

Ethics After Hours



Period. End of Sentence Documentary

Summary:¹ This award-winning short documentary aims to raise awareness about the cultural stigma around menstruation in rural India. To promote affordable access to menstrual pads, a group gets together to produce low-cost period pads on a new machine and work toward financial independence.

Duration: 26 mins.

Released: 2018.

Directed and produced by: Rayka Zehtabchi

This documentary is available on Netflix

For more information about The Pad Project visit: <https://thepadproject.org/period-end-of-sentence/>

Ethical themes/issues:

Inequity

Social determinants of health

Cultural Stigma

Reproductive health

Discussion Questions:

- What stood out the most to you in this movie and why?
- How does the cultural stigma around menstruation impact people with uteruses?
- How might the production and sale of affordable period pads help address the cultural stigma around menstruation?
- What systemic issues may contribute to menstrual inequity and period poverty – both in India and in other countries?
- Can you think of other ways to address menstrual inequity in addition to the approach presented in the movie?
- Critiques of this movie argue that the awareness around cultural stigma and menstrual inequity that the movie aims to spread doesn't necessarily help the people in India that it is intended to help. Do you agree with this critique? Why/ why not?

<https://dailynorthwestern.com/2021/01/29/campus/experts-discuss-the-problematic-assumptions-behind-solutions-to-menstrual-inequity-in-india/>

¹ Adapted from program website.