



# Films on Race and Sexuality/Gender

Presented by Rita and Bill Hadden

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# 8-week Outline (key film excerpts shown in class)

- 1. The Wedding Banquet (1993)
- 2. Gran Torino (2008)
- 3. The Crying Game (1992)
- 4. The Hate U Give (2018)
- 5. American Beauty (1999)
- 6. Passing (2021)
- 7. The Danish Girl (2015)
- 6. Green Book (2018)
- QUESTIONS?

# The Hate U Give (2018)

- **Awards / recognition:**

- Premiered at the 2018 Toronto International Film Festival, grossed \$34.9 million worldwide against its \$23 million budget, and received acclaim from critics.

- Nominated for and won numerous accolades, including Stenberg's winning of the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Actress in a Motion Picture and being nominated for a Critics' Choice Award.

- **Written** by Angie Thomas, **Screen play** by Audrey Wells.

# The Hate U Give (2)

- **Director and Producer:** George Tillman Jr.
  - Nominated for the Black Film Award for Best Director for *Soul Food* (1997). Tillman was also nominated for the Black Reel Award for Best Director and Best Screenplay for *Notorious* (2009).

# The Hate U Give (3)

## **Synopsis:**

Starr Carter is constantly switching between two worlds -- the poor, mostly black neighborhood where she lives and the wealthy, mostly white prep school that she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is soon shattered when she witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend at the hands of a police officer. Facing pressure from all sides of the community, Starr must find her voice.

# The Hate U Give (4)

**SETTINGS:** black neighborhood of Garden Heights, GA; white & wealthy Williamson neighborhood.

## MAIN CHARACTERS:

- Starr Carter: 16-year-old African-American;
- Maverick Carter: Starr's father;
- Lisa Carter: Starr's mother;
- Carlos: Lisa's brother, Starr's uncle;
- Chris: Starr's white boyfriend;
- King: a drug dealer & local kingpin;
- Khalil: Starr's childhood best friend.

# **DISCUSSION: what would you say The Hate U Give is about and Why?**

- Race relations?
- Racial injustice?
- Gang tactics?
- Competing allegiances?

# The Hate U Give (6)

## Questions for discussion:

- Black life
  - What is code switching; in this film, Starr version 1 and version 2?
  - Why is Starr going to a White high school? What does the school represent in the film?
  - What does ThugLife stand for?
  - What forms does hate take?
  - In the words of Khalil and Maverick, what are the consequences of hate?



# The Hate U Give (7)

## Questions for discussion:

- Black life, cont'd.
  - How does Maverick see a traffic stop?
  - What are Starr's parents' goals?
- Middle class views
  - Is Starr's uncle's view of a traffic stop different than Maverick's?
  - Are the white kids sincere in their Black Lives Matter protest?
  - All lives matter. What does this mean?
  - Is Garden Heights a ghetto? What is Hailey's view?

# The Hate U Give (8)

## Questions for discussion:

- Police violence
  - What do you make of the scene outside the restaurant where King threatens Maverick?
  - How do you interpret the end of the protest after the DA's announcement?
  - Is the last clip consistent with the rest of the film? Does it seem real?



***For questions and information,  
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