

Logline (22 words):

VICE & CONSENT features key members of San Francisco's BDSM community telling the eye-opening uncensored truth about their fascinating yet misunderstood lifestyle.

Short synopsis (47 words):

VICE & CONSENT is an intimate look at the individual journeys and lessons learned by people deeply involved in San Francisco's BDSM (Bondage/Discipline, Dominance/Submission, Sado-Masochism) community. This documentary features prominent long standing members of the community revealing the eye-opening uncensored truth about their fascinating yet misunderstood lifestyle.

Short synopsis (48 words):

BDSM (Bondage/Discipline, Dominance/Submission, Sado-Masochism) wraps the gift of intimacy in very scary paper. In VICE & CONSENT, long standing and respected BDSM community members reveal a fascinating and unexpected truth under that wrapping. With unrelenting candor, VICE & CONSENT shatters popular myths about BDSM practice and its practitioners.

Synopsis (135 words):

BDSM (Bondage/Discipline, Dominance/Submission, Sado-Masochism) wraps the gift of intimacy in very scary paper. In VICE & CONSENT, long standing and respected BDSM community members reveal a fascinating and unexpected truth under that wrapping. During the two year production of this feature length documentary, filmmaker Howard Scott Warshaw immersed himself in San Francisco's BDSM "Scene" and discovered the humanity that defines this rich subculture. From behind his camera, Warshaw tests the boundaries between public and private, culture and subculture. The relentless candor, wit and wisdom of the voices in VICE & CONSENT shatter popular myths about BDSM practice and its practitioners. VICE & CONSENT exposes the truth about something most people believe they already know.

VICE & CONSENT was shot entirely in DVCAM format with a SONY PD-170 camcorder and edited in Adobe Premiere Pro 1.5.

Director's Statement (194 words):

Everyone asks me: Why do THIS documentary? The answer is simple: Whenever I see a widely held misconception it makes me want to do a documentary. Particularly when the truth is more positive and sympathetic than the misconception. When a friend I admired and respected got into BDSM (Bondage/Discipline, Dominance/Submission, Sado-Masochism) they started to share their experiences and insights. I was shocked and amazed. Not by what they told me, but rather by my ignorance about this entire subculture and how different the actuality of BDSM was from my own preconceptions. I wasn't judgmental about it, I was just way off base. And as I looked around I realized that most people are way off base about BDSM and many of those people ARE judgmental and aggressively so. It seemed to me that this was an opportunity to shed some light on a very dark area and hopefully ease some of the judgmental tension that exists today between BDSM practitioners and the many people who judge them without understanding them. Idealistic? Perhaps. But it did serve as an effective motivation for producing this movie, and in retrospect I am very glad that I did.

War Story (47 words):

Until you've listened to a naked woman who is lying on the floor, hooded, handcuffed, hogtied and locked into a high-tech chastity belt explaining what sex acts can and cannot be performed while wearing said chastity belt, well, let's just say you haven't seen it all yet.

Interesting demonstrations

As one might imagine, there were many interesting and unusual moments during this production. One that comes to mind was the time I was sitting in a class listening to a woman lying on the floor next to me. The woman was naked. Actually she wasn't totally naked. In fact she was hooded, handcuffed, hogtied and locked into a high-tech chastity belt. This woman was explaining what sex acts can and cannot be performed while wearing this chastity belt. It was most illuminating. Until you've experienced something like this, well, let's just say you haven't seen it all yet.

The Filmmaker:

Vice & Consent is the first feature length documentary from director Howard Scott Warshaw. Colorado born, Jersey raised, and New Orleans schooled, Warshaw became a Silicon Valley guy for 25 years, exploring virtually every aspect of technology. But tech wasn't enough, so he found time to teach classes and seminars at all levels on a variety of subjects, learn photography and filmmaking, create several million-selling video games, speak publicly and write two books. Warshaw is always on the lookout for opportunities to

apply this unique and esoteric skill set, and as he puts it: "Combining sound and image in a communicative and evocative style is the greatest and most seductive challenge."

Director's Filmography (and statement about it):

"From There To Here: Scenes of Passage," runtime 19 min. Aired on San Jose PBS affiliate KTEH.

"Once Upon ATARI," documentary series with four 30 min. episodes. One episode aired on San Jose PBS affiliate KTEH.

"I have completed two documentaries so far; "From There To Here," the story of two women from one family who fled Russia for the USA. Their trips were some 60 years apart yet the parallels are startling. And "Once Upon ATARI," a documentary series revealing the neurotic excesses of those working behind the scenes creating a new media and a cultural phenomenon. Both aired on San Jose's PBS affiliate KTEH. I've worked in Silicon Valley for 25 years. An extraordinary variety of professional/creative endeavors has left me with a unique and esoteric skill set. I truly believe filmmaking is the best synthesis of my broad experience and talents."

[NOTE: Perhaps you can help me make this sound a little less bombastic?]

Reviews:

"Of the many lifestyle documentaries in the market, "Vice & Consent" is the *one* body of work that I have participated in as an educator that presents BDSM and its intricacies accurately, and without sensationalistic distractions. Howard's editing process allowed the integrity of my responses to come to life and captured the essence of our conversations, allowing the truth of my journey to shine through. By resisting temptation to sensationalize the participants' responses for shock value alone he provides the audience with a rare view inside the mind of some of the most respected community members and educators on the BDSM lifestyle circuit. Each view, and every story shared represent a richly diverse patchwork square, and woven together through the art of respectful editing, become a tapestry of knowledge, experience and educational wealth. "Vice & Consent" is sure to stimulate conversation, provoke thought and hopefully provide an intimate glimpse into a lifestyle which until now has not been available to mainstream society. Not only would I recommend this film to my own family and vanilla friends, I would proudly view it again and again with them, and address their own questions accordingly!"

Evil Mommy Tina 2005

Key Short Quote (maybe for placement in the lower box on main page):

Vice & Consent: "An intimate glimpse into a lifestyle which until now has not been available to mainstream society."

Citing of the case that Mo references in the 20/20 episode:

Anderson v. Cornejo

Citation: 355 F.3d 1021 (7th Cir. 2004)

Parties: Sharon Anderson et al., Mario Cornejo et al.

Claims / Causes of Action: 5th Am.

Remedies Sought: Damages

Posture: reversed in part, vacated in part motion for summary judgment

Facts and Holding: The plaintiffs are a class of black women who were targeted for non-routine searches (i.e. strip searches, body cavity searches) by Customs officers at Chicago's O'Hare airport. None were found to be carrying any contraband. The plaintiffs cited a report which showed that black women were searched more often than their white and male counterparts. However, that report documented searches occurring throughout the entire country, and began after the last event on which the plaintiffs rested their claim. Thus it was not relevant to the case at bar, the court held. In addition, since the defendants were managers, and there is no vicarious liability in a Bivens action, the court examined what exactly the defendants knew or did themselves. The court found no evidence, even assuming racial profiling was occurring at O'Hare, that the defendants knew about it or were deliberately indifferent to it.

Other: Bivens v. Six Unknown Named Agents of the Federal Bureau of Narcotics, 403 U.S. 388 (1971)

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