

# Hot topics

## Women's DVDs



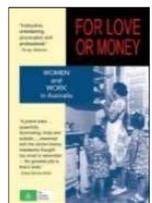
**Compass: whatever happened to women's lib?** Sydney: ABC TV, 2015. 28 min. DVD COM

"Interweaving powerful archival footage with the experiences and accounts of the women involved, *Compass* explores the legacy of the women's movement and looks to the future. Wendy McCarthy was there at the beginning and managed to break through the glass ceiling, while ABC broadcaster Virginia Haussegger got caught up in the promise of 'having it all.' Journalist Alyx Gorman believes the women of today still need it, but it has to be defined on their terms." – Program website. Classification: Exempt



**Dangerous remedy.** Australia: Roadshow Entertainment, 2012. 105 min. DVD DAN

"Set in 1969 Melbourne, *Dangerous remedy* tells the fascinating story of Dr Bertram Wainer who put his life at risk to expose police corruption in an effort to change the law on abortion." – ABC TV website. Classification: MA



**For love or money: women and work in Australia – a film by Megan McMurchy et al.** Sydney: Flashback Films, 1983. 107 min. DVD FOR

"Five years in the making ... [this film] is a unique, superbly crafted pictorial history of Australian women ... The film chronicles the cycles of women's gains and losses as they are moved in and out of the workforce according to demands of the time. It reveals how women's unpaid and voluntary work keeps an entire system running smoothly, in peacetime and in war." – Back cover. Classification: G



**I am a girl** directed & produced by Rebecca Barry. Australia: Testify Media, 2013. 88 min. DVD IAM

"*I am a girl* is an inspirational feature-length documentary that paints a clear picture of the reality of what it means to be a girl in the 21st century ... Award winning filmmaker Rebecca Barry takes the audience on a journey through diverse cultures and societies around the globe including Cambodia, Papua New Guinea, Cameroon, Afghanistan, USA and Australia." – Back cover. Classification: M



**Lola's keg night: a musical memoir** adapted by PP Cranney & Christina Mimmocchi from the autobiography of Lola Wright. Sydney: Christina Mimmochi, 2014. DVD LOL

This is "a play with music based on the passionate life and times of Lola Wright – teacher, activist, performer, wife, mother, lover and much more. Whether teaching nursery rhymes to primary students, establishing the South Coast's first bush band, playing piano at local dances, singing 'The Red Flag' at miners' strikes or leading a sing-along of 'The Internationale' at one of her infamous Pal Flats keg nights, Lola's passion for music and social justice left its mark on all who knew her. This is a show that celebrates passion, resilience and our vibrant social history. It shows that an ordinary person can also be extraordinary." – DVD publicity. Classification: Exempt



**Made in Dagenham** directed by Nigel Cole. Chatswood, NSW: Paramount Home Entertainment, 2011. 108 min. DVD MAD

"Sally Hawkins ... is Rita O'Grady, a feisty yet warm-hearted worker at the Ford car plant in Dagenham, who leads the revolution for equal pay for women. Set in the swinging sixties against a stunningly colourful backdrop of beehives and Biba dresses, *Made in Dagenham* follows the emotional journey of a group of friends ... from the factory floor to the House of Commons ... With the help of Union shop steward Bob Hoskins ... they prove that nothing is impossible if you stand up for what you believe, in this heart-warming must-see story." – Back cover. Classification: M



**Paper giants: the birth of Cleo** directed by Daina Reid. Sydney: ABC, 2011. 185 min. DVD PAP

This ABC drama, starring Asher Keddie as Ita Buttrose and Rob Carlton as Kerry Packer, tells the story of the creation of *Cleo*, a magazine that "went on to help define women, Australia and the relationship between the two." – Back cover. Classification: M



**Paper giants: magazine wars** directed by Daina Reid. Sydney: ABC, 2012. 179 min. DVD PAP

"Kerry Packer ... is made an offer he can't refuse – to sell his Nine Network to Alan Bond for a billion dollars. Kerry sets about spending Bond's money and turns his attention back to magazines, buying *Woman's day* from Warwick Fairfax and appointing fiery redhead Nene King as editor. Fuelled by ambition and personal revenge, Nene wages war on Dulcie Boling's *New idea* – where she'd worked for eight years – and in doing so forges a new world of magazine culture." – Back cover. Classification: M

Resources available from the NSW Teachers Federation Library

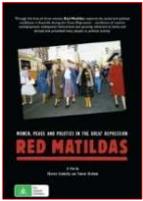
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**Red Matildas: women, peace and politics in the Great Depression** written, directed & produced by Sharon Connolly & Trevor Graham. Melbourne: Yarra Bank Films, 1984. 50 min. DVD RED

"Three women discuss their history and involvement with the Communist Party of Australia ... Although from different backgrounds, these ... women provide valuable information on Australian labour and socio-economic history, the Australian Communist Party, the Spanish Civil War, the Great Depression in Australia, women in the workforce in Australia, equal rights for women in Australia and much more." – Distributor website. Classification: G



**Regardless of sex** produced by Daniela Torsh. Lindfield, NSW: Film Australia, Women's Film Unit, 1988. 55 min. DVD REG

"In 1972 an historical decision of 'equal pay for equal work' was handed down by the Arbitration Commission ... In 1985, with women still only receiving 67% of men's wages, the ACTU mounted another action in the industrial courts to have the notion of 'comparable worth' confirmed ... This program examines the history of equal pay and women's rights, and follows three women who were heavily involved in the nurses' case." – Back cover. Classification: National Film & Sound Archive recommends: G



**The Sapphires.** Chippendale, NSW: distributed by Hopscotch Films, 2012. 103 min. DVD SAP

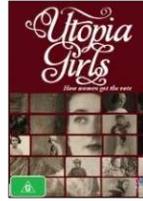
"*The Sapphires* is an inspirational tale set in the heady days of the late '60s about a quartet of young, talented singers from a remote Aboriginal mission, discovered and guided by a kind-hearted, soul-loving manager. Plucked from obscurity, the four spirited women with powerhouse voices – called The Sapphires – are given the opportunity to entertain American troops in Vietnam. Catapulted onto the world stage as Australia's answer to The Supremes, their journey of discovery offers them not only the chance to show off their musical skills, but find love and togetherness, experience loss and grow as women." – Distributor website. Classification: PG



**Seneca Falls** directed by Louise Vance. Louise Vance Productions, 2009. 60 min. DVD SEN

"*Seneca Falls* takes viewers on a life-changing journey with nine high school girls (and a lone ten-year-old boy) bound for the birthplace of women's rights in America ...

This one-hour documentary breathes life and relevance into a revolutionary act barely mentioned in history books: America's first women's rights convention, a public protest meeting held in Seneca Falls, New York, in 1848." – Film website. Classification: Exempt



**Utopia girls: how women won the vote** directed by Jasmin Tarasin. Sydney: ABC1, 2012. 53 min. DVD UTO

"*Utopia girls* tells the story of how Australian women attained political power and influence ... through the lives of these five remarkable and unique women. By witnessing their personal trials, inspirational wins, crushing setbacks and unforgettable achievements, we will come to understand how it is that in 2011 women can walk through life essentially free to be whoever they want to be." – Back cover. Classification: G



**Women of the sun ... 25 years later.** Civic Square, ACT: Ronin Films, 2006. 80 min. DVD WOM

*Women of the sun* was a drama series that screened on Australian television in 1981. "Twenty-five years later, Bob Weis, the producer of *Women of the sun*, sets out to find out the impact of the film on five of the women who played major roles in the original series. His journey – from Arnhem Land to the southern states – reveals a profound and moving tale of discovery, for himself and those he meets." – Back cover. Classification: PG



**The women who were never there** produced by the Jobs for Women Producers Group, in association with Art Resistance and Lundin Studio. [Australia], 2016. 24 min. DVD WOM

"Set [in Wollongong] in 1973, *The women who were never there* tells the dramatic true story of the young women who take on the industry denying them work. Facing entrenched discrimination, deadly conditions and a sceptical workforce, this determined group of women go to extraordinary lengths in the fight for their basic rights." – Back cover. Classification: Exempt

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