

Does the presence of the camera affect the contributor?

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Duration of video clip: 1 minute and 32 seconds

The presence of a camera and a person attached to it has been debated ever since anyone began to think about what we call vérité filmmaking, although it probably goes all the way back to the Lumiere brothers. Certainly the camera makes a difference and sometimes that's the difference that's desired and I have always been partisan to the theory of Jean Rouch that in the presence of a camera people become themselves, they perform themselves and in fact they're more themselves than when they're unaware or they forget that the camera is present. So I don't find that as a particular problem I think in the case of Justine, I think the attention that the camera and the camera man gives to Justine is part of what supports her. She has yet another person who's caring and loving and interested and gives her space, and in that sense if she's performing for the camera she's revealing herself in a way and revealing the relationship that she has that she has formed with the cameraman so I don't have any I don't see any problems with that at all.