Gender & Ethnic Images
In American Popular Culture

Using the Online Catalog

Search the library catalog, electronic databases and print indexes using the following subjects, keywords or phrases. You may generate more specific searches by connecting words and phrases using Boolean terms AND, OR and NOT. To find information on African American women in the media, for example, enter African American women AND media. An asterisk (*) can be used to truncate terms. Enter homosexual* to find additional terms such as homosexuality in one search.

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<td>Mexican American/Latino/Chicano</td>
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<td>* Names of specific ethnic groups combined with American (e.g. Italian American, Chinese American etc.)</td>
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Reference Books

- Almanac of African American Heritage
  Ref E185.A448 2001
- Gale Encyclopedia of Multicultural America
- St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture
  Ref E169.1.S764 2000
- American Immigrant Cultures
  Ref E184.A1 A63448 1997
- Native Americans: an Encyclopedia
  Ref E77.P89 1998
- The Asian American Encyclopedia
  Ref E184.O6 A827 1995
- The Hispanic-American Almanac
  Ref E184.S75 H557 1993
- American Jewish Desk Reference
  Ref E184.35.A44 1999
- Encyclopedia of African-American Culture and History
  Ref E185.E54 1996
- Gay Histories and Cultures
  Ref HQ75.13.G37 2000
- Lesbian Histories and Cultures
  Ref HQ 75.5.L4395
- Encyclopedia of Women and Gender
  Ref HQ1115.E43 2001
- Racial and Ethnic Diversity
  Ref E184.A1R78 2002
Electronic Periodical Databases

ProQuest Direct 1986+

This is a web-based index, providing access to articles from magazines, journals and newspapers.

Basic Search example:  
gays AND advertising
Asian Americans AND television

Under “Results” you may find boxes, at the bottom of the page, labeled “Suggested Topics” or “Browse Suggested Publications,” which may help you narrow or focus your topic.

Ethnic NewsWatch 1991+

This is an index to newspapers, magazines, and journals of ethnic minorities and native presses. With the pull down tabs you can narrow your search to a specific ethnic group.

Basic Search example:  
native americans and motion pictures

Printed Periodical Indexes

Readers Guide To Periodical Literature 1900+

Use this printed index to find general topic periodical articles prior to 1986.

Internet Sites to Start With

Pop Culture  
www.wsu.edu:8080/~amerstu/pop/tvrguide.html
Internet Public Library  
www.ipl.org
Gender Studies  
http://xroads.virginia.edu/~YP/gender.html

To find other, authoritative web sites, go to the Library’s Easy Access Page and enter your search in the Librarians’ Index. You can also use a search engine such as Google.com or Dogpile.com. Enter a phrase, in quotation marks, such as “images of Jews” or “women in the media” or “ethnic studies.”

**SEARCH FROM HOME OR YOUR WIRELESS LAPTOP:** You can search the West Valley College Library’s Full Text Electronic databases from home or your wireless laptop if you are a currently enrolled student. Go to http://wvclibrary.info and click on the “Easy Access” page icon and go to “Find Articles.” Click the off-campus link for the database you want to search. You will need your name and student ID number to log in to the databases.