

## Should I be constrained in telling other people's stories?

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Duration of video clip: 1 minute and 44 seconds

(I) don't have a lot of patience with the idea that you have to be in the same category as whatever group you're with. It reminds me of the really tedious politically correct arguments of the 80s and 90s where you know, "You have no right to tell a story, you're not me". I have no patience with that frankly. I think that everyone has a right to tell their own story if that's their choice, but I should not be constrained because I am not, you know - fill in the blank - because I have an interest, because I care, because I want to understand it better. You know, filmmaking is also a tool for discovery and for opening the world, and being outside a community is a legitimate place to be if you want to understand it. I've had students who become very violent in their arguments because they didn't get the money to make the film about their community, and oftentimes it comes down to a sense of competition, who gets to speak today. I would put it in those terms, and I think that's really the wrong way to be looking at the question. I think there needs to be more light shined on issues of difference and I think different producers need to be making work, but I don't think anybody should be excluded. That's censorship, that's limiting the freedom of expression, and I don't think that's helpful.