“Why the Hate?” – 45 min – documentary broadcasted 10 days after Sept. 11 put together by ABC – very much a primary source for Sept. 11 – and talks about the difference between resentment and hatred – difficult to use, unless teaching or talking about 9/11

“Being Gay: Coming Out in the 21st Century” – 25 min – Lots of perspectives on coming out in the modern day – what it means to be gay – the stages of being gay and coming out – great video

“Obesity: Pain and Prejudice” – 40 min – British look at a child who died extremely obese and then her mother was charged with abuse – then followed by a debate on discrimination against obesity – again, a unique, little-discussed topic – liking this one

“Intellectual Parity: What Little Girls are Made of” – 50 min – An older look at scientific “differences” between men and women – GREAT historical arguments, primary sources and historical development of the arguments against women – interesting perspective

“America: Beyond the Color Line” – 220 min total – in four parts – part I – The Black Belt - (WOW) looks at the South today and what has become of the Civil Rights movement and the Mecca of Atlanta – part II – Streets of Heaven – tearing down the projects in Chicago, the most poverty ridden area in the US (WOW) – Ebony Towers – class divisions within the black community, rap, traitors or Uncle Toms – Black Hollywood – it’s all about blacks in Hollywood with a lot of big-name faces

“Beyond Borders: Arab Feminists Talk about Their Lives” – 50 min – a woman’s delegation that travels the US talking about their oppression at home and how US foreign policy has affected the persecution as women – addresses broader issues, not just women – but colonialism, imperialism, and politics – addressing the Middle East and Africa - WOW

“Multiple Genders” – 40 min – Public debate in Britain about transgender/transsexual – very heated – lots of religious and transgender perspective – interesting and unusual focus

“Beyond Hate: Learning to Hate” – 45 min – Starts off talking about hate in general and moves into how children can be indoctrinated into hating – some offensive language and interesting soundtrack music to illustrate that point – lots of interviews on both sides, but largely from the perspective of anti-hate, anti-violence – “natural world” connections – famous talking heads – an alright film

“Beyond Hate: The Heart of Hatred” – 45 min – looks at hatred largely from the haters’ perspectives – some reformed, some not – exploring how people have dealt with hate in themselves, so it looks at hatred as a sometimes unavoidable emotion – but also looks at potentially “un-reformable” haters – looks at Arab/Israeli issues, race, and domestic violence, gender movements – pretty much anyone who can hate or be hated

“When Words Hurt” – 22 min – best, probably, for younger audiences – uses great interviews with people who have been discriminated against with words – but commentary could be considered cheesy and is *definitely* geared towards youth – all focused on hate speech
“Not a Bedroom War: New Visions of Leadership on Women” – 55 min – based on a congress of women gathered in Dublin to talk about feminism in the 90s and beyond – very good perspectives, distancing the movement from radicalism, but at the same time, saying that it’s not over, even if society often thinks it is – good international perspectives: Western, Eastern, African, etc. – “we don’t want to BE men, we want to be equal and still female” – calling for the next step, a new vision of co-existence that is ‘true’ co-existence – good, in my opinion

“Perspectives on Gender and Sexuality: CBS Reports – the Homosexuals” – 60 min – originally broadcast in 1967, in a time when *all* of society (pretty much) felt not only that homosexuality was wrong, but the destruction of society as well – “more harmful than adultery, prostitution, or abortion” – so Mike Wallace and CBS did a documentary on it – interviewing gay men in the late 1960s – an effort to examine it as a “human condition” – basically and early attempt to be honest and fair – AMAZING historical perspective – “The majority of Americans (in 1967) favor criminal punishment even for private, consenting acts” – but CBS concludes, “promiscuity, not interested in permanent relationships, chance encounters, shallowly interested only in sex” as the ‘most common’ homosexuals – but they point out there are a handful of “normal” homosexuals and that “homosexuality is a mental illness” and that it is learned – NO mention of women as gay – ends with follow-up, update to 2000 text! GREAT

“Where Do We Go From Here? A Dialogue on Race” – 60 min – Not just what to do with racial issues in general, but also looking at differences in perception within groups of supporters, between races – approaches this from a ‘let’s travel through the south and look at where it happened’ – Looks at the black and the white side and talks to the travelers about their experiences in this journey and what past sacrifices mean to them today – hard questions – GREAT current race on a personal level video

“Dear Home, Letter from WWI” – 50 min – lots of footage of battle and other firsthand stuff and stats on the new weapons – then moves into individual stories based on their letters – an early focus on getting the US involved then continuing with the individual stories – lots of example of social understanding, culture, and knowledge – footage shows the enthusiasm and innocence of not knowing what would come – first fear, submarine warfare – then looks at the adjustments made to living in Europe in the middle of a war – letters of survivors and victims – disparity between what the papers report and the reality of the war from the observer’s eyes – censoring’s effects! – carries the story all the way through peace and the return home – almost completely American focused, as far as casualties and such

“The Price of Racism” – 50 min – Racism from a British perspective, that leads to violence – starts off from a child in rural England’s perspective that is Afro-Caucasian – then another where a brother talks about his brother’s attack because he is black, which result in a waking coma – very artsy in some areas of the film – then moves into an Asian/Middle Eastern experience, one shop-owner has experienced over 500 threats/acts in 5 years and this one is very emotional – then to an Indian experience, another emotional one where the father of the family dies – then another Afro-Anglo experience in inter-racial marriage, a family with children that are viciously attacked – then a white boy attacked by an Asian gang – overall very somber and hard-hitting
“Karl Marx and Marxism” – 55 min – a rather dry starting film with some personal info – then his worldwide effects – then lots of personal info to give personality and then explanation of basic socialism from a Marx perspective – on into industrialization and capitalism – how is it applied now – a little outdated by about 10 years or more – lots of detail about sociology and psychology from Marx’s perspective – moving into the Russian Revolution and WWI, with references to Communism – then on into Stalin and ultimately moving into the call for consumerism and how socialist governments tried to respond – alright for European history, especially something so complex as Marxism and how it was used

“Disability and Motherhood” – 25 min – another British perspective – addressing the taboo of disabled motherhood – paralysis, blindness, and a physical handicap that affects speech – public reactions, their reactions, and their kids’ reactions

“Gay Couples: The Nature of Relationships” – 50 min – “Social Psychology” is the first line – gay couples discussing very normal things – Blumstein and Schwarz’s study of relationships – very much an internal, social psychology perspective – what a ‘gay’ relationship means – ultimate conclusion, it’s really not all that different – then 20 minutes in, they start talking about how relationships have trouble, marriage as gay people, work, all “common” relationship things and again, not all so different from straight life – NOT a comparison to straight couples at all and at 30 minutes, although the specific gay challenges are not addressed, the undercurrent is there – starts addressing it outwardly at about 35 minutes – very personal look

“Children of Gaia: Living With Physical Challenges” – 50 min – a historical look at humanity’s treatment of those with disabilities, starts off very engaging – some visually disturbing images – those interviewed have some extreme and very visible disabilities – for the first 25 minutes or so, there are personal interviews – then it moves into more historical information with comparisons to today – and then present day implications of prenatal testing with amazing perspectives from the interviewed people – great personal look

“The Future of Food” – 120 min – some history of farming and then technological developments, pesticides, etc. – problems with pesticide use – biomedical technology, positives and negatives and using bacteria to genetically engineer plants – allergies to modified food – what the government has and hasn’t done to help inform and protect people from genetically modified food – the connection between the govt. and the gmf company – history of corn – suicidal crops – crops that grow drugs, plastics, etc.

“Sex and Religion: Homosexuality: A Religious Perspective” – 37 min – starts off with theologians and Christian views both supportive and condemning – then moves into the history of the church’s reaction – a look at scriptures and interpretation – then looks at religions that are tolerant of homosexuality – they look at it from Muslim, Christian, and Jewish perspectives – and then punishments according to the religions – then the argument that it is “unnatural” so is there homosexuality in other species? – Yes – then on to causes – then gay marriages – then where will/should religion go from here? – Interesting and well balanced

“Redesigning the Human Machine” – 55 min – a look at computers, simulators, and other technology that makes life more independent for disabled people – FASCINATING
“Ways to Move” – 55 min – three stories that explore society’s perceptions and stereotypes of wheelchair dependent disabilities – includes a dance performance of troops of both walking and wheelchair dancers – some explicit discussion about fertility and paralysis – parenthood – walking experiments – disabled campaigning and politics – thought provoking

“Ready to Live: People in Motion: Changing Ideas About Physical Disability” – 55 min – independent living technology – independence, mobility, sports excellence, two prosthetic hands for a war vet - interesting

“Hate and the Internet: Web Sites and the Issue of Free Speech” – 30 min – Nightline talks to the founder of “Stormfront,” the first and most successful hate speech site on the internet and a 1st amendment lawyer about rights – also looks at the nature, potential reach, and potential threat of the internet – pretty good

“Silicon Valley: 1890 – 1970” – 45 min – a somewhat dry but also interesting chronicle of development in the American West of education, colleges, industry, and such, all directed towards the Silicon Valley of today

“Silicon Valley: 1970 – 1990” – 45 min – focused on very industry specific stuff, although it speaks to a layman, there are not a lot of contextual connects

“Woodrow Wilson” – 2 discs – 180 min – A fantastic look at the life of Woodrow Wilson – all of it – the first disc focusing mostly on his pre-political years and the second on his political life, WWI, domestic concerns, and his health. Great primary source footage, speeches, and more.


“The First Americans” – 45 min – a look at the archaeology and study of prehistoric Native Americans that is particularly focused on the Clovis as the earliest evidence of tooled society (8,000 years ago) and evidence that perhaps pushes that back more than 6,000 years – very much a methods video

“The Indian and his Homeland” – 30 min – a very artistic look at the visuals of Native American life based on European images and engravings, coupled with looks at what the artists said about their subjects – includes looks at both natural and human environment from some of the earliest observers

“The Journey of Sacagawea” – 60 min – this video tells the entire story of Sacajawea from childhood on – also gives a good look at Lewis and Clark through Sacagawea with the participation of both experts and Native Americans – can be stopped early for classroom use – the end of the video is an extended visual and music piece, starting at approximately 52:00
“Captives” – 41 min – looks at the stereotypes surrounding “captive narratives” and examines the depth to which white captives assimilated into native culture.

“Native American Medicine” – 60 min – begins by introducing naturopathic medicine and then to Native American (general) culture – then focuses on one present day healer in one tradition who describes a Native cosmology, creation, and spirit beliefs – (somewhat new-age-ish) – much of this is from a present day perspective – nice piece towards the middle that talks about all of the medicine/animal connections and then into specific medicines – overall new-agey feel, but an interesting look into present day ideas.

“Native American Healing in the 21st Century” – 31 min – starts off more historical, more documentary-like than Native American Medicine – brings in practitioners and MDs who speak about actual medicines, both MDs and natural practitioners – very nicely sprinkled with history and archaeology.

“The Great Indian Wars: 1540-1890” – Disk 1 – 80 min – split into two 40 segments
Segment 1 – begins by introducing the changes that take place when Natives meet Europeans and moves quickly into talking about the horse and the buffalo with detailed info on the horse’s effect on tribal life and culture and continues entirely focused on Native American culture and history, setting the stage for the Indian Wars
Segment 2 – looking at the other side beginning with forts and the military and the evolution of their presence in the West – with references to Native American issues, but focused on American presence and the development of relationships between the military and Native American (or the lack there of) – sections on individual units and ends with exploring the US cavalry

Disk 2 – 90 min – split into two 45 min segments
Segment 1 – very documentary style and starts at 1540, makes good use of primary source quotes – intersperses the historical images and maps with clips of old films that fit the story – interesting approach – very detailed – talks about the effects of white presence on Native culture, going into great detail on Native culture at about 15 min in – continues to vacillate between the history of Indian conflicts and detailed Native American history
Segment 2 – begins with a look at the Northern Plains in the same documentary, still shot, old motion picture mix as before – great look at the Sioux and major recognizable figures with scholarly talking heads – goes deep into Sitting Bull, Little Crow, Red Cloud, Crazy Horse, and Custer and eventually on to Wounded Knee – but ends on an interesting positive note

“Battlefield Detectives: Native American Wars – the Apache” – 45 min – a close look at the conflicts between Apache warriors and the American army – begins with an overview of the Apache and then focuses on the ‘technology’ used by the Apaches, how they held out for so long and why they were eventually defeated – very much for history buffs

“Wild West Tech: Native American Technology” – 45 min – this is a very broad look at Native American innovation without a specific focus on any regional area – most of the technology examined is warrior-based and presented in the context of white contact.
“Crazy Horse: The Last Warrior” – 46 min – historians and tribal elders explore both the life and the legend of Crazy Horse – uses a great deal of primary sources in its portrayal – also gives a good look at Sioux history in the context of conflict with white society

“Sitting Bull: Chief of the Lakota Nation” – 45 min – this video also uses a great deal of primary sources and period accounts to explore the life of Sitting Bull, a Sioux medicine man – looks at his many conflicts with early settlers and his very effective methods of strengthening the Sioux people – continues into his leadership at “Custer’s Last Stand” and concludes with the sad, tragic last years of his life

“Biography: Geronimo – the Last Renegade” – 45 min – looks at Geronimo’s entire life and the tragic relocation of the Apache people through his experiences – looks at the specifics of his life in order to illuminate the larger Apache experience