

censorship or classification ?

A painter can display his works, a dancer can dance just about anywhere. Literature is published and distributed without government control. Why is it then that film must be pre-screened, censored and classified before it reaches the audience? How did censorship start, how does it work, and where is it leading us?

These are some of the questions that Cinema Canada's series on censorship in Canada will try to answer. Over the next few months, we will document the situations in various provinces, beginning now with British Columbia and Manitoba.



In the centre, a Duchess from the Quebec Winter Carnival taken from *Le soleil n'a pas de chance*. The film was hit with a temporary injunction in Quebec in early December 1975. Clockwise from the top left, that naughty couple from *Quiet Days in Clichy*, removed from circulation in Quebec during the October crisis, *Mariken Van Niemeghen* whose rape scene was cut into by Ontario censors at Stratford, *Sweet Movie* whose sweet message has still not been heard across Canada, getting clean in *Last Tango in Paris* though Nova Scotia thinks it's dirty, and lastly, and sadly, a poor girl in *Diary of a Sinner*: in order to hang the publicity picture on the front of the theatre, they pasted her breasts. They even pasted the poster!