

RBG (RUTH BADER GINSBURG)

MOVIEKIT FOR AMERICAN SPACES

This Movie Kit is designed for programming at American Spaces. American Spaces should work with their Public Affairs Section to ensure that this movie is appropriate for American Space audiences.



FILM INFORMATION

Year Release: 2018 Magnolia Films

Rating: NR

Duration: 99 minutes

English Level: Intermediate

Director: Betsy West, Julie Cohen

Themes: Women's Equality, Human Rights, U.S. Legal System

Kanopy Link

Kanopy films are accessible through [eLibraryUSA](#) and can be screened at American Spaces through our agreement with eLibraryUSA. American Spaces can also screen these films online in closed forums.

MOVIE CONTEXT

RBG is a documentary that explores the life and work of former Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. With interviews from family members, colleagues, politicians, and Justice Ginsburg herself, the film provides a unique insight to her personal life and her accomplishments in fighting for women's equality, as a lawyer, professor, and judge.

Born in Brooklyn, New York in 1933, Ruth Bader Ginsburg enrolled as one of the few women in her law school. She argued many cases before the Supreme Court, capturing for the male members of the court what it was like to be discriminated against as a female citizen. In 1993, President Bill Clinton nominated Ruth Bader Ginsburg to the Supreme Court in 1993, where she served until her death on September 18, 2020.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of STATE
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

KEY VOCABULARY

Supreme Court Justices – Nine judges who serve on the highest court in the United States and are appointed by the U.S. President

Discrimination - The unjust or prejudicial treatment of different categories of people or things

Women's Lib - Short for women's liberation, the movement to combat sexual discrimination and to gain full legal, economic, vocational, educational, and social rights and opportunities for women, equal to those of men.

14th Amendment - Ratified in 1868, this amendment to the U.S. Constitution granted citizenship to all persons equal protection of the laws. While it was passed to protect former slaves, Justice Ginsburg saw it as a way to provide equality for American women.

Dissent - An opinion in a legal case written by a judge expressing disagreement with the majority opinion of the court which gives rise to its judgment.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- *What types of discrimination did Justice Ginsburg face early in her life?*
- *How did she convince men, who did not believe gender-based discrimination existed, that such discrimination was unfair to women?*
- *Why do you think it was so difficult to convince judges in court that gender should be protected just like race?*
- *What was the role of Justice Ginsburg's husband in supporting her path to the Supreme Court?*
- *Why do you think she became such a cultural icon for many younger Americans?*
- *What are some challenges that women face in your country? What protections do they have under the law?*

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [Women's History Month Toolkit](#)
- See [American Spaces website](#) on resources on U.S. history, government, and culture.
- See [ShareAmerica articles](#) on Supreme Court