

Use of film in Social Work education workshop 27th June 2017

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Workshop outline

Introductions

**Presentation on the use of film in Social Work
education – our journey**

Discussion forum

Film Club exercise

Summative discussion



Original Project aims

- To examine the use of contemporary film on Social Work students' understanding and application of social work values and ethics
- To explore to the use of contemporary film as a way of teaching ethics and values in social work education
- Develop different pedagogical approaches to learning around values and ethics

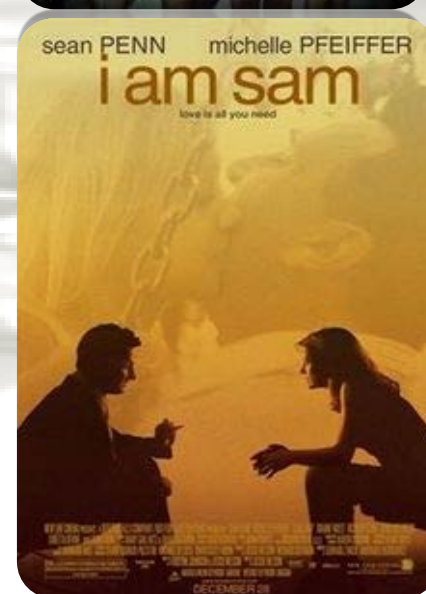
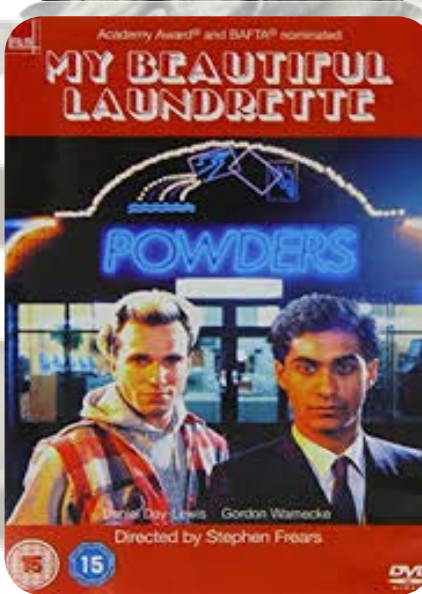
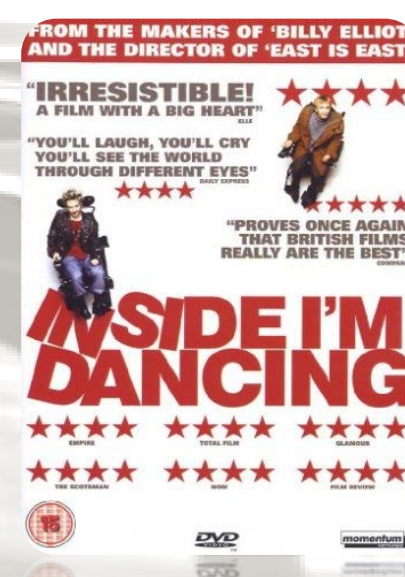


Context to the research

- **Pilot project funded by an University Faculty Grant**
- **Designed to help explore how to teaching values and ethics on a qualifying social work course**
- **Develop innovation in use of technology and media in teaching and learning**



Films used



Methodology

- **Films selected for significant social work content**
- **Originally voluntary participation of students**
- **Maximum cohort of 15. increased later**
- **On-line discussion forum**
- **Post viewing discussion**
- **Ethical approval via the university ethics board**

Theoretical framework

- Ethical theories (Deontology, consequentialism, ethics of care, virtue ethics)
- Theories of learning: Kolb (1984),
- Critical reflection (Fook 2012)



Selective findings

- **Accessibility and flexibility was helpful for students**
- **Created a useful 'space' for learning about ethics and values**
- **Students liked the approach (Liles 2007)**
- **Increased their interest in ethics**
- **The film club was seen as 'different' to normal lectures**
- **Approach to learning preferred by students**
- **Difficult to prioritise above other academic work**



Selected student comments

‘Happy that this was not being assessed’

‘Learnt more through this approach’

‘Helped to integrate theory with practice’

‘The power of professional came up through in all the films’



Outcome and application

- **Film club was embedded into teaching on the MSc in Social Work programme**
- **Supported the development of different approaches to learning and teaching**
- **Published in a peer review journal**
- **Developed to involve service users and carers**



Peer reviewed publication

Brown, S. & Keating, F. (2015) The Film Club: Reflections on the Use of Contemporary Film to Teach *Ethics to Social Work Students, Ethics and Social Welfare*, 9:3, 312-321,

DOI: [10.1080/17496535.2015.1024155](https://doi.org/10.1080/17496535.2015.1024155)



“The use of contemporary films, originally films produced for movie-going audiences and home video viewers, as teaching aids has the potential to bridge the gap between the orderly, predictable world of the classroom and the complex unpredictable world of practice.”

Downey et al 2003



Bibliography

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Discussion forum

Question to discuss:

Thinking about the use of film in social work education, what are the potential areas within curricula where film can be used?



Film Club exercise

[https://Film clip](#)

(Murdered by my boyfriend)

What are the ethical issues for social workers within this film?



Summative discussion

