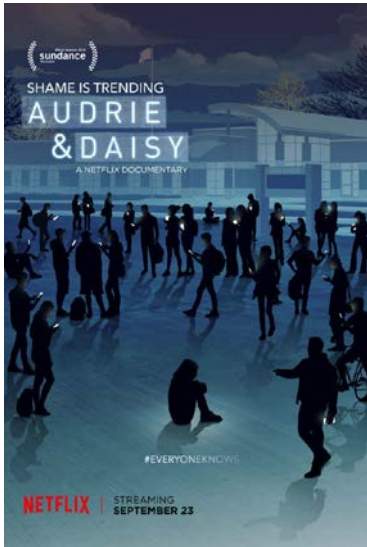


Movie Kit



American
Spaces

AUDRIE & DAISY



Year of Release: 2016

Rating: Not rated – See Warning/General Advisory

Length: 1h 35min

English level: Medium

Filmmakers: Bonni Cohen and Jon Shenk

Themes: Gender-Based Violence; Women's Empowerment;
Digital Literacy

Website: www.audrieanddaisy.com

Movie is available for viewing and streaming on www.netflix.com.
The documentary may be accessed by a Netflix account holder.

American Spaces have permission to screen this Netflix documentary.

Warning/General Advisory

This is a serious documentary that covers the sexual assault of two teenage girls. The documentary can be difficult to watch, as it is a painful story of rape and bullying. **This film is recommended for upper middle and high school students and above. We recommend that American Spaces Coordinators and facilitators watch this documentary in advance of a public screening as part of overall program preparations.**

Additional Tip: Give Advance Warning

In recruiting audience members for a film screening and prior to showing the film, facilitators should inform audience of the adult content, and how the film can evoke difficult emotions.

Programming Without the Film

If you are unable to access or choose not to screen the film, you may still hold a program (or programs) discussing these issues using the provided content. The website www.audrieanddaisy.com/teach-and-learn/lesson-plans-for-educators/ has **excellent lesson plans** that give background context and case scenarios for discussion (see page 3). You may need to adapt the lesson plans to your audience and local circumstances. You can also share the synopsis below and show the film trailer (on www.audrieanddaisy.com) to kick off the discussion.

Partners and Facilitators

Consider partnering with a local NGO or professionals working in this field, or U.S. Government exchange program alumni in this field for the facilitation of this program. These partners can also share local resources with the audience.

Synopsis

This documentary tells the stories of two teenage girls who were sexually assaulted in separate situations by their supposed friends and acquaintances while under the influence of alcohol. The sexual assault crimes were caught on camera, resulting in both girls facing intense social media bullying.

- Daisy Coleman was 14-years old and too drunk to consent to sex when she was raped in 2012 by a 17-year old young man in a small Missouri town. The young man claimed they had consensual sex, despite leaving her unconscious in front of her home in freezing weather. Ultimately, the young man was not convicted of rape, Daisy and her family were continually abused online, and Daisy's home was burned to the ground. Daisy tried to take her life multiple times.
- In 15-year old Audrie Pott's case in Saratoga, California, the "friends" not only sexually assaulted Audrie, but also drew on her naked body, and posted these pictures on social media. Audrie's humiliation drove her to suicide within a week of the attack.

This documentary also reveals how difficult it can be for the victimized girls to receive justice in the court system for these cases.

Key Vocabulary (definitions from Cambridge English Dictionary and www.audrieanddaisy.com lesson plans)

- **Bully** – As a noun, a person who threatens to hurt someone, often forcing that person to do something. As a verb, to bully is to threaten to hurt someone, often frightening that person into doing something.
- **Consent** – Permission for something to happen. An agreement.
- **Cyber-bullying** – The use of electronic communication to bully a person, typically by sending messages that are intimidating or threatening. Electronic communication includes devices and equipment such as cell phones, computers, and tablets as well as communication tools including social media sites, text messages, chat, and websites.
- **"Go viral"** – To spread quickly and widely among internet users via social networking sites, email, etc.
- **Sexual assault** – A form of sexual violence. Any kind of nonconsensual (no consent is given) sexual behavior where a person is forced against his or her will.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

(include excerpted questions from www.audrieanddaisy.com)

Optional: BEFORE Screening the Film

- How can social media have a positive impact in your life?
- What are the negative effects of social media?
- When you hear the phrase "sexual assault," what words come to mind?

AFTER Screening the Film

- What did you think of the film? What aspects stood out in the film?
- What were the similarities in Audrie's and Daisy's cases? Differences?

- What role does “consent” play in the movie? Was consent given in either of the two cases?
- After the sexual assault and the pictures of Audrie go viral on social media, she writes in a chat to one of the young men who took part in the criminal activity, “u have no idea what it’s like to be a girl.” What does she mean and why does she write this?
- Based on the movie and what you observe in our societies, what gender stereotypes exist today? Are there cultural influences in society that allow for aggression?
- What role does social media play in our lives? When and why do we share, or post information/pictures, online?
- How does technology shape friendships and other relationships – both in the film and in your communities?
- In a speech, Daisy states, “... the words of our enemies aren’t as awful as the silence of our friends”? How did Audrie’s and Daisy’s relationships with their friends change after the sexual assault?
- Was there justice for the young women in these cases? What legal challenges existed?
- What kind of support and resources exist for victims of violence in our communities?

Lesson Plans and Resources

The website www.audrieanddaisy.com/teach-and-learn/lesson-plans-for-educators/ has **excellent lesson plans** that may be used for a series of discussions to inform and raise awareness of the root causes of sexual violence, the role of social media, consent, intervention strategies, and how to promote healthy relationships. Specifically, the lesson plans include:

Lesson One - Changing the Culture: Examines long-held gender stereotypes and how these beliefs may or may not encourage behaviors that perpetuate violence. Students and audience members will also identify accessible tools for change.

Lesson Two – Sharing & Posting: Teaching Digital Citizenship: Instructs and supports students/audience members to help them become healthy digital citizens.

Lesson Three – Understanding Consent: Provides guidance on what is and isn’t affirmative consent, the difference between consensual and nonconsensual sexual relations, and how one gives consent.

Lesson Four – Stepping Forward & Speaking Out: From Bystander to Upstander: Students and audience members will reflect on different scenarios and learn how and when they can safely practice bystander intervention strategies and how to respond if they are in situations where something inappropriate, abusive, or dangerous occurs.

Lesson Five – Creating Healthy Relationships On & Offline: Examines the values of healthy relationships and explores influences that contributes to unhealthy relationships. Students and audience members will also build vocabulary and use critical media literacy skills to understand the dynamics of healthy/unhealthy relationships both on and offline.