

BBFC and Holocaust Memorial Day Trust film resource



Together with the [Holocaust Memorial Day Trust](#), we've picked five films for A-level educators, university societies or appropriately aged youth groups who would like to use film to study the Holocaust, or more recent genocides, with their learners, friends or colleagues.

Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) remembers the 6 million Jews murdered during the [Holocaust](#), alongside the millions of other people killed under Nazi persecution of other groups and during more recent genocides in [Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia](#) and [Darfur](#).

On HMD, we honour the memory of those who were murdered because of their identity. As we see acts of Holocaust and genocide distortion or denial, racism, bigotry and hatred, both in the UK and across the world, in person and online, we are reminded by HMD that we need to learn from genocide to build a better future.

Ahead of HMD on 27 January, we've put together some suggested discussion points to kick-start conversation with your class or group when the credits roll.

While these films do explore challenging and emotional themes, they have all been suggested by BBFC Compliance Officers due to the strong educational value of the content. If you're planning to show any of these films in the classroom, remember to check the age rating first and read our [top tips for teachers](#).

Prior to watching these films, we recommend familiarising yourself with [Gregory Stanton's 10 Stages of Genocide](#).

These films are just a starting point. If you would like to continue your journey learning about the Holocaust or more recent genocides with your class, then the [Holocaust Memorial Day Trust website](#) is packed full of free, educational resources.

Films about the Holocaust



[Defiance \(2009\)](#)

Classification: 15

Content advice: Contains strong language and violence

Three Jewish brothers escape a Nazi massacre and build a small community in the Belorussian forest in this inspiring US drama. Battle scenes are fast-paced, but with moments of more personalised, brutal violence.

Questions:

- What important choices do the Jews who fled to the forest make in the film?
- How does this film portray resistance?
- What did you learn about the causes, process or human experience of those persecuted and murdered during the Holocaust by watching this film?
- How has seeing this film made you think or feel differently?
- Was there anything in this film that challenged or surprised you about the Holocaust?
- Do you agree with the BBFC age rating? Why? Why not? Do you agree with the content advice that comes along with the film - would you add or remove anything?
- How does the film conjure up a sense of place?
- Why do you think it's helpful to know what topics or issues a film might contain before you watch it? Who do you think the content advice is aimed at?

[You can stream this film](#) on [Amazon Video](#), [Google Play](#), [Microsoft](#) or [Apple TV](#).



[Denial \(2017\)](#)

Classification: 12

Content advice: Infrequent strong and racist language

Acclaimed writer Deborah Lipstadt fights for historical accuracy against Holocaust denial in this moving drama, based on true events. References to genocide are discreet, but might be upsetting for some viewers.

Questions:

- How does the film depict the difference between opinion, fact and truth?
- In what ways does the film encourage the viewer to consider the debate between freedom of speech and Holocaust denialism?
- What did you learn about the causes, process or human experience of those persecuted and murdered during the Holocaust by watching this film?
- How has seeing this film made you think or feel differently?
- Was there anything in this film that challenged or surprised you about the Holocaust?
- How does the courtroom context impact how you feel about the film's theme?
- Do you agree with the BBFC age rating? Why? Why not? Do you agree with the content advice that comes along with the film - would you add or remove anything?
- Why do you think it's helpful to know what topics or issues a film might contain before you watch it? Who do you think the content advice is aimed at?

[You can stream this film](#) on [Prime Video](#), [Google Play](#), [Microsoft](#) or [Apple TV](#).

Film about genocide in Bosnia



[Quo Vadis, Aida? \(2021\)](#)

Classification: 15

Content advice: Strong language, threat, brief sexual threat

A UN translator fights to save her family in this harrowing Bosnian war drama, based on the historical events in Srebrenica in 1995. The film is emotional and intense, with a sense of impending threat throughout.

Questions:

- How does the film portray the role of international actors in the fall of Srebrenica?
- Does the end of the film offer a closure to the events?
- What did you learn about the causes, process or human experience of those persecuted and murdered during genocide in Bosnia by watching this film?
- How has seeing this film made you think or feel differently?
- Was there anything in this film that challenged or surprised you about the genocide?
- What do we learn by seeing the story unfold through the eyes of a translator?
- Do you agree with the BBFC age rating? What about the content advice that comes along with the film - would you add or remove anything?
- Why do you think it's helpful to know what topics or issues a film might contain before you watch it? Who do you think the content advice is aimed at?

[You can stream this film](#) on [Netflix](#), [Prime Video](#), [Google Play](#) or [Sky Store](#).

Film about the Cambodian genocide



[The Missing Picture \(2013\)](#)

Classification: 12

Content advice: Contains references to killings and atrocities

This Cambodian-French documentary utilises clay figures, archival footage and narration to give an insight into the atrocities inflicted by the Khmer Rouge in the 1970s, without dwelling on strong details.

Questions:

- How does the film convey the significance of images to memory and remembering?
- How does the perspective of a 13-year old child shape how we receive the film?
- What did you learn about the causes, process or human experience of those persecuted and murdered during the Cambodian genocide by watching this film?
- How has seeing this film made you think or feel differently?
- Was there anything in this film that challenged or surprised you about the genocide?
- What impact does the film's multimedia form have on its storytelling?
- Do you agree with the BBFC age rating? What about the content advice that comes along with the film - would you add or remove anything?
- Why do you think it's helpful to know what topics or issues a film might contain before you watch it? Who do you think the content advice is aimed at?

[You can stream this film](#) on [Apple TV](#).

Film about the Rwandan genocide



[Sometimes in April \(2005\)](#)

Classification: 15

Content advice: Contains moderate violence and strong language

A Hutu soldier tries to get his family to safety during the genocide against the Tutsi in this intense US drama, based on events in Rwanda in 1994, which sometimes depicts genocide in distressing detail.

Questions:

- What do the characters do in the present of the film to continue living with the legacies of the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda?
- How does the film depict the role of the international actors, such as the US Department of State and President Clinton, during and after the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda?
- How has seeing this film made you think or feel differently?
- Was there anything in this film that challenged or surprised you about the genocide?
- What does the interweaving of past and present teach us about the atrocities and the impact on family across generations?
- Do you agree with the BBFC age rating? What about the content advice that comes along with the film - would you add or remove anything?
- Why do you think it's helpful to know what topics or issues a film might contain before you watch it? Who do you think the content advice is aimed at?

[You can stream this film](#) on [Apple TV](#), or purchase the DVD on [Amazon](#).

More information

About the BBFC:

The BBFC is independent and not-for-profit, and here to help everyone in the UK - especially children and families - choose age-appropriate films, videos and websites, wherever and however they watch or use them. Now, as well as classifying films released in UK cinemas and on DVD and Blu-ray, it's providing age-ratings for Video On Demand and music videos online, and helping Mobile Network Operators set parental controls at the right level. Please visit bbfc.co.uk for further information.

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right for you

About HMDT:

HMDT is the charity established and primarily funded by the UK Government to promote and support Holocaust Memorial Day. We promote and support HMD as the UK's national day to commemorate the six million Jews murdered during the Holocaust, alongside the millions of people killed under Nazi persecution of other groups and in more recent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur; to encourage people to learn lessons from the past and take steps to challenge hatred and persecution. To find out more go to hmd.org.uk.



**HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY 27/1**

About HMD:

HMD is the international day on 27 January to remember the six million Jews murdered during the Holocaust, alongside the millions of people killed under Nazi persecution of other groups, and in more recent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. HMD is for everyone. Each year across the UK, thousands of people come together to learn more about the past and take action to create a safer future. Together we bear witness for those who endured genocide, and honour the survivors and all those whose lives were changed beyond recognition.