Gutman

2009, 63 minutes

Purchase: \$310 ~~\$279~~ | Classroom Rental: \$125

On a small island in central Russia, inside a former monastery converted into a high security prison, inmate Boris Bezotechstvo is serving a life sentence in solitary confinement. This startling documentary chronicles one day in his life, advancing a complex and troubling assessment of crime and punishment. Balancing the stunning island panorama that surrounds the prison with the confined, claustrophobic space of Bezotechstvo's cell, the film poignantly illustrates the loneliness and madness of a life spent in solitary.

✔ "Highly Recommended. A strange and haunting documentary sure to stimulate interesting discussions." —*Educational Media Reviews Online*

### KILLING TIME

Directed by Jaap van Hoewijk

2014, 55 minutes

Purchase: \$395 ~~\$355.50~~ | Classroom Rental: \$125

Neither advocating for the death penalty nor against it, *Killing Time* is a devastating investigation into the futility of taking a life—both a murder and a state

sanctioned execution. It is an honest look at the private, logistical and business-as-usual aspects of capital punishment in today's America.

★★★★ "Highly Recommended. Remarkable for capturing the honest reactions to the execution of a convicted murderer—a going-through-the-motions process that seems to ultimately benefit no one." —*Video Librarian*



### AT THE DEATH HOUSE DOOR

Directed by Steve James and Peter Gilbert

2008, 94 minutes

Purchase: \$95 ~~\$85.50~~

An impassioned exploration of the legal and ethical issues surrounding capital punishment, this award-winning documentary looks at the death penalty through the eyes of Pastor Carroll Pickett, who served 15 years as a death house chaplain in a notorious Texas penitentiary and presided over 95 executions, including the very first lethal injection done anywhere in the world.

✔ "Highly Recommended. A thoughtful examination of the ethics of the death penalty. It will catalyze and enhance any discussion of capital punishment, pro or con."

—*Educational Media Reviews Online*



### TURNED OUT: SEXUAL ASSAULT BEHIND BARS

Directed by Jonathan Schwartz

2003, 55 minutes

Purchase: \$275 ~~\$247.50~~ | Classroom Rental: \$95

Of the over two million Americans in jail today, one out of five inmates will be sexually assaulted during their incarceration. Most of those who will be "turned out," or sodomized, and turned into sexual slaves, will be nonviolent drug offenders who have doubled the prison population over the last decade. *Turned Out* delivers an insightful exposé of the taboo subject of homosexual rape and homosexual relations in prison.



## Psychology & Crime



NEW

### THE LIFE AND CRIMES OF DORIS PAYNE

A film by Matthew Pond and Kirk Marcolina  
2013, 74 minutes  
Purchase: \$350 **\$315** | Classroom Rental: \$125

A sensational portrait of a rebel who defied society's prejudices and pinched her own version of the American Dream, *The Life and Crimes of Doris Payne* relates the fascinating story of how a poor, single, African-American mother from segregated West Virginia became the world's most notorious jewel thief. A glamorous 81-year-old, Doris Payne is as unapologetic today about the nearly two million dollars in jewels she's stolen over a 60-year career as she was the day she stole her first carat.

In her own words, Doris uncovers the secrets of her



trade and what drove her to a life of crime. The film traces her journey from an impoverished childhood in West Virginia to a lavish life on the run around the world. Some particularly important moments from Payne's past are brought to life. We see how racism caused a young Doris to learn how easy it is to steal. We witness her father's abuse, and hear Payne explain the connection between protecting her mother from violence and entering the world of diamond thievery.

**"A peppy and beguiling portrait of a convict whose defiant streak of independence has a way of outshining her wrongdoing."** —*The New York Times*

**"A carefully constructed and very clever study of a complex criminal mind. Payne's reminiscences are brilliantly juxtaposed against the latest court trial she faces—giving this documentary suspense and an utterly absorbing ending."** —*The Royal Gazette*



### THE INTERRUPTERS

Photographed and Directed by Steve James,  
Produced by Alex Kotlowitz and Steve James  
2011, 125 minutes  
Purchase: \$195 **\$175.50** | Classroom Rental: \$95

An epic tale of courage and hope from acclaimed producer/director Steve James (*Hoop Dreams, Life Itself*) and bestselling author-turned-producer Alex Kotlowitz, *The Interrupters* is an unusually intimate journey into the stubborn persistence of violence in our cities. One of the most celebrated documentaries in recent years, the film tells the stories of three "Violence Interrupters" whose mission is to intervene and defuse conflicts before they explode into violence.

**👍 Critics' Picks** "Mr. James has put a face to a raging epidemic and an unforgivable American tragedy." —*Manohla Dargis, The New York Times*

★★★★★ "Highly Recommended."  
—Video Librarian

👍 "Highly Recommended."  
—Educational Media Reviews Online

### BEYOND CONVICTION

Directed by Rachel Libert  
2006, 97 minutes  
Purchase: \$120 **\$108**

An eye-opening look at a pioneering program in which victims of violent crimes meet face-to-face with their perpetrators. This documentary, featured on Oprah, introduces us to a process that could have far-reaching repercussions for the ways we approach crime, criminal justice, and conflict resolution.

**"An unforgettable look at remorse, emotional release, and forgiveness. A discussion prompter."** —*Booklist*

👍 "Highly Recommended."  
—Educational Media Reviews Online



### LA CORONA

Directed by Amanda Micheli and Isabel Vega  
2007, 40 minutes  
Purchase: \$310 **\$279** | Classroom Rental: \$125

**2008 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINEE**  
Best Documentary, Short Subject

*La Corona (The Crown)* explores the lives of female contestants in an unusual beauty pageant at a high security prison in Bogotá, Colombia. The film follows

four very different contestants as they vie for the title of prison beauty queen, raising provocative questions about the dire conditions that may drive so many women to criminal activity. As the competition nears and suspense builds, the women explain in their own words what brought each of them to this place and discuss the lives and loved ones they've left behind.

★★★★★ "Highly Recommended." —*Video Librarian*

**"A vivid portrait of the plight of women in prison and their unrelenting struggles for survival, connection, and dignity."** —*Films for the Feminist Classroom*

## Immigration & Law

### INOCENTE

Directed by Andrea Nix Fine and Sean Fine

2012, 40 minutes

Purchase: \$310 ~~\$279~~ | Classroom Rental: \$125

**2013 ACADEMY AWARD WINNER**

Best Documentary, Short Subject



With the passage of the President's Deferred Action program, an estimated 1.7 million children have become eligible to remain in the US. 2013 Academy Award nominee for Best Documentary Short Subject, *Inocente* looks at one such child—a remarkable 15-year-old girl, homeless and undocumented, fiercely pursuing her dream of becoming an artist.

**“An extraordinary film, raising at once issues of arts education, homelessness, family violence, and immigration reform through its focus on a young woman with an amazingly compelling story.”** —Thomas A.Saenz, President and General Counsel, Mexican American Legal Defense & Educational Fund

★★★★★ **Editor's Choice.** *Inocente* casts light on the plight of homeless and undocumented children in America. **Highly recommended.**

—Video Librarian

### Police Science

### COPS BEHIND THE BADGE

Produced by Imre Horvath

1986, 60 minutes

Purchase: \$310 ~~\$279~~ | Classroom Rental: \$125

This behind-the-scenes documentary follows police officers in Houston and New York City on their daily patrols, showing the demanding and often dangerous situations they confront regularly. The tension, anxiety and stress of the job are frankly discussed in interviews with the officers.

### RED SQUAD

Directed by Steven Fischler, Joel Sucher, Howard Blatt and Francis Freedland

1972, 45 minutes

Purchase: \$99.95 ~~\$89.95~~

An investigative and frequently humorous documentary on the surveillance activities of the New York City Police Department's Bureau of Special Services, known as the Red Squad in the 1960s and 70s.



### THE LEAST OF THESE

Directed by Clark Lyda and Jesse Lyda

2009, 62 minutes

Purchase: \$310 ~~\$279~~ | Classroom Rental: \$125

A look at one of the most controversial aspects of American immigration policy: family detention. *The Least of These* brings to light the troubling conditions

inside the T. Don Hutto Residential Center, a former prison operated by a private corporation that is being used to house immigrant families.

The film explores the government rationale for family detention, conditions at the facility, collateral damage, and the role (and limits) of community activism in bringing change.

**“Recommended.”**

—Educational Media Reviews Online



### LA AMERICANA

Directed by Nicholas Bruckman

2008, 65 minutes

Purchase: \$310 ~~\$279~~ | Classroom Rental: \$125

The story of a single mother forced to leave her ailing daughter in Bolivia in order to provide her with a better life is woven into the current debate over amnesty for undocumented immigrants. An intimate and heart-breaking story, *La Americana* shows how immigration policy affects families on both sides of the border, putting a human face on this controversial issue.

★★★★★ **“Highly recommended. A timely documentary. Takes an intensely personal look at U.S. immigration policy, focusing on the experiences of one woman to convey both the aspirations and hardships of undocumented workers.”**

—Video Librarian

✔ **“Highly Recommended. Draws a bead on the brutal effects U.S. immigration policy has on families. A compelling and intimate portrait.”**

—Educational Media Reviews Online

**“Refreshing, ambitious, and important.”**

—The Feminist Review

## Racial Profiling

### POINT OF ATTACK

Directed by Kathleen Foster

2004, 46 or 23 minutes

Purchase: \$265 ~~\$238.50~~ | Classroom Rental: \$125

A critically-acclaimed documentary that chronicles the post-9/11 racial profiling, large scale round-ups, detentions and mass deportations of Arab, Muslim and South Asian men as part of the government's “War on Terrorism.”

**“This hard-hitting indictment of racial and ethnic profiling in the U.S. paints a shocking picture of the erosion of personal freedom in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.”** —Booklist

### FRAME-UP!

Directed by Steven Fischler, Joel Sucher and Howard Blatt

1974, 30 minutes

Purchase: \$210 ~~\$189~~ | Classroom Rental: \$55

Examining the case of Martin Sostre, a black Puerto Rican bookstore owner in Buffalo, New York who was framed on drug possession charges in 1967 and sentenced to prison, this film shows how the American justice system can be abused for purposes of political repression.



## International Law

NEW

Dear Max,  
What does a diplomat  
for a country that isn't recognized  
do when he comes to the office  
in the morning?  
Eric



### LETTERS TO MAX

Directed by Eric Baudelaire  
2013, 103 minutes

Purchase: ~~\$350~~ **\$315** | Classroom Rental: \$125

What is the job of a diplomat for a country that does not exist? With this question, acclaimed filmmaker Eric Baudelaire initiates a wide-ranging correspondence

with his friend Maxim Gvinjia, former Minister of Foreign Affairs for Abkhazia, a country with physical borders, a government, and its own flag, but is not recognized by most of the world's nations.

**"An illuminating snapshot of a land that has been largely off the world's radar since the end of the civil war with Georgia in 1993."**

—*The Hollywood Reporter*



### PETITION

Directed by Zhao Liang  
2009, 124 minutes

Purchase: ~~\$310~~ **\$279** | Classroom Rental: \$125

A harrowing investigation into China's legal system, this documentary takes us inside the world of "petitioners," people who come to Beijing from all over the country to seek justice against corrupt local officials and courts, only to find themselves waiting months or years for a hearing. Following the saga of a group of petitioners for over a decade, *Petition* unfolds like a novel by Dickens or Kafka.



### THE LAW IN THESE PARTS

Directed by Ra'anan Alexandrowicz  
2012, 101 minutes

Purchase: ~~\$195~~ **\$175.50** | Classroom Rental: \$125

**SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL WINNER**  
Documentary Grand Jury Prize

What is legal and what is just? Through candid, first-ever, interviews with Israeli judges, prosecutors and legal advisors, *The Law In These Parts* is a gripping and revelatory investigation into the legal framework

put in place by Israel to govern the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

**"A really fascinating, meticulous kind of dissection of how the law in the occupied territories came to be."** —*Kenneth Turan, NPR*

**"A powerful statement that law and order can be two very different things."**

—*San Francisco Chronicle*

✔ **"Highly Recommended. It is difficult to conceive of a more potent, relevant work with such a unique assemblage of interviewees, and a creative yet surgical approach."**

—*Educational Media Reviews Online*



### THE JUDGE AND THE GENERAL

Directed by Elizabeth Farnsworth and Patricio Lanfranco

2008, 83 minutes

Purchase: ~~\$310~~ **\$279** | Classroom Rental: \$125

In 1998, judge Juan Guzman, a longtime Pinochet supporter, was assigned to prosecute the ex-Chilean dictator for human rights crimes. This landmark case influenced the application of human rights laws around the world. Featuring interviews with former government officials, families of "disappeared" victims, and even secret army recordings of Pinochet, *The Judge and the General* is an incisive chronicle of one of the 20th century's most notorious episodes and its complex legal aftermath.



### THE DICTATOR HUNTER

Directed by Klaartje Quirijns  
2007, 75 or 52 minutes

Purchase: ~~\$310~~ **\$279** | Classroom Rental: \$125

Reed Brody, a lawyer with Human Rights Watch, hunts dictators for a living. In this absorbing documentary,

we follow Brody as he tries to bring to justice the former dictator of Chad, Hissène Habré, charged with killing thousands of his own countrymen in the 1980s.

✔ **"Highly Recommended. A lucid exploration of the national and international justice systems. It exhibits the resolve, frustration, heartbreak, and eventual satisfaction of this human rights crusader."** —*Educational Media Reviews Online*

## Environmental Crime



### THE WARRIORS OF QUIGANG

Directed by Ruby Yang, Produced by Thomas Lennon  
2010, 39 minutes  
Purchase: ~~\$310~~ **\$279** | Classroom Rental: \$125

**2011 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINEE**  
Best Documentary, Short Subject

A powerful documentary that captures the stirrings of an environmental movement in China, *The Warriors of Quigang* brings to light the incredible efforts of a small village to shut down a chemical plant after years of environmental neglect.

“Powerful. A visually inventive and eloquent film.”  
—*Los Angeles Times*

✔ “Highly Recommended. Lennon and Yang do enormous good bringing the plight of victims of pollution and corrupt politics to the attention of those in and outside China.”  
—*Educational Media Reviews Online*



### BHOPALI

Directed by Van Maximilian Carlson  
2010, 80 minutes  
Purchase: ~~\$310~~ **\$279** | Classroom Rental: \$125

On December 2, 1984, forty tons of poisonous gas leaked from a Union Carbide (DOW Chemical) pesticide plant in Bhopal, India, killing over 20,000 people. Today, hundreds of thousands continue to suffer from chronic diseases and disabilities. *Bhopali* is an invaluable examination of the world’s worst environmental disaster.

✔ “Highly Recommended to those interested in the environment, South Asia, and corporate responsibility.”  
—*Educational Media Reviews Online*

## Crime & Cinema



### RED HOLLYWOOD

Directed by Thom Andersen and Noël Burch  
1996-2013, 120 minutes  
Purchase: ~~\$395~~ **\$355.50** | Classroom Rental: \$125

A revelatory essay film by Thom Andersen (*Los Angeles Plays Itself*) and film critic Noël Burch, *Red Hollywood*, examines the films made by the victims of the Hollywood Blacklist. The documentary draws on extensive research, includes intimate interviews with former blacklisted artists and features clips from more than 50 films that span numerous genres and raise questions about war, crime, race relations, class solidarity, women’s labor and the studio system itself.

✔ “Highly Recommended. Much has been written and filmed about the House Committee on Un-American Activities and the Blacklist but there is no other work that so beautifully constructs a history of the era with the source materials the way this film does.” —*Educational Media Reviews Online*

“Fascinating. Generously packed with film clips and interviews. An intellectual tour through some of American cinema’s most politically idealistic moments and some of its most pessimistic.”  
—*The New York Times*

### THE GREAT COMMUNIST BANK ROBBERY

Directed by Alexandru Solomon  
2005, 70 minutes  
Purchase: ~~\$310~~ **\$279** | Classroom Rental: \$125

In 1959, an armored car carrying 1.6 million Romanian lei (approximately \$250,000 in 1959 US dollars) was held up in front of the Romanian National Bank in Bucharest. In an effort to curry favor with the government and escape a death sentence, the group agreed to play themselves in a film reconstruction of the crime. Incorporating interviews with former secret police, prison cell mates, and members of the original film crew, and featuring a wealth of archival material, *The Great Communist Bank Robbery* pieces together the incredible true story behind the greatest bank robbery that ever occurred in a Communist state.

✔ “Highly Recommended. A riveting documentary! An indispensable resource for those interested in crime, European studies, film studies.” —*Educational Media Reviews Online*

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