



93 Queen

Film Study Guide

Director: Paula Eiselt

2018 | Documentary | 84 Minutes | USA | English | Unrated

<https://www.93queen.com/>

Synopsis: *93 Queen* follows Rachel “Ruchie” Frier, a no-nonsense Hasidic lawyer and mother of six who is determined to shake up the “boys club” in her Hasidic community by creating Ezras Nashim, the first all-female ambulance corps in NYC. *93 Queen* is set in the Hasidic enclave of Borough Park, Brooklyn, where EMS corps have long been the province of men. Though the neighborhood is home to the largest volunteer ambulance corps in the world known as Hatzolah, that organization has steadfastly banned women from its ranks. Now Ruchie and an engaging cast of dogged Hasidic women are risking their reputations—and, literally, the futures of their children—by taking matters into their own hands to provide dignified emergency medical care to the Hasidic women and girls of Borough Park.

Post-Screening Discussion Questions

1. What is your previous knowledge of the Hasidic Jewish Orthodox Community?
2. How did this documentary challenge or reinforce your preconceived notions of this community?
3. Why are the women motivated to organize Ezras Nashim?
4. Why is it important that Hasidic women have the option to be treated by a female EMT?

5. How would you describe the gender roles within the Hasidic Jewish Orthodox Community?
6. How do the rules for female modesty reinforce the gender roles within the Hasidic Jewish community?
7. In the film, Rachel 'Ruchie' Freier states "they think that women aren't fast enough, strong enough, or smart enough".
 - a. How do the women in the film challenge this notion?
8. In the scene where Ruchie receives backlash for her idea to start an all female group of EMTs, she gets a message questioning why she would change a system that 'already works'.
 - a. Do you believe that it is sometimes important to change existing systems and challenge authority?
 - b. Have you ever been in a similar situation where it was necessary to challenge authority for the common good?
 - c. Can you think of any other examples where challenging existing social structures led to important social change?
9. Because of her work with Ezras Nashim, there is opposition to Ruchie's nomination as Bais Yaakov's Mother of the Year.
 - a. Do you think that Ruchie deserved the nomination?
 - b. In what ways do you admire Ruchie's work?
 - c. Are you inspired by her passion and willingness to take action? Why or why not?