

Movie Suggestions

The opinions expressed in these movies and documentaries do not necessarily express the views of IJM.

Some of these movies may not be appropriate for certain settings. Please view the movie prior to screening and ensure that the material is appropriate for the event you are planning.

Certain movies may require obtaining screening rights in order to show them in a public setting. Check on the movie website or with the production company to find out if you will need to secure the rights to show the movie. Most of these films are generally available (Netflix, Amazon, etc)—exceptions are noted.

Movie/Documentary	Description
A Dry White Season (1989) Video Clip	A Dry White Season is about the journey of a white schoolteacher, Ben du Toit, who has been insulated all of his life from the horrors of apartheid in his native South Africa. It is only when the son of his black gardener is arrested and beaten as a result of a schoolboy protest in Soweto that he realizes the extent of police involvement in the injustice.
Amazing Grace (2006) View Trailer	Amazing Grace tells the inspiring story of William Wilberforce and his passion and perseverance to pass a law ending the slave trade in the late 18th century. Several friends, including Wilberforce’s minister, a reformed slave ship captain who penned the beloved hymn Amazing Grace, urge him to see the cause through.
Amistad (1997) View Trailer	Amistad is based on the 1840s trials of 53 West Africans following their bloody rebellion aboard a slave ship. It captures the story of idealistic young lawyer who struggles to fight the crooked political system and save helpless victims. Starring Anthony Hopkins, Morgan Freeman and Matthew McConoughey.
Black Gold (2006) View Trailer	Black Gold asks viewers to face the unjust conditions under which coffee is produced and to decide what we can do about it. The film traces the trail from the two billion cups of coffee consumed each day back to the coffee farmers who produce the beans. The story follows the founder of the Oromia Coffee Farmers Cooperative Union, Tadesse Meskela, who is fighting to help his 70,000 Ethiopian coffee farmers by seeking out buyers willing to pay a fair price.
Blood Diamond (2006) View Trailer	An ex-mercenary turned smuggler and a Mende fisherman join together amid an explosive civil war overtaking 1999 Sierra Leone for two desperate missions: recovering a rare pink diamond of immense value and rescuing the fisherman’s son conscripted as a child soldier into the brutal rebel forces.
Bopha! (1993) View Trailer	Bopha! casts the ways the racist apartheid movement in South Africa created divisions among South African blacks in this story of a black policeman. Danny Glover plays the officer, who believes he’s trying to help his people. When his son gets involved in the anti-apartheid movement, he finds himself torn between his family and what he believes is his duty.
Born Into Brothels (2004) View Trailer	Born Into Brothels (2004) is an inspiring look at the transformative journey of a group of children in Calcutta’s red light district where their mothers work as prostitutes.
Call + Response (2008) View Trailer	Call + Response is a “rockumentary” which uses music to communicate the grave injustice of modern-day slavery. The film includes many famous musicians and actors, and has proven to be extremely popular.

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China Blue (2005) Purchase a copy	China Blue takes viewers inside a blue jeans factory in southern China, where teenage workers struggle to survive harsh working conditions. Providing perspectives from both the top and bottom levels of the factory's hierarchy, the film looks at complex issues of globalization from the human level.
Cry Freedom (1987) View Trailer	Cry Freedom is about the relationship between South African black activist Steven Biko (Denzel Washington) and a sympathetic newspaper editor (Kevin Kline). The first half of the film depicts the life and times of Biko, but the story shifts to Biko's efforts to escape the country.
At the End of Slavery (2009) View Trailer Purchase a copy	At the End of Slavery: The Battle for Justice in Our Time is IJM's 30-minute documentary, narrated by Danny Glover, taking viewers inside the violent and ugly business of slavery, from the brothels of the Philippines to the brick kilns of India. Undercover footage, first-person testimony from former slaves and respected experts expose the enormity of the crime—but a remarkable strategy and the courage of today's abolitionists offer hope for a final end to this brutal trade. <i>At the End of Slavery</i> is a call to every viewer to join the movement to end slavery in our lifetime.
God Grew Tired of Us (2006) View Trailer	God Grew Tired of Us is a documentary, narrated by Nicole Kidman, that explores the indomitable spirit of three Lost Boys from the Sudan who are forced to leave their homeland due to a bloody civil war. Traveling barefoot across the sub-Saharan desert, John Bul Dau, Daniel Abol Pach, and Panther Blor were among the 25,000 Lost Boys (ages 3 to 13) who fled villages, formed surrogate families and sought refuge from famine, disease, wild animals, and attacks from rebel soldiers. The Lost Boys traveled together for five years and against all odds crossed into the UN's refugee camp in Kakuma, Kenya. A journey's end for some, it was only the beginning for some 3,800 other young survivors who were selected to resettle in the United States.
Hotel Rwanda (2004) View Trailer	Hotel Rwanda is a moving true story of one man's brave stand during the 1994 Rwandan genocide. As his country descends into madness, five-star-hotel manager Paul Rusesabagina sets out to save his family. But when he sees that the world will not intervene in the massacre of minority Tutsis, he finds the courage to open his hotel to more than 1,200 refugees, despite a rabid militia at the gates.
Invisible Children (2003) Purchase a copy	When three young filmmakers traveled to Africa in search of a story, they returned with Invisible Children: Rough Cut . The film exposes the realities of northern Uganda's night commuters and child soldiers – a tragedy in which children were both weapons and victims.
Mardi Gras Made in China (2005) Purchase a copy	This documentary follows the life-cycle of Mardi Gras beads from a small factory in Fuzhou, China, to Mardi Gras in New Orleans and to art galleries in New York City.
Not for Sale (2002) View Trailer	Based on the book <i>Not For Sale</i> by David Batstone, this documentary covers what modern-day abolitionists are doing to fight the terrors of human trafficking in the US and abroad. Traveling over 120,000 miles across five continents, Robert Marcarelli and his film crew gathered undercover footage on this billion-dollar industry and interviewed the heroes that are determined to bring it to an end. Not only does the film expose harsh realities, but it also breathes new hope into the issue by documenting the valiant work of contemporary emancipators and the practical steps they've taken to mount an anti-slavery movement.

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Not for Sale II (2011) View Trailer	<p>After more than ten years of global efforts to combat slavery, the heartbreaking reality is that this massive multi-billion dollar criminal activity continues to grow. Ever-increasing numbers of men, women and children are kidnapped or forced against their will into a factory, a home, a field, a brothel or a war zone. In spite of these tragic figures there are modern day abolitionists who battle human trafficking. Not For Sale II will tell the story of five such heroes.</p>
Not My Life (2011) View Trailer Purchase a copy	<p>Not My Life zeroes in on the fact that the vast majority of trafficking and slavery victims are children. Not My Life features inspiring testimony from survivors; depictions of trafficking, exploitation, and slavery in all parts of the world including forced labor in Africa; street begging and garbage picking in India; sexual trafficking in the United States and Southeast Asia; and various forms of child enslavement and abuse in both North and South America.</p>
Seoul Train (2005) Purchase a copy	<p>Seoul Train is the gripping documentary exposé into the life and death of North Koreans as they try to escape their homeland through China. Seoul Train also delves into the complex geopolitics behind this growing and potentially explosive humanitarian crisis. By combining vérité footage and personal stories with interviews with experts and government officials, Seoul Train provides a close look at the reality of North Korea today.</p>
Sex and Money: A National Search for Human Worth (2011) View Trailer	<p>This documentary is about domestic minor sex trafficking and the growing modern-day abolitionist movement to stop it. Since September 2009, the crew has traveled to over 30 states and conducted more than 75 interviews with federal agents, victims, politicians, activists, psychologists, porn-stars, among others.</p>
Sold (2009) Purchase a copy	<p>This 50-minute documentary uses parallel storytelling to step into the lives of three contemporary abolitionists and former slaves in different countries—Symphorienne Kessouagni in rural Togo; Sunitha Krishnan in Hyderabad, India; and Ansar Burney in Karachi. The purpose of the film is to bring outrage over modern-day slavery but also inspiration for these three extraordinary abolitionists. Each of them battles a different virulent variety of slavery, with humor, grace, righteous anger and unflagging determination.</p>
Taken (2008) View Trailer	<p>Former government operative Bryan Mills begins the longest 96-hours of his life—and the hunt for the fearsome organization that has taken his daughter Kim. Bryan’s worst fears are realized when Kim and her friend Amanda are abducted--in broad daylight--from the Paris apartment at which they’ve just arrived. Moments before Kim is dragged away by the as yet unseen and unknown assailants, she manages to phone Bryan, who begins to expertly piece together clues that will take him to the darkness of Paris’s underworld, and to the City of Light’s plushest mansions. He let nothing and no one stop him from saving his daughter.</p>
The Candy Shop (2010) View Trailer	<p>A 30-minute film is a fairytale/parable about the child sex trafficking epidemic that has overrun the city of Atlanta.</p> <p>In this film, a young boy’s new job selling newspapers is helping his family survive during the depression. But then he figures out what’s happening in the candy shop across the street. He is confronted with a choice that no twelve-year-old should ever have to face. Giving his family a better life or keeping his soul.</p>
The Constant Gardener (2005) View Trailer	<p>The Constant Gardener follows the life of diplomat Justin Quayle and his wife Tessa, who is investigating the actions of a major pharmaceutical company in Kenya. Her brutal murder forces Justin to continue her investigation down some deadly avenues.</p>

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The Day My God Died (2003) Purchase a copy	The Day My God Died is a feature-length documentary that presents the stories of young girls whose lives have been shattered by the child sex trade. They describe the day they were abducted from their villages and trafficked as “the day my god died.” The film provides actual footage from the brothels of Bombay, known even to tourists as “The Cages,” captured with “spy camera” technology. It weaves the girls’ stories into an unforgettable examination of child sex slavery.
The Power of One (1992) View Trailer	The Power of One is an intriguing story of a young English boy named P.K. and his passion for changing the world. Growing up, he suffered as the only English boy in an Afrikaans school. His various life experiences along with his background propel him to work in hopes of building a better future for Africa.
The Devil Came on Horseback (2007) View Trailer	The Devil Came on Horseback exposes the ongoing tragedy in Sudan as seen through the eyes of one American. Through the photographs and first-hand testimony of former U.S. Marine Captain Brian Steidle, the film goes on an emotionally charged journey into the heart of Darfur, where in 2004, Steidle became witness to a genocide that, to-date, has claimed over 400,000 lives. As an official military observer, Steidle had access to parts of the country that no journalist could penetrate. Unprepared for what he would witness and experience, Steidle returned to the U.S. armed with his photographs, intent on exposing the images and stories of lives systematically destroyed.
Trade (2007) View Trailer	When 13-year-old Adriana is kidnapped by sex traffickers in Mexico City, her 17-year-old brother Jorge sets off on a desperate mission to save her.
Trade of Innocents (2011)	
Tsotsi (2005) View Trailer	On the edges of Johannesburg, Tsotsi’s life has no meaning beyond survival. One night, in desperation, Tsotsi steals a woman’s car. But as he is driving off, he makes a shocking discovery in the backseat. In one moment his life takes a sharp turn and leads him down an unexpected path to redemption ... giving him hope for a future he never could have imagined. Tsotsi is an extraordinary portrait of the choices that are made in life and how compassion can endure in the human heart.
Very Young Girls (2007) View Trailer Purchase a copy	Very Young Girls is an exposé of human trafficking that follows thirteen and fourteen year old American girls as they are seduced, abused, and sold on New York’s streets by pimps, and treated as adult criminals by police. The film follows the barely-adolescent girls in real time, using intimate interviews with them as they are first lured on to the streets and the dire events which follow. The film also uses startling footage shot by the brazen pimps themselves giving a rare glimpse into how the cycle of street life begins for many women.
Water (2005) View Trailer	Water tells the moving story of Chuyia, an Indian girl married and widowed at eight years old, who is sent away to a home where Hindu widows must live in penitence. Chuyia’s feisty presence deeply affects the other residents, forcing each to confront their faith and society’s prejudices.
We Were Free (2007) Purchase a copy	Three people freed from modern-day slavery through IJM intervention share their lives in this mini-documentary. This 13-minute film is a great way to introduce your family, colleagues and others to the reality of slavery, sex trafficking and IJM’s work to combat it.