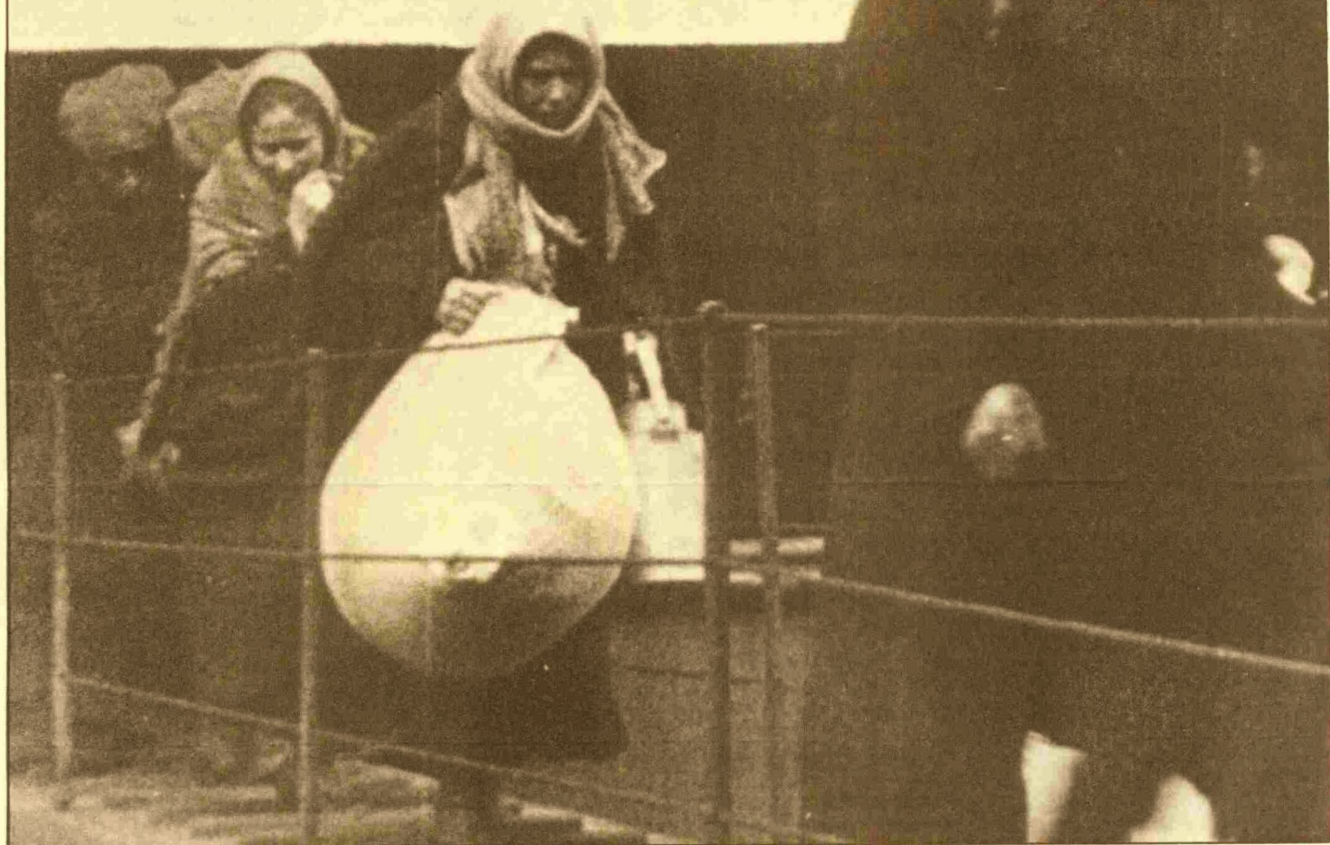


# EMIGRANTE



## a film about prejudice...

"They think people who come from different countries who have different colour skin are bad. They're ugly and they're stupid."

"My boys know only a few words of Chinese like hello and good-bye. They've known English right from the beginning so it's strange they would be told to go back where they came from because like me they were born right here in Vancouver."

"We're all of us immigrants or the descendants of immigrants or the descendants of the descendants of immigrants or the descendants of the descendants of the descendants of immigrants."

"As soon as we reach a point when there's a surplus of labour, when unemployment increases, the government searches around for scapegoats for their problems and the easiest one to get is the immigrants and particularly the visible ethnic groups."



What kinds of problems do immigrants face when they come to a new country?

Should immigrant peoples change their styles and habits for the sake of conformity?

Rosemary Brown, a member of the legislative assembly in British Columbia was stereotyped while grocery shopping. What are other examples of stereotyping?

What is scapegoating?

What problems of race prejudice are there in your neighbourhood? Who are the victims and why are they the target?

How do different cultures enrich our lifestyles?

In the past how have immigrants contributed to the development of Canada?

What role has racism played in our history?

Where do children learn racial hatred?



Do immigrants cause unemployment?

Sweat shops still exist in Canada. Many people work under miserable conditions for below minimum wage. Why do so many immigrants have the lowest paying jobs?

Is there a connection between poverty and racism?

Racism is one form of prejudice. Sexism is another. How do the two relate?

How does race prejudice get started? How is it defeated? What hints does the film give towards understanding the causes of racism? What ideas does it give for the solution of racism?

What is Canada's present immigration policy?

Are we winning the battle against racism?

What is the role of education in combatting racism?

**16mm Colour**  
**Time: 13 minutes**

*Production, Direction:* Moira Simpson  
*Production, Sound, Editing:* Elizabeth Walker

*Editing:* Carlo Sgaetti

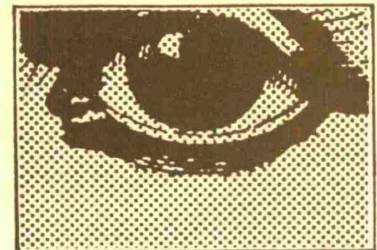
*Camera:* Barbara Tranter

*Assistant Camera:* Marian Penner-Bancroft

*Neg Cutting:* Elizabeth Daly

*Music:* Buffy Sainte-Marie

Funded by the Secretary of State Community Services Program and the Federal Multicultural Program with the assistance of the National Film Board.



CANADIAN FILMMAKERS  
DISTRIBUTION CENTRE  
2265 FIR STREET  
VANCOUVER V6J 3B6



## EMIGRANTE

Canada, 1975

Producer: Moira Simpson

13 min., colour, 16mm.

Areas: Racism, Immigration,  
Canadian History

"My boys only know a few words of Chinese, like hello and good-bye. They've known English from the beginning so it's strange they would be told to go back where they came from because like me they were born right here in Vancouver."

EMIGRANTE takes a look at racism and prejudice. The camera captures glimpses of the lives of immigrants, the sound records the problems they face in their neighbourhoods and at work. The interviews reveal both the

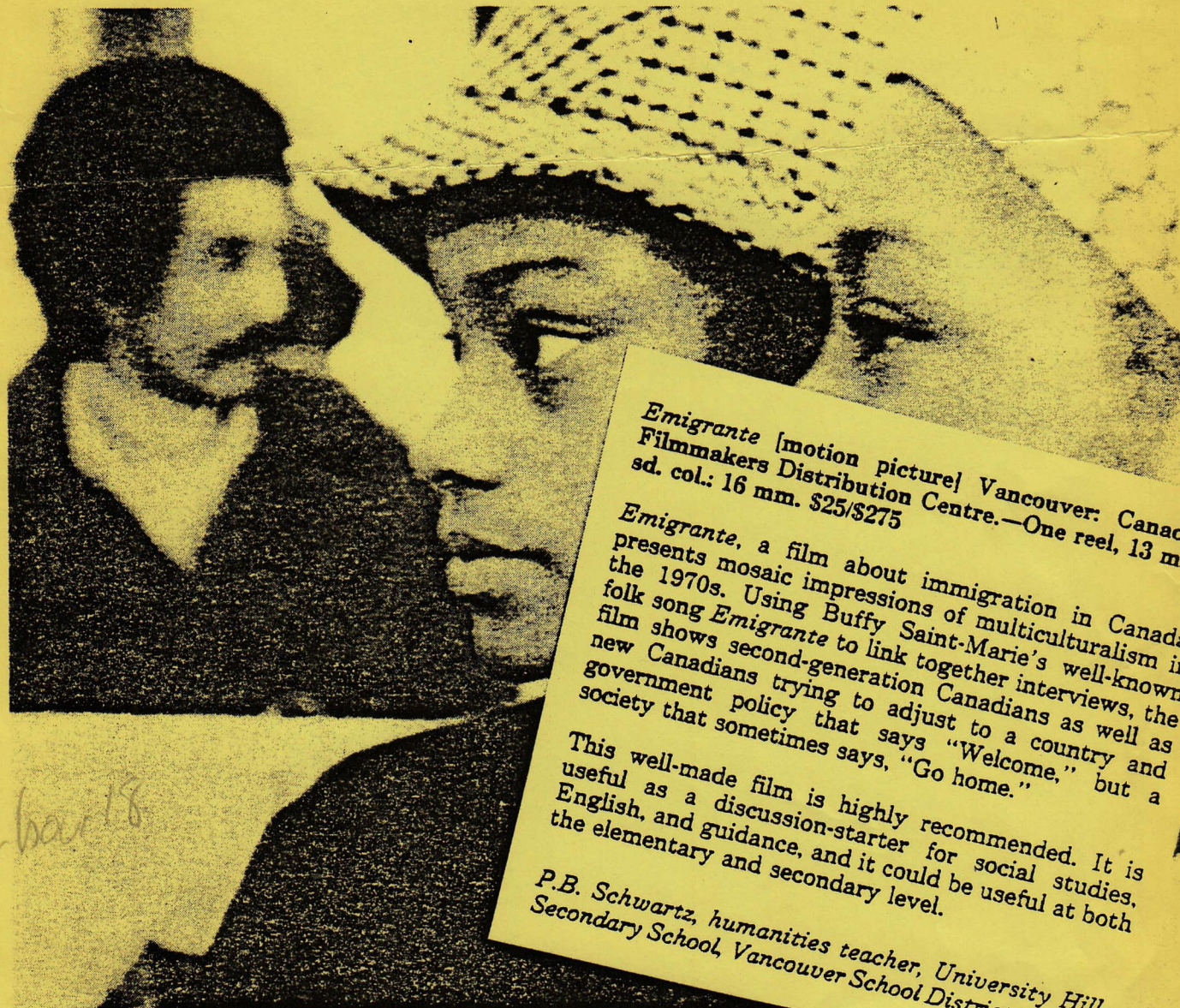
subtle and obvious conditions under which racism develops. As one person says, "As soon as we reach a point when there's surplus of labour, when unemployment increases, the government searches around for scapegoats for their problems and the easiest one to get is the immigrants and particularly the visible ethnic groups".

Another common form in which prejudice raises its head is through stereotyping. Rosemary Brown, a Black member of the legislative assembly in British Columbia, tells about being approached in a supermarket by a woman looking for kitchen help. Indian Sikhs explain the

religious roots of their traditions and why they refuse to drop them for the sake of conformity.

This short documentary deals effectively, in a gentle way, with what can be a very explosive subject. A theme-song is sung by Buffy Saint-Marie.

"A lively musical collage of racist attitudes expressed as voices over sympathetic images of the people against whom prejudice is directed, a powerful example of how non-verbal expression can be used progressively to combat cliches." —  
Barbara Halpern Martineau,  
CINEMA CANADA



*Emigrante* [motion picture] Vancouver: Canadian  
Filmmakers Distribution Centre.—One reel, 13 min.:  
sd. col.: 16 mm. \$25/\$275

*Emigrante*, a film about immigration in Canada, presents mosaic impressions of multiculturalism in the 1970s. Using Buffy Saint-Marie's well-known folk song *Emigrante* to link together interviews, the film shows second-generation Canadians as well as new Canadians trying to adjust to a country and government policy that says "Welcome," but a society that sometimes says, "Go home."

This well-made film is highly recommended. It is useful as a discussion-starter for social studies, English, and guidance, and it could be useful at both the elementary and secondary level.

P.B. Schwartz, humanities teacher, University Hill  
Secondary School, Vancouver School District (No. 39)

Harbour 18