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| |  | | --- | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Page 3 | | |  | | --- | | [**SUBMIT YOUR OWN COMMENT**](http://docs.google.com/submit-comments.htm) | | **<Pages** [**1**](http://docs.google.com/user_feedback.htm) **|**[**2**](http://docs.google.com/user_feedback2.htm) | |  |  | | --- | | **Comment on Christine Corcos' article: *The Court*** |   **From: Robert Vollum** found us through: Search Engine.  Ms. Corcos suggests, at the first of her review, that The Court is a better show than First Monday. But then she proceeds to castigate the show, among her laudatory comments, in each of the important areas, writing and acting. I believe that The Court stands absolutle no chance for survival for one very important reason, and Ms. Corcos almost saw it. Sally Fields is a good actress. But she is a perrenial teeny-bopper, in spite of the fact that she is getting old. Did you see her practice-sitting on the bench? She looked the poster girl for bring-your-child-to-work day. No matter what writers go to work for her, they cannot possibly give her any credibility, especially for the ability to think. And the cliche of having Chris Sarandon being the stable force on the bench by having him grow his salt and pepper beard - thereby making him look like a worn-out old time editor - was just plain silly. The Court is a badly written show and is an insult to the Supreme Court of the USA.   |  | | --- | | **Comment on Paul Joseph's article: It's the Writing, Stupid *(First Monday)*** |   **From: Robert Vollum** found us through: Search Engine.  Or, it's the stupid writing.  First Monday has the potential to be a top-rated television show, given the stellar cast. I have seen almost all of these actors in more supreme quarters over the years, and I know that each one is as capable of delivering well-written material, as they are of the material they are given here. First, there is no reason whatsoever to have James Garner smoking. Not only is this becoming a passe prop, but it should be incumbent upon the person considered to be the top judge in Ameria to be bright enough not to smoke.  Regarding the young lawyer/clerks. Their collective existences should be downplayed in the face of such potentially high drama. Instead we are given dialogue and presentation taken from out-pages of the series, Friends. In this setting, who gives a damn about the just-barely concealed sexual fortunes of this group of twinkies and dolts? Was one of the writers was a Friends writer. The soporific portrayal of Justice Novelli by Joseph Montegna matches his title portrayal of Spenser, which he took over from the upbeat Robert Urich. He slept there, too.  Why is Charles Durning in and out of a wheel chair? Is this supposed to be a comic diversion? Is a comic diversion applicable in stories about the Supreme Court of the USA? As if that isn't enough of a misuse of a good actor, he is being asked to recite limerick doggerel thereby transcending his thought acumen. A positive suggestion: When Marcia Clark was a guest, I looked forward to her trying her hand at drama. Instead we saw her just standing, talking to the court.  Suggestion: Suppose the dialogue and scenes among the clerks was supplanted by scenes of background business with the lawyers who are going to present their cases to the court. We could be privy to the nervousness, the plans, the strategies leading to the arguments that these lawyers will promulgate as they face the final judgement. Such scenes would be tossed against the back room processes of the justices. My bottom line is that viewers have come to see the process of this august group, and should be accommodated as they watch justice at work, rather than, in the case of the young turks and turkettes, work at justice. It may also be that the writing staff should be augmented with one or two over 50 years.   |  | | --- | | **Comment on Judith Grant's article: *The Shield*** |   **From: Miss Lisa** found us through: World of mouth.  I read your article on "The Shield". As morally irresponsible as you claim it is, the fact is that it is probably the most realistic Criminal Justice show that has ever been on t.v.   |  | | --- | | **Comment on linda f. harrison's article: *Barbershop*: Going...Going...Gone.** |   **From: Walter Harris Gavin** found us through: Random surfing.  This is a comment on the article: "Barbarshop" and it goes like this: What does the film Barbarshop hve to do with the theme of the site which is "picturing justice?" There was no correlation in the review to the concept of justice at all. We definately need films and all types of media that deal with the concept and theme of justice particularly with regard to the concept of "race" as experienced in America (see below). A Just Society. So long as we continue to view ourselves as members of different "races" we can never have a truly just society. We are all runners in the same race, The Human Race. As individuals and as groups we are all running this race differently based upon criteria that has either been established for us or that we embrace on our own accord. Those who benefit from the status quo, whose position vis-à-vis the social strata permits advantages to be accrued not based upon any objective value, but by way of group membership, will be resistant to any notion that challenges their basic assumptions. But challenged they must be. Likewise those for whom their group identity has traditionally placed them in less advantaged circumstances, whose "racial" affiliation has overtime become a source of strength an axis point for struggle, resistance and protest must redefine or reacquire a new perspective.  To carry that message we need media projects, which are dedicated to breaking down cultural barriers. To fostering individual traits, which transcend group identity and affiliations. A media, which acknowledges differences, uniqueness, values diversity (which is after all is a natural occurring phenomena that we constantly overlook) yet at the same time focuses on our commonalities, shared dreams, shared visions.  The Human Race is an intercultural journey. The Gavin Media Institute supports that notion and seeks to project this idea through its programs and services. Race Across America is the major on-going initiative to change the meaning of "race" in America from one of a pre-determined and concrete state to a participatory event, namely human existence.  Walter Harris Gavin, Executive Director, The Gavin Media Institute  www.raceacrossamerica.com. 703.503.1122. PO Box 16015, Alexandria, VA 22303   |  | | --- | | **Comment on Taunya Lovell Banks' article: *Bowling for Columbine*** |   **From: Arthur A. Busch** found us through: Random surfing.  I read the review of Bowling for Columbine. Obviously Professor Banks gets it! The connection she has drawn in the review of Bowling for Columbine is exactly what I was hoping would be picked up by the media in its analysis of the film. Until that little girl was shot, I had no idea that there was any connection whatsoever between these gun nuts and racist folks. By the way I am the prosecutor who appears in the movie. As I lecture to local college students, it is interesting to see the perplexed faces when a white prosecutor talks about the issues of race, guns and law enforcement and how I am part of a system that is institutionally racist. Professor Banks raises a point which I also made in the movie. Gun safety programs seemed aimed at disarming the black community while white people run to gated communities encircling the inner cities armed to the teeth with automatic weapons. That same energy to encourage disarmament of suburbia is non-existent even though this is where the ammo is located. In fact, while we white people hate to admit it, this is happening across our country in nearly every major city. The intellectual fuel of the gun movement in America is found with NRA's nutty friends in the racist hate movement. Only David Duke and David Horowitz could use the killing of a 6 year old school girl to illustrate their twisted ideas that it was liberal coddling of black people not the reckless storage of firearms that was responsible for this senseless killing. It is easy for people to dismiss Michael Moore's style as not polite or grating but it is impossible to dismiss the things he has discovered with a camera and a microphone. The American icon, Charlton Heston is without his script and you can see exactly what his real character is for yourself. He is a man who seems more interested in his rather strange view that America was a product of "old white men" than to see what America is today, a melting pot and a beacon to the world of hope. The Professor, has done a wonderful job of reviewing this film and her observations are right on target.   |  | | --- | | **Comment on Christine Corcos' article: What Happened In Greenwich (*Murder In Greenwich)*** |   **From: Kensey** found us through: Link from other site.  I believe that the movie did portray her tragedy, but with the same concept of you it should have not been told in her perspective. She is the one that was murdered and the whole movie should be based around the night she died to when Michael was sentenced. It is a great movie, but more attention was paid to Michael after her death.Thank you for the time and your views. They really helped me with my English paper.   |  | | --- | | **Comment on Michael Asimow's article: *About Schmidt*--The Movie That Might Have Been** |   **From:** **Tim Young** found us through: Random surfing.  I have just finished watching the FILM having just read the BOOK in Florence on holiday. The FORMER is one of the least interesting and most formulaic thing I have ever seen. The LATTER was one of the most playful and clever pieces of American fiction since *Catch 22* or *Bonfire of the Vanities*. What silly people these Hollywood chaps are. I completely agree with your article. What a waste of a wonderful thing. I feel cheated. Yours, Tim Young  **From: Norm Blumenthal** found us through: Random surfing.  I have not read the book, but intend to. I am retired and a widower suffering the same loneliness, daughter marrying out of the faith (I am Jewish), few friends left, etc. I'm old enough to have seen and treasure film classics. This film, however, is special, and has continually (since  I saw it several months ago) hit home with me. I cannot strike it from my mind. The latest real-life incident: The other day, I was emptying my file cabinet of proposals and ideas that span a lifetime. I had to throw them out, they are dated and useless. Immediately, the scene in the film in which Schmidt notices the boxes representing his years of contributions to his firm relegated to the garbage pile. You've got to be old enough to understand the sadness and feeling of futility. More and more, I recall how similar the film is to real life -- my life. As an aside, my daughter shares my feelings. Even though we treat it lightly, we know it is a true depiction we both understand.   |  | | --- | | **Comment on the articles about the movie " *Evelyn*"** |   **From: Laura Sawtell** found us through: Search Engine.  After having watched the movie *Evelyn* I was interested in the accuracy of the depiction of the film as well as the issues brought up in the film. The article gave an objective view of the main issue, how much power governments should have with regard to the family. As well, it cited other films, similar situations in other countries and some other information around Evelyn's story. Thank you for an interesting and informative article that fed my thirst for information when most needed.  **From: Sandi Griffin** found us through: Link from other site.  First, thank you for sharing some of the real legal issues involved in this case. Very interesting. I agree that the lawyers working pro bono seems most heroic, and in fact the world would be a better place if more lawyers put their hearts into their cases. If there are any on this earth that  still do that....I have not heard of them. The legal system has turned into "he who has the most money for the best lawyer wins". BUT, I think the BEST of the movie begins when Doyle gives his explanation of The Holy Family, not consisting of Mary, Joseph, and Jesus, but of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. And then of course how he explains his father raised him with the guide of the Holy Spirit. This scene brings together the ultimate tear jerker when brought together with the "angel rays". Put those ingrediants together, and you have the perfect excuse to grab the tissue box. But not because you're sad, but because it brings tears of true joy. Not too many times do you see a movie that can make you cry with joy. THAT is a writers dream. How many times have you cried because you were so happy? I loved it! I also enjoyed your review.  Sincerely, Sandi Griffin  **From: Theresa**  Evelyn's mother was abused by her husband and that's why she ran off - never intending to be away for anything more than a couple of days.. but when Doyle threatened her further she feared for her life. Several times she visited Evelyn in the orphanage - again at risk to her own life.. and thought Evelyn (and the boys) would be better off there than with her - she had NO rights in Irealnd at that time - women who choose to flee the marital home had very few allies either with the law or the church. Also it's interesting that despite the fact Doyle had an affair with this  English bar maid he is never criticised for this. Also after the court case he LEFT THREE OF THE BOYS IN THE ORPHANAGE FOR A FURTHER FIVE YEARS!!!!When Evelyn was reunited with her mother years later she was welcomed into the family home and NOT rejected for a second time as she claims. Also three of the brothers lived with their mother for TWO years - again a fact Ms Doyle seems to have forgotten -   |  | | --- | | **Comment on Shubba Ghosh's article: Leaving The Friedmans Alone** |   **From: David Friedman** found us through: Search Engine.  For Mr. Ghosh, Read your comments regarding the film Capturing the Friedmans. After reading hundreds of reviews it is refreshing to read a review from the perpective of the family in question - mine. Every thought you had is entirely correct. I participated in the film because Jesse was in prison , being denied parole repeatedly, and may never have been released (civil incarceration was looming on the NY front). My feeling is that I wish Mr. Jarecki had made a film that came down more on the side of innocence. his ambivalence does not serve my original goals regarding the film. Your readers should know that I agree with every comment you made in your article. Thank you for seeing this case in a reasonable light. Maybe that is because you are more of an attorney than a film reviewer. Thank you, David Friedman  **From: Greg** found us through: Search Engine.  Professor Ghosh, You are a very good writer. I'm not a college graduate or even a learned person, but I found your article easy to read and understand. I guess I suspected something more difficult given you are a Professor of Law. I find it refreshing when people of your obvious intelligence write so everyone can understand. Well done!   |  | | --- | | **Comment on John Denvir's article: The Injustice gene** |   **From: Joel Gomberg**  As always, I enjoyed your review. And, as always, I have a couple of nits to pick. We all respond to injustice, I think. The only distinction is in how encompassing the response is. My son Ben, for example, had a highly developed sense of injustice from about the age of three. This stemmed from his strong belief that the universe was based on the overriding principle of unfairness to Ben. He did not extend his concerns about justice to anybody else. Most of us respond to injustices done to those in our "group" -- whether defined as family, community, tribe, nation, religion, etc. Then there are those who are exquisitely sensitive to the sufferings of others, including members of other species. I don't think your gene is that potent. OTOH, it seems to me, based on anecdotal reports only, that many of those endowed with this metaphorical gene have significant blind spots. Gandhi, MLK, and Che were all -- no pun intended -- pricks toward women. And there's that old saying by Tom Paine maybe? about those who have great empathy toward human kind in general, but who can't stand individual people. I think we can both think of examples from CRLA consistent with that observation. And I think of all the self-appointed Jewish leaders who insist that our holocaust has to be number one. The Ibo and the Tutsis and all the others just don't count. Or, their records must have an asterisk. What's interesting about the tsunami is that we can all be voyeurs in real time. That's something very new. In the past, we might never have known about it. Or, if we lived after the invention of moveable type, maybe we would have heard about it weeks or months later. I know that your review was about the justice thing, but I wish you would have at least mentioned the glorious scenery, the Macchu Picchu ruins, and the extraordinary faces of the people the boys encountered along the way. Aside from its political content, the movie is a great National Geographic travelogue.   |  | | --- | | **Comment on Dean Hiteman's article: Setting the Stage for Justice in the Revenge Genre Film** |   **From: kaeaton**  Revenge is not limited to gender, either. "The Quick and the Dead" shows the worst of both, greed and power from Gene Hackman, and the mob rule vengeance of Sharon Stone. Most Western Classics are keen on cowboy idealism, which I believe was the basis of its popularity as a genre: the good winning out over evil, which wasn't necessarily done by lawbreakers. That truth rules to create society's sense of guilt and innocence has been perhaps lost, especially in the legal system. And pent up emotions have been historcally shown to be the basis of social upheavals. NPR recently commented that the public interest has been declared unconstitutional.   |  | | --- | | **Comment on Taunya Lovell Banks's article: The Heart, The Rule Of Law And *In The Bedroom*** |   **From: Richard Gehl**  Just watched the film this morning and went web surfing immediately after and found your article. I knew shortly after frank's death that justice would not be served in a court of law. It's a sad world sometimes and the justice system is not perfect in many ways. I feel the final outcome in this movie whether it weighed on Franks parent's lives from then on or not or even other parties partial to Richard Strout, the kids etc., was the perfect justice and I would have done the same thing if I were in the same position in a second, pausing only to reflect on how to do it with out being caught. Sometimes as we hear in the movies "vengeance is a dish best served cold" rules the day for the surviving.   |  | | --- | | **Comment on Justyna Herman's article: *A Civil Action*: Is There Room For Apology in the Adversary System?** |   **From: Charles Roemer** found us through: Search Engine.  I am in the middle of settling my malpractice suit and read Lee Taft's new article in Annals of Health Law regarding apology and litigation. A web search led me to your article. I feel encouraged that these ideas are expressed by young lawyers and given credibility by someone with the stature of Mr. Taft. I have terminal cancer and the health system and doctors failed me. I will receive a monetary award---but in the face of death the amount seems irrelevant in terms of giving this sad event some meaning. I would like an apology but have been told that it will not be forthcoming. I would like the apology---but more importantly I would like to participate in the analysis of what went wrong and have my observations heard and respected. Maybe I can contribute to the prevention of future mistakes? I will copy this article and send it to the people who are involved---but I don't want to force anyone into an apology because if it comes it won't feel real. Thanks   |  | | --- | | **Comment on Bruce Peabody's article: Lex, Flies, and Videotape** |   **From: Anne** found us through: Random surfing.  "Great!" This was a phenomenal article. Bruce Peabody is a great writer. I commend his work on this intriguing piece. Excellent analysis!   |  | | --- | | **Comment on Christine Corcos' article: Single With Children - *Kevin Hill*** |   **From: Karl McDowell** found us through: Search Engine.  "Great Article". I enjoyed your article about Kevin Hill and agree whole-heartedly that the advertising did not hit the nail on the head for this show. Why I have decided to respond to your article is because Kevin Hill is being cancelled and I was hoping that you could help. I have emailed the UPN network and also signed an online petition to try and help save the show from cancellation. I was hoping you could do the same and maybe write an article asking your readers to help save the show as well. I am an African American male and like the fact that we are shown in a positive light on Kevin Hill. I appreciate your time. Sincerely, Karl McDowell   |  | | --- | | **Comment on Taunya Lovell Banks' article: Will the Real Judge Stand Up** |   **From: Cameron** found us through: Search Engine.  I was wondering exactly how "real" court shows were, so I did a search for an article on it. Luckily I found yours. The points generated in the article seemed as if they were stolen from my mind and displayed in front of me, as if to say "you already know the answer." It was just amazing. I thought I was the only one who noticed that the judges were different then the baliffs. In a nutshell, great article.   |  | | --- | | **Comment on Michael Hoffheimer's article: *Veer-Zaara*: Love and law in Bollywood** |   **From: Catherine** found us through: Link from other site.  I am very impressed with the way this article has increased my knowledge and appreciation of the film. Thank you  **From: Jose Thomas** found us through: Link from other site.  Hi Mike ...interesting article..somehow you failed to empathise with zaaras fiance...He was the most realistic character in the film..However comin to the point..I was saerching for the poem veer narrates in the court..Prisoner#786( there goes bollywood dripping religious syrup over cliched symbols..ha ha ha !!!!) CAN YOU EMAIL ME THAT POEM OR AT LEAST A LOOSE TRANSLATION.....Do see andhaa kanoon and inzaaf ka tarazooo.. they do have typical bolly legal stuff... thank you... another cliche but true in bollywood THE LAW IS AN ASS...do send me that poem or the translation bye 4 now JOSE TORONTO CANADA  Jose, Thank you for your comments on my article. You make an excellent point about Z's fiance. (Not only a credible character but a very fine performance!) Surely the filmmakers do not mean for us to sympathize with the character. (Empathize maybe.) I don't have a translation for Javed Akhtar's poem. The English subtitles paraphrase it, and the original is included with the CD booklet. Here is a website that transcribes it. http://nileshbabu.com/v2/veer-zaara/. Do you know Hindi or Urdu? A friend tells me he liked come of the original lyrics better than the ones created for the film. M. Hoffheimer   |  | | --- | | **Comment on Stefan Machura's article: *EIGHT O'CLOCK WALK - A Timeless Plot*** |   **From: Mary Atwell**  I wasn't familiar with this film. Wish I had known about before I published EVOLVING STANDARDS OF DECENCY: POPULAR CULTURE AND CAPITAL PUNISHMENT (Peter Lang, 2004). I think the issue of how often the capital system "gets it wrong" is a pretty powerful theme in many movies, making them an excellent discussion starter in classes.   |  | | --- | | **Comment on John Denvir's article: Bush's Savage War** |   **From: Uriel Wittenberg**  The most significant element here, which the article largely neglects, is represented in the first sentence: "Movies not only entertain, they instruct." That popular culture may have inspired Bush's "savage war," or helped him sell it, is not the scariest thing. What's most scary is that the violence, and increasingly, the torture, with which mainstream media entertains the masses, is shaping, affecting, directing our culture. The result is worse for us than a "savage war." It's a savage culture, a savage society, and a savage future for everyone.   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | [Top of page](#gjdgxs) | |  | | --- | | [**SUBMIT YOUR OWN COMMENT**](http://docs.google.com/submit-comments.htm) | | **<Pages** [**1**](http://docs.google.com/user_feedback.htm) **|**[**2**](http://docs.google.com/user_feedback2.htm) | | |  |  | | --- | | [Home](http://docs.google.com/index.html) | [Silver Screen](http://docs.google.com/silver_screen.htm) | [Small Screen](http://docs.google.com/smallscreen/small_screen.htm) | [News & Views](http://docs.google.com/newsnviews.htm) | | |