

**Abel Valenzuela Jr.**  
Interim Dean, UCLA Division of Social Sciences

and

**Brian Kite**  
Interim Dean, UCLA School of Theatre, Film and Television

invite you to attend a special screening of

## "Backlash: Misogyny in the Digital Age"



*Warning: This video contains adult content and graphic language, and is not suitable for children*

followed by a panel discussion featuring

**Guyline Maroist**  
President, Producer, Screenwriter, and Director, La Ruelle Films

**Kiah Morris**  
Former Vermont State Representative

**Sarah T. Roberts**  
Faculty Director, UCLA Center for Critical Internet Inquiry  
Associate Professor, UCLA Department of Gender Studies

Moderated by  
**Kristy Guevara-Flanagan**  
Professor of Documentary Film, UCLA Department of Film, Television and Digital Media

with a panel introduction by  
**Safiya Noble**  
Interim Director, UCLA DataX Initiative  
Founder and Director, UCLA Center on Race and Digital Justice



**Thursday, November 2, 2023**  
7:00 p.m. Panel & Discussion  
*Reception to follow*

California NanoSystems Institute (CNSI)  
UCLA Campus

**CLICK TO RSVP**

Film Synopsis: In fall 2017, the MeToo hashtag shook the planet, sparking an unprecedented wave of sexual assault accusations in the Western world. Today, the storm of virulent misogyny is raging on, flooding our screens with harassment, defamation, lynching, sextortion, the sharing of intimate photographs, rape and death threats. According to the UN, 73% of women are abused online.

This feature-length documentary follows four women and one man whose lives have been ransacked by online violence: Laura Boldrini, the most harassed female politician in Italy; Kiah Morris, an African-American politician in the state of Vermont who resigned following severe harassment and threats from rightwing extremists; Marion Séclin, a French YouTuber who received more than 40,000 sexist messages, including rape and death threats; Laurence Gratton, a young teacher in Quebec who was harassed for more than five years by a former colleague; and Glen Canning, the father of Rehtaeh Parsons, a young girl who took her own life after photos of her rape were spread online.

What is it like to live with this so-called virtual violence? That's what this opus aims to show by closely following the victims in their daily lives. As in a horror movie, we witness in real time the waves of hate that assail them, the fear that invades their private lives, and the loss of their sense of security in public spaces. Their lives are marred by a loss of confidence, and by shame.

***Backlash: Misogyny in the Digital Age*** also shows how each of these women, and this man speaking in his late daughter's name, are waging the same battle. They share a common cause: refusing to be silenced. Their journeys intertwine. They demand widespread accountability from those who allow the propagation of such hatred, whether it be the tech giants, the state, or the perpetrators themselves. Why this unrelenting and systematic discrimination against women? Can we leave the screen now and shift the age-old paradigm?

Co-sponsored by

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