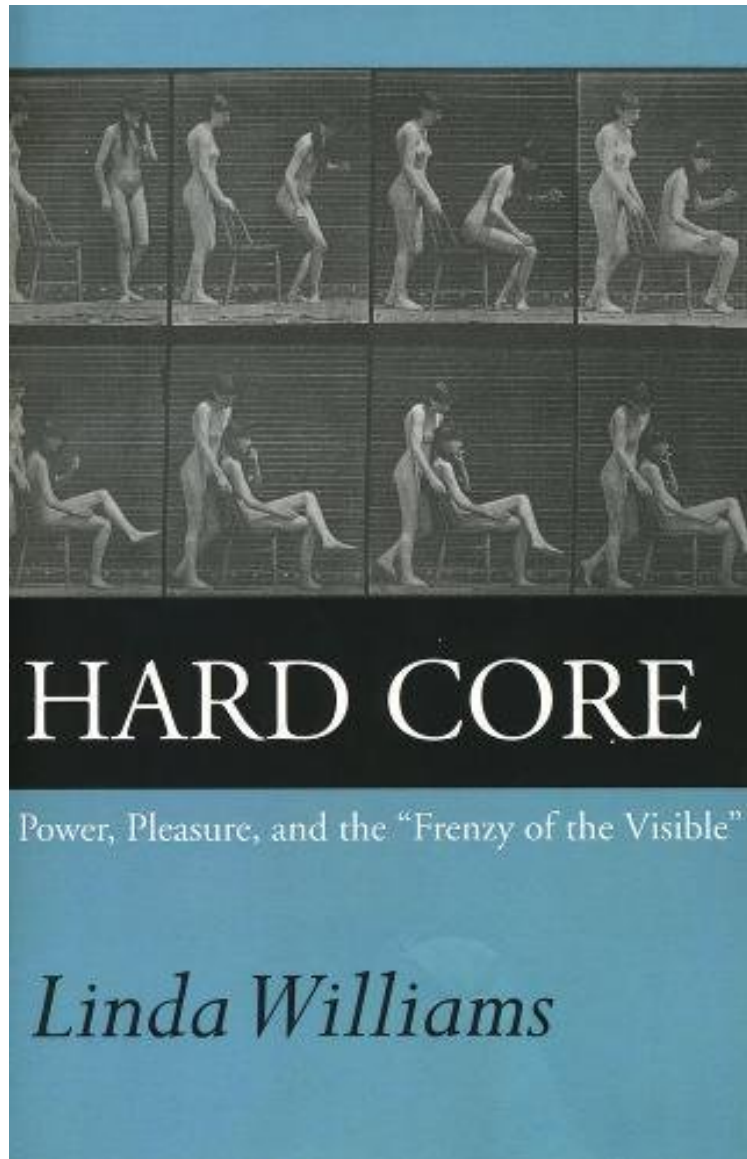


(Online library) *Hard Core: Power, Pleasure, and the "Frenzy of the Visible"*, Expanded edition

Hard Core: Power, Pleasure, and the "Frenzy of the Visible", Expanded edition

Linda Williams

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Linda Williams : *Hard Core: Power, Pleasure, and the "Frenzy of the Visible"*, Expanded edition before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Hard Core: Power, Pleasure, and the "Frenzy of the Visible"*, Expanded edition:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A must for anyone interested in sexuality and culture By Mr.

ThursdayWilliams views pornography through feminist and marxist lenses, discussing its embattled political history and its potentially liberating and delimiting effects on culture.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great bookBy RobertoIt's an amazing book. For everyone who is searching for a non-christian, non-conservative opinion about pornography. This book presents a new feminist look about the theme2 of 15 people found the following review helpful. an ok readBy J. MclemoreHardcores author like to use big words and confusing dialog to get her point across. This is a good book if you can get through all the muddle and crap to get to her point. The book definetly reads like a college textbook and it does get tedious at times. A good book if you have patience

In this now-classic study, Linda Williams moves beyond the impasse of the anti-porn/anti-censorship debate to analyze what hard-core film pornography is and does as a genre with a history, as a specific cinematic form, and as part of contemporary discourse on sexuality. For the 1999 edition, Williams has written a new preface and a new epilogue, "On/scenities," illustrated with 25 photographs. She has also added a supplementary bibliography.

From Publishers WeeklyIn academic prose, film professor Williams of the University of California offers a graphic analysis of hard-core porno movies such as *Deep Throat*, as well as early, anonymous stag flicks. She finds that the newer, "softer" X-rated rental videos "show a more genuinely adult quality" than earlier videos. She ponders the "utopian problem-solving intent" of the hard-core genre and makes specious comparisons between blue movies, Hollywood musicals and films like *Dirty Dancing*. Sadomasochistic porn films, she claims, let viewers experience "a clearer confrontation with the oscillating poles of our gendered identities and the role of power in them." A critic whose professed goal is to understand film pornography, and who opposes those who would censor it, Williams begins this obfuscating study by analyzing the portrayal of women in the 19th-century kinoscope, prototype of the motion-picture projector. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.From Library JournalHard Core traces ". . . the changing meaning and function of the genre of pornography. . . ." As a scholarly study of "'mainstream,' heterosexual, hard-core pornography," that is, as a specific film category, it is both articulate and comprehensive. However, the anticensorship view, while offering some valid arguments, minimizes today's realities--the violence and degradation of women. Perhaps pornography should be about fantasy and sex, but at least for now, it is more about power. As a study of film genre, *Hard Core* is recommended for upper level students. However, its social context should be tempered by other works.- Frada L. Mozenter, Univ. of North Carolina at Charlotte Lib.Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. "'Hard Core is a brilliant demolition of the position that pornography represents one thing only. Arguing against the feminist case for censorship, Williams urges that we take pornography seriously, which does not mean that we like it, or that we believe it is art.'"--Alan Wolfe, "The New Republic