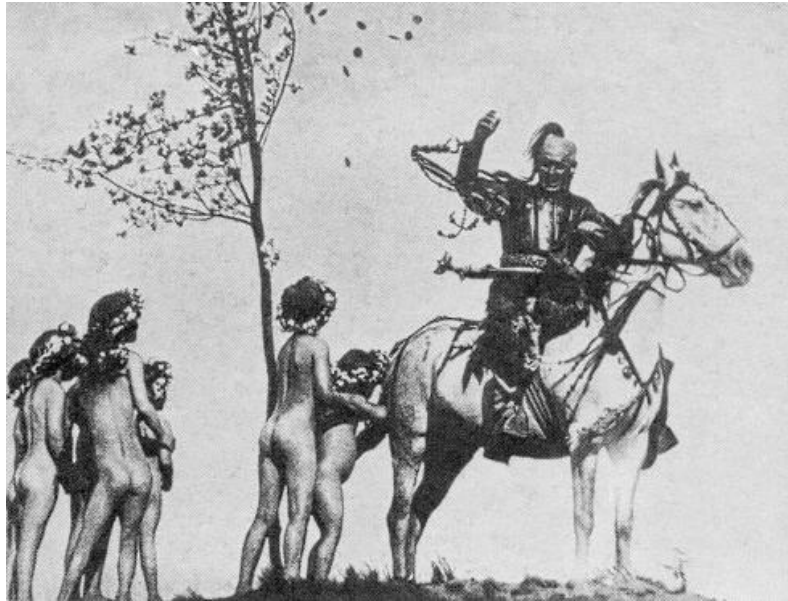


SUBJECT INDEX:

NUDITY



Unspeaking depravity? Nope, it's a young Philippe DeLacy getting a rub-down from Nana in the 1924 "PETER PAN". The scene was calculated to convey domestic bliss, obviously. But it would not be shot this way today. There is too much sex in children's bottoms.



White slave trafficking in Outer Mongolia? Nope, it's a scene from the German silent "KRIEMHILD'S REVENGE", contrasting pastoral "innocence" with the scourge (literally) of war. Source: indeterminate

Nothing better illustrates the reactionary view of childhood which has swept the western world under the guise of "child protection" than this whole fraught question of child nudity. Just forty years ago, full frontal *adult* nudity was strictly forbidden on the screen, but child nudity was taken to be implicitly asexual, in heartwarming domestic scenes of bathnight and bedtime. Today, adult nudity on screen is almost *passé*. It is *child* nudity which is radioactively sexual and strictly forbidden. It is now a federal offence in the US for a film-maker even to *solicit* a scene – however innocuous – involving child nudity, and an offence for any parent or guardian to consent to it, being guilty under law, in effect, of prostituting their own children. The child's feelings on the subject, needless to say, are irrelevant.

When a major London art gallery exhibiting a respected American photographer's nude studies of her own children can be raided by the Obscene Publications Squad, and commercial developing laboratories across the country are required to notify the police of any family snapshots featuring naked kids at the beach etc, then we are clearly in the throes of a new and virulent brand of McCarthyism. The naked child is **presumed** to be pornographic unless it can be proven otherwise. People are being sent to prison now for the crime of *possessing* photographs that were freely on sale just twenty years ago, although at no time was there any corresponding sanction for possession even of extreme adult pornography. A child nude, the experts tell us, is a record of some undiscovered depravity, the image of a rape victim. To possess it is to condone rape. This is arrant nonsense of course, but it is also law in most developed countries, and heavy pressure is brought to bear on those countries – Holland, Denmark – which presume to affect a more tolerant view. McCarthyists will brook no dissenters.

All objective distinctions between simple nudity, mild erotica and bald-faced pornography have been shouted down in this general crescendo of intolerance. It was the reactionary "Hays code" of the 1920s which first stipulated "the genitalia of minors" as one of a broad tranche of images and themes – extramarital affairs, lascivious embraces, drunkenness, disrespect of the flag – which it was *verboten* to show on the screen. Like the Valsted Act, the Hays Code fell quickly into disrepair, and by the 1960s a general relaxation of most tabus surrounding nudity had taken effect. In the 1970s, cinema began to deal candidly (if not always intelligently) with themes such as homosexuality, teenage prostitution and pederasty. Children became the focal point of blockbuster horror films, a whole sub-genre developed on the sexual "initiation" of young adolescent boys by adult women. A backlash was anticipated, and it came by stealth – not from the religious right, but primarily from the women's lobby, a left-of-centre neo-conservative strand who coalesced into the sex abuse industry, exploiting children as a weapon to undermine and discredit male sexuality.

Canada, Ireland, Australia and the UK, followed by much of mainland Europe, have vied to outdo one another in their eagerness to contract this American disease. It is fervently to be hoped that sanity will return in due course, and McCarthyist scaremongering will pass once again, for a brief while, out of fashion.

The effects of this new Puritan outlook – the child as Untouchable – may be seen clearly in the trends of children’s fashion from the 1970s to the present. Boys’ clothes have grown ever baggier and dowdier, beaming outsize sacks to obscure the physical shape beneath, and reinforcing body guilt in the wearer. Boys’ hair fashions have grown more and more like the hair fashions of Alcatraz. Young girls’ fashions, conversely, have grown steadily more sexually explicit, and parents seem to see no contradiction in throwing their sons into ugly coalsacks while draping their 8 and 9 year old daughters in midriff-revealing tops, figure-hugging slacks, etc. The Spice Girls were actually held up to female children around the world as an ideal to imitate, as though it were not painfully obvious the one thing the Spice Girls ever had going for them was certainly not musical talent. So anorexia and bulimia in pre-pubescent girls, baggy clothes, body shame and resurgent homophobia in prepubescent boys – these are some of the measurable side effects of society’s new mantra: the child is no longer asexual, it is avowedly *heterosexual*, all the more reason why we must remove from it any and all access to sexually explicit information. And so the teen pregnancy rates mushroom, the sexually-transmitted disease clinics thrive.

Because the proscription on nudity and children runs both ways – not only may children not be **seen** in the nude (and recognised as sexual creatures), they may also not **see** nude adults (lest they begin to explore their own sexual interests). Paranoia about the draconian new legal posture has swept the internet, creating an opportunity for self-styled “adult verification” services, whom one must pay in advance before being granted access to what is now universally called “adult material” (ie: pornography), “child locks” are an essential item for every family computer and satellite decoder, and self-censoring websites are the order of the day. Probably as much as 60% of material currently on the worldwide web serves one sexual appetite or another. Clearly there is a healthy demand for it, among females as well as males. But global commerce has its own designs on the web – it is to become a shopping mall in cyberspace, and hence must be rendered “family friendly”. Which translates as driving that 60% of family *unfriendly* (sex-based) material into a locked closet. It is hard to see how this could be positive for the sexual well-adjustment of the next generation, but it proceeds from the subjective thesis that pornography – of any sort – is a Bad Thing.

In such a paranoid climate, occasional glimpses of naked children in films are becoming increasingly problematic, particularly for TV broadcasting companies, but while those heartwarming bedtime and bathnight scenes are being handled today with the absolute caution of radioactive waste, there's not much evidence that these brief shots are being judiciously snipped out of older material when it is broadcast. Some more eager collaborators – the Disney corporation for one – have been “trimming” their own back catalogue of untoward skinny-dipping scenes and the like, or “fogging out” nude bathing scenes which could not be cut.

What is so heartily depressing in all of this is the resounding silence – the silence of cultural observers who may well recognise the harm that is being done, but dare not condemn it, or dispute its core assumptions, for fear of being branded an “advocate of paedophilia”. That grotesquely distorted Greek word has become the all-purpose Aunt Sally, a pretext under which *any* draconian legislation may be excused, *any* infringement of civil liberties countenanced, *any* abrogation of free speech tolerated. The nude child must be eradicated because it acts as an incitement to these “paedophiles”, it inflames their hideous appetites and sends them sex-crazed onto the streets in search of a victim. The truth of the matter is rather different. The nude child must be eradicated because it very often reveals children are *not* the sexual innocents some of their elders prefer to believe. It undermines the myth of childhood purity which these New Victorians cling to with a ferocity bordering on psychosis. The evidence must be destroyed. But haven’t we come across this book-burning tendency before? Is it alright now, as long as we call the Jews by another name?



No protestations of “innocence” here – a child hermaphrodite is produced to give his/her benediction on a youth tormented by impotence in Fellini’s baroque carnival of decadence in ancient Rome “**FELLINI-SATYRICON**”.

As a side note, Fellini added his name to the title not out of vanity, but to distinguish his film from a quickie, more sexually explicit “**SATYRICON**” released just weeks ahead of his own, and which quickly became embroiled in legal problems when a boy of 14 (playing the much-desired slave boy Giton) was assumed to have witnessed the orgy scenes being shot (he hadn’t, in fact).

Source: *The International Encyclopedia of Film*

Acla's Descent Into Floristella :
 L'Albero degli Zoccoli :
 Angyali Udvozlet :
 The Baby of Macon :
 Barnens O :
 The Blue Lagoon :

Bottoms Up!

The Boys of St Vincent's :
 Bröderna Lejonhjärta

US 1996 : [Haley Joel Osment](#) sharing his bath with invisible friend Gerard Depardieu. What a scamp.

UK 1960 : Jimmy Edwards boarding school farce, spinoff from a TV corporal punishment sitcom for kids. One scene has Edwards benignly escorting a new boy from his empty dormitory to the older boys’ dorm. Of course, the boy’s pyjama trousers drop to his ankles as he scuttles after the Head. The film’s title makes abundantly plain where most of the humour lies.

Sweden TV serial 1977: “The Brothers Lionheart” – Astrid Lindgren story in which a crippled young boy ([Lars Söderdahl](#)) dies and rejoins his elder brother in a mediaeval fantasy realm of dragons and wizards. When they meet again they go swimming naked in a river, something they could never do together in their former life. A warm and touching story.

The Browning Version	US 1994 : Albert Finney remake of the Terrence Rattigan play about a retiring public schoolmaster, pointlessly updated to the present, contains a brief school shower sequence, where a senior boy humiliates Finney's private Latin pupil.
The Champ	: Remake of the Wallace Beery/Jackie Cooper weepie about a washed-up prizefighter. In one scene, Jon Voigt takes son <i>Ricky Schroder</i> swimming at the beach. The boy undresses so hurriedly his swimshorts come off with his trousers. Voigt ad-libs "Keep your pants on, we don't want to get arrested!" and Schroder stares at him astonished, expecting the director to cry "cut!", but the slip looks so natural the scene was left in.
Chiens Perdus Sans Collier	France/Italy 1955 :
Cronica de un Niño Solo	:
Danton	: In the first heat of the French Revolution, a mother is coaching her son (<i>Angel Sedgwick</i>) on the new constitution while she scrubs him down in the bath. Every time the boy, standing and reciting nervously, makes a slip he has to hold out his hands for a rap on the knuckles.
Detstvo Gorkovo	:
The Devil's Playground	Australia : At a 1950s Catholic internate, pupil <i>Nick Tate</i> is scolded for brazenly removing his trunks in a closed cubicle to shower. The brother who rebukes him has ecstatic fantasies about swimming surrounded by naked water nymphs.
The Double McGuffin	: <i>Greg Hodges</i> moons his pals during a brief swimming sequence.
El Topo	Poland : Obscure surrealist Western in which the director/star's son, <i>Brontis Jodorowsky</i> , 7, escorts the Clint Eastwood style protagonist during the first half hour of the film (for no accountable reason) stark naked but for a cowboy hat. It's surreal I guess.
Fatty Finn	Australia 1980 : Based on a popular cartoon strip character. <i>Ben Oxenbould</i> as the title character (who isn't inordinately fat) is upturned in the street by the school bully and his gang, getting some icky substance poured onto his naked rear, later fleeing through the town in his socks only.
Fellini-Satyricon	:
The Fool Killer	: <i>Edward Albert</i> (14) in the bath, and in a brief nude swimming sequence generally cut from TV prints.
The Genesis Children	:
Gotcha	Australia children's short : Smug practical joker <i>Daniel D'Amico</i> is hoist on his own petard when his elder sister plays a prank back on him - turning off the outdoor water main while he's alone in the house taking a shower. He wraps a towel round him and steps out to turn the water back on, but shuts himself out of the house. After various scrapes he finds himself dangling naked from his own bedroom window before a jeering crowd of all the people he's played tricks on before. D'Amico is wearing flesh-coloured briefs for most of the action.
Le Grand Chemin	:
La Guerre des Boutons	:
Hals Uber Kopf:	
"Das Lehmkind" :	
Hyouryuu Kyoushitsu	Japan 1991: "The Drifting Schoolroom"
If...	
Ivanovo Detstvo	USSR
Joe the King	
Kam Dostaci Ranni Ptace	:
Kes	: David Bradley
The Kidnappers	: Vincent Winter
Kids Behind Bars	UK TV documentary 2001: survey of children's prisons worldwide finds it necessary to show us a couple of shower scenes along the way, including a Texas "boot camp" where one 15-year old inductee is being haringued by an army drill sergeant step by step through his shower.
Lakki - Gutten Som Kunne Fly	
Lessons at the End of Spring	:
Lord of the Flies	UK 1969 : Twins Sam'n'Eric, and some of the smaller boys, dispense with clothing altogether on their adult-free island, and one boy is seen being switched on the bare bottom at Jack's hunter's camp. There was much nude swimming off-camera too during the weeks spent shooting the film. These shots appeared years later in a photo book: " <i>The Boy - a Photographic Essay</i> ", which was on general sale, but would now be deemed pornography.

Macbeth	UK 1971 : Shortly before they're murdered at Macbeth's behest, Macduff's son (<i>Mark Dightam</i> , 12) is being bathed by his mother while they discuss the nature of treachery.
Mame	
Map of the Human Heart	: <i>Robert Joamie</i> , 12, playing the central Inuit indian as a boy, is bathed by a nurse on his arrival at a mission hospital.
Martin's Day	:
A Matter of Life and Death	:
Maya	: After falling into an Indian river, runaway game-hunter's son (<i>Jay North</i>) and his Indian friend make a fire to dry off. Naked, Jay North tries to fashion a loincloth for himself, but forgets to cover the rear, much to the amusement of the other boy.
Mixed Blessings	:
Moev og Funder	
My Name is Ivan	:
My Side of the Mountain	: Ted Eccles
El Nino de la Luna	:
Novocento [1900]	Italy :
Once Upon a Time in America	US 1984: A "body double" stand-in was used for the momentary shot where <i>Jennifer Connelly</i> , as Deborah, rehearsing her ballet steps, taunts the boy Noodles with a sight of her naked bottom as she undresses - slowly. No "body double" was required, it seems, when Noodles himself drops his trousers a few scenes later for a read in "the can", and is interrupted by the neighbourhood child-whore Peggy.
An Outcast of the Islands	: Oodles of naked and semi-naked young Malay boys dog the heels of lust-driven exile Trevor Howard.
Pelle der Eroberer	:
Pelle Erobreren	: Impoverished farmhand's son <i>Pelle Hvenegaard</i> appears naked in several sequences - clambering out of bed to dress quickly on his birthday, or to watch the farmer's house aflame. In an act of spiteful humiliation he's lured into the barn by an older apprentice, stripped, and whipped around the farmyard, to the hilarity of the onlookers. When caught by the famer stealing eggs, he's given a sound spanking, following which he cools off naked in a river.
Peter Pan	US 1924 : <i>Philippe DeLacy</i> is bathed by Nana, the family dog.
La Playa Prohibida	:
Popi	
The Possession of Joel Delaney uncle.	: Boy forced at knifepoint to strip and dance on a table by his possessed
Prospero's Books	:
Les Quatre Cents Coups	:
Qi Qiao Fu	: "My Favourite Concubine" - Pupils bathing and beaten at Peking Opera School.
The Reivers	1969: Several boys are seen skinny-dipping over the narrated opening titles, but later, when the central character (<i>Mitch Vogel</i>) does likewise with Rupert Crosse after hauling their car through a mudhole, he is resolutely shown above the waterline only, and in long shot.
Robby	:
Schlafbruder	:
Senza Ragione [Redneck]	: Mark Lester (14), examines his genitals before a mirror (while the camera examines his buttocks).
S.E.R. (Freedom is Paradise)	:
Sonndags Barn	: Pu, 8, goes nude bathing with his pastor father.
Le Souffle au Coeur	
Species	:
Streetwise	:
Summer at Grandpa's	:
The Ted Kennedy Jr Story	: Kimber Shoop III
Tobi	: Lolo Garcia as boy with wings.
The Toilers and the Wayfarers	:
Tom Brown's Schooldays : (see below)	
Tom Sawyer	US 1973 : Johnny Whitaker and Jeff East
Uz Zase Skacu Pres Kaluze	Czechoslovakia 1970: "I Can Jump Over Puddles Again" - Following a sound beating from his mother, <i>Vladimir Dlouhy</i> (11) is bathed in the parlour by mother and sisters, where she discovers the many bruises from his frantic attempts to vault a paddock fence (his father has promised to teach him to ride a horse once he can

<p>Village of Dreams Visit to a Chief's Son manhood, Vor Walkabout War of the Bottoms With Six You Get Eggroll Zamri - Oumi - Voskresni!</p> <p>Zéro de Conduite</p>	<p>Japan</p> <p>: <i>John Philip Hogdon</i> and an African boy go off on safari together to prove their stopping for the obligatory nude swimming scene midway.</p> <p>:</p> <p>:</p> <p>US 1968 : <i>Jimmy Bracken & Richard Steele</i> USSR 1989: "Freeze - Die - Stand Up" - Runaway Valerka, ±13 (<i>Pavel Nazarov</i>) is stripped and smeared with grease before being shoved through a window to aid in a jewellery robbery by adult thieves he's fallen in with (and who plan to kill him later).</p> <p>France 19 : Boys in a boarding school dormitory are rudely roused from their slumbers by a schoolmaster, several of the boys curled up in too-brief nightshirts. Repeated in the famous slow motion pillow fight sequence. Also, during playground break, some boys tease the occupants of the outdoor toilet by flinging open the doors, and are chased off by one occupant with his shorts round his ankles.</p>
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What the eye doesn't see – the producers needn't fret about...



British spy Mahbub-Ali gives his sidekick a good scrubbing for the "Sahib-school" in "KIM"
Source: indeterminate website



In "NIGHT HAIR CHILD", Mark Lester tries to seduce stepmother Britt Ekland by fondling her breasts while he's in the bath and she's on the phone – he must have guessed they don't make good electrical conductors.
Source: Movieboys website

Rather more demure bath scenes occurred in the following films, the camera taking great care not to reveal that the child actor/actress is wearing briefs below the waterline. No "body doubles" required here then.

Au Revoir Les Enfants	:
Ballad in Blue	: Piers Bishop
Captains Courageous	TV 95 : <i>Kenny Vadas</i> as Harvey (14), given a good rub down and talking to by his valet after staging a "man overboard" hoax aboard his father's luxury ocean liner.
Dennis the Menace	: <i>Mason Gamble</i> sleeps over at the Wilsons' home while his folks are away - bathnight encapsulating for good ol' Mrs Wilson all the lost joys of parenthood.
Friends tch)	UK 1971 : Runaway adolescent lovers <i>Sean Bury</i> and <i>Anicée Alvina</i> sharing a tub (tch
Huckleberry Finn	1974 : <i>Jeff East</i> , (who is more accustomed to doing his "body-washin" outdoors).
Huckleberry Finn and his Friends	: Sammy Snyders
Kim	1950 : <i>Dean Stockwell</i> (14) in a tub, being scrubbed down by his hero/mentor Mahbub Ali (Errol Flynn).
A King in New York	: Michael Chaplin
The Lost Boys	: <i>Corey Haim</i> , singing along with the radio to "I Ain't Got A Man" while his pet dog guards the tub from his proto-vampire elder brother.
Night Hair Child	: Bad seed <i>Mark Lester</i> (with strategically placed rubber duck) fondles the breasts of new step-mum Britt Ekland while she's on the phone to his father. His natural pubertal sexual interests are presented by the film as symptomatic of a nascent psychopath.
Night of the Hunter Oliver!	: Billy Chapin UK 1968 : <i>Mark Lester</i> again, in a standing tub, being scrubbed by several friendly tarts in Fagin's den to the ringing tune of "I'd - Do - Anyfink - For - You - Dear - Anyfink".
The Reivers	See above
Tom Brown's Schooldays	UK 1950: <i>John Charlesworth</i> as East pops out of the tub as Brown returns from a grim visit to the Headmaster. "Did you get a flogging?" he inquires brightly, towel preserving his modesty. No modesty needed for bum-shots however, as in an earlier scene he and Brown dash naked to leap into a river.
The Whipping Boy	US TV 1994: 12-year old rat-catcher <i>Truan Munro</i> gets scrubbed down in the castle kitchens when he's pressganged into being the prince's new whipping boy.

~ 128 titles ~

ADDENDA:

Aldri Mer 13!	
Amazonie - les Indiens Wayanas	
Apt Pupil	
At	Turkey/WG 1982 : <i>Harun Yesilyurt</i> (±15) and his father in a Turkish bath
Blinker	
Cache Cash	
Le Cercle Parfait	
Child Bride ?	
The Children of Theatre Street	
CrissCross	
Death in the Seine	
Deux Imbeciles Heureux	
Dobrodruzstvi s Nahym Klukem	
Le Fils du Requin	
Der Gruene Heinrich	
Iki Haole	
Das Indianerspiel	
Island on Bird Street	

Der Laden
Lena: My 100 Children
Little Cheung
Le Petit Garçon ?
Public Bath
Qi Qiao Fu
The Reivers
La Revolte des Enfants
Sciuscià
Ti Kniver i Hjertet ?
Torzok