

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

3 Movies That Show the Impact of Social Workers

Our Friends · Tuesday, August 2nd, 2016

If you are a social worker or you are thinking about going into the field of social work, you can look to some of the best Hollywood movies for some inspiration. It turns out that the role of the social worker has been featured in a variety of films, including documentaries. So if you are struggling with getting through your masters in social work so you can get the degree that will qualify you for a job that will allow you to help others, check out the movies below. These are sure to get you feeling inspired again.

Precious

Precious is a film that really made headlines. Starring Mariah Carey, who plays the role of a social worker assisting a woman named Precious, the movie really shines a light on what it is like to work in this field and deal with the struggles of helping people who are abused. Precious lived a very difficult life, as her mom abused her and her father had even gotten her pregnant two times. In the end, it is the social worker who is able to give Precious the freedom that she needs from her abusive family so that she can start a whole new life on her own.

Who Cares About Kelsey

Who Cares About Kelsey is a movie based upon the story of a social work program in a school that is located in New Hampshire. The school reaches out to its students who are suffering with behavioral and/or emotional challenges, and it is able to use a host of innovative approaches that are educational and helpful to those students, thereby allowing them to succeed. The main character is Kelsey Carroll, who is a high school senior. As you watch the movie, you follow her daily life, not only in school, but also in the social work program. As someone who has faced homelessness, sexual abuse, and substance abuse, Kelsey can really use the guidance and support of her school's social workers, and they do not let her down.

Chains of Gold

If you are a fan of John Travolta, definitely check out his straight-to-TV movie that was released in the early 1990s. In this film, which is titled *Chains of Gold*, he plays the role of an ex-alcoholic who has become a social worker, and his name is Scott Barnes. He ends up saving a boy from the violence of a gang of drug dealers, so this film goes beyond what it is like being a social worker on a day-to-day basis by also providing some extra action that will keep you engaged.

These are just a few of the many great movies featuring outstanding stories of social workers and the hard work that they do every day to make a big difference in the lives of others. So, again, if you want to pursue a MSW online and enter into a career that will allow you to create positive change, check out these movies for inspiration and then pursue the degree program that will qualify you to do incredible work.

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Top image: Mariah Carey in the 2009 film, Precious. Courtesy Lionsgate. [alert type=alert-white]Please consider making a tax-deductible donation now so we can keep publishing strong creative voices.[/alert]

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