



## Separating Art from the Artist

More and more frequently, beloved artists have been accused of sexual misconduct. How does knowledge of these accusations change our perception and consumption of their art?

### Conversation Questions

1. How do negative revelations about an artist affect how you view their art?
2. What should happen to art created by known sexual predators?
3. When you have attached some personal value to a predatory artist's work, how do you reckon with that knowledge?

### Key Definitions

- *Consent* – Actively agreeing to be sexual with someone. Consent lets someone know that sex is wanted. Sexual activity without consent is rape or sexual assault. Consent is freely given, reversible, informed, enthusiastic, and specific. (from *Planned Parenthood*)
- *#MeToo* – Movement to help survivors of sexual violence, particularly young women of color from low-wealth communities, find pathways to healing. (from *metoomvmt.org*)
- *Sexual misconduct* – Any unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature that is committed without consent or by force, intimidation, coercion, or manipulation. Sexual misconduct can be committed by a person of any gender, and it can occur between people of the same or different gender. (from *University of Iowa*)

### Core Resources

- *How the Myth of the Artistic Genius Excuses the Abuse of Women* by Amanda Hess from *The New York Times*
- *Can You Separate the Artist from the Industry?* by Isaac Chotiner from *Slate*
- *Can You Separate the Art from the Artist? Student Opinion* by Natalie Proulx from *The New York Times*
- *What Do We Do with the Art of Monstrous Men?* by Claire Dederer from *The Paris Review*
- *Children's Publishing Reckons with Sexual Harassment in Its Ranks* by Drew Himmelstein from *School Library Journal*





## Family Resources

- *Sex Is a Funny Word* by Cory Silverberg
- *My Body Belongs to Me* by Jill Starishevky
- *Your Body Belongs to You* by Cornelia Spelman
- *#MeToo: How to Talk to Your Kids about Sexual Harassment and Assault* by Zara Husaini Hanawalt in *Parents*
- *Talking to Your Kids about Sexual Assault* from RAINN

## Explore

### **“How #MeToo Has Affected Pop Culture History” from *The Brian Lehrer Show***

<https://goo.gl/22w2hF>

Julie Beck of *The Atlantic* discusses beloved books, movies, and TV shows that romanticize sexual assault, negatively affecting our culture and norms.

### **“The Reckoning: Teaching about the #MeToo Movement and Sexual Harassment Resources from *The New York Times*” by Natalie Proulx, Christopher Pepper, and Katherine Schulten**

<https://goo.gl/ahV7Na>

Reporting, opinion, and video and art pieces related to the #MeToo movement emphasize how to talk with students about sexual harassment.

### **“Separate Art from the Artist? THR Critics Debate Hollywood’s Harassment Impact” from *The Hollywood Reporter***

<https://goo.gl/tys5Pa>

Three critics discuss changes to their jobs as more and more named sexual perpetrators in Hollywood leads to a new age of accountability.

### **“Why Hasn’t Sexual Harassment Disappeared?” from *The New York Times***

<https://goo.gl/1iZzg7>

This Retro Report explores sexual harassment and includes new interviews from people involved in watershed moments in our culture.

