

Unit 3

Projection²

Week 1_Wen Wen

Last Project:

In contemporary mainland Chinese long-form TV series, the production logic of popular “evil woman” (恶女) characters and representations of them are weakening the complexity of women as both characters and individuals.

Next Step:

To talk about “evil women” as constructed on Chinese social media. Rather than understanding this as general cyberbullying, I want to approach it more precisely as a form of digital witch-hunting.

Last Project	Next Step
Chinese TV series	Chinese social media
Fiction	Reality
Representation of evil women	Production of evil women

Witch hunt 猎巫行动

🌐 54 languages ▼

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*"Witch trial" redirects here. For other uses, see *Witch trial (disambiguation)* and *Witch hunt (disambiguation)*.*

*“女巫审判”重定向至此。其他用法请参见“*女巫审判 (消歧义)*”和“*猎巫 (消歧义)*”。*

A **witch hunt**, or a **witch purge**, is a search for people who have been labeled witches or a search for evidence of **witchcraft**. Practicing evil spells or **incantations** was proscribed and punishable in early human civilizations in the **Middle East**. An **intensive period of witch-hunts** occurring in **Early Modern Europe** and to a smaller extent **Colonial America**, took place from about 1450 to 1750, spanning the upheavals of the **Protestant Reformation**, **Counter Reformation**, and the **Thirty Years' War**, resulting in an estimated 35,000 to 60,000 executions.^{[a][1]} The last executions of people convicted as witches in Europe took place in the 18th century. In other regions, like **Africa** and **Asia**, contemporary witch-hunts have been reported from **sub-Saharan Africa** and **Papua New Guinea**, and official legislation against witchcraft is still found in **Saudi Arabia**, **Cameroon** and **South Africa** today.

猎巫行动，或称**巫术清洗**，是指搜寻被贴上“女巫”标签的人或搜寻**巫术**证据。在**中东**早期人类文明中，施行邪恶咒语或**念诵巫术**是被禁止并应受惩罚的。从大约 1450 年到 1750 年，**近代早期欧洲**以及**殖民时期的美洲**（程度较轻）经历了**大规模的猎巫行动**，这一时期横跨了**宗教改革**、**反宗教改革**和**三十年战争**的动荡时期，估计有 35,000 至 60,000 人被处决。欧洲最后一次处决被定罪为女巫的人发生在 18 世纪。在其他地区，如**非洲**和**亚洲**，撒哈拉以南**非洲**和**巴布亚新几内亚**等地仍有猎巫行动的报道，**沙特阿拉伯**、**喀麦隆**和**南非**至今仍保留着反对巫术的官方法律。

In contemporary English, "witch-hunt" metaphorically means an investigation that is usually conducted with much publicity, supposedly to uncover subversive activity, disloyalty, and so on, but with the real purpose of harming opponents.^[2] It can also involve elements of **moral panic**,^[3] as well as **mass hysteria**.^[4]

在当代英语中，“猎巫”一词通常被比喻为一种调查，这种调查通常会大张旗鼓地进行，表面上是为了揭露颠覆活动、不忠行为等等，但其真正目的是为了打击反对者。^[2] 它也可能包含**道德恐慌**的因素，^[3] 以及**群体歇斯底里**的成分。^[4]



Burning witches, with others held in stocks, 14th century

14世纪，女巫被焚烧，其他人则被关在枷锁中示众。



粉发女孩与爷爷合照被造黄谣，200元答谢外
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Anyone who gains visibility online, whether a celebrity, influencer, or ordinary individual, can become a target of cyberbullying. While this affects all genders, women are disproportionately attacked, often through exaggerated or even unfounded accusations. This pattern of collective moral judgement and public targeting can be more precisely understood as a form of contemporary **digital witch-hunting**.

3 Main Thoughts:

1. **Women attacking women:** aligning with dominant norms and attacking the “witch” to avoid becoming the next target
2. **Men judging women:** treating women’s bodies and behaviours as their possessions, where any deviation is seen as a threat to personal or social order
3. **Misogyny (厌女) as a bonding tool:** creating a shared enemy to produce a false sense of collective unity

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Week 2_Wen Wen

New Enquiry

How are these “witches” manufactured within the Chinese social media, and how is the digital witch-hunt and execution collectively carried out by “us”?

Audience:

All social media users, particularly those who actively leave traces online

I hope audiences realise, through directly participating in the execution process, how easily they can become involved in collective attacks against unfamiliar individuals. I also hope this experience encourages them to think more carefully before engaging in similar interactions on social media in the future.



Burning at the stake
(One of the most widely known executions towards "witches")

Experiment

🔍 🌐 🔄 自动刷新 witchhunt 1 🔒 Private Custom p5.js version ⚙️

> index.html 保存于 大约 7 小时 以前 预览

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html lang="en">
3 <head>
4   <meta charset="UTF-8">
5   <title>Witch Hunt - Physics Fixed</title>
6   <link rel="preconnect" href="https://fonts.googleapis.com">
7   <link href="https://fonts.googleapis.com/css2?
  family=Courier+Prime&display=swap" rel="stylesheet">
8   <style>
9     body {
10      background-color: #FFFFFF;
11      margin: 0;
12      overflow: hidden;
13      font-family: 'Courier Prime', 'Courier New',
  Courier, monospace;
14      font-size: 13px;
15      color: #111;
16      -webkit-font-smoothing: antialiased;
17    }
18
19    #container {
20      position: relative;
21      width: 100%;
22      height: 100vh;
23    }
24
25    #stake-svg {
26      position: absolute;
27      top: 30px;
28      left: 50%;
29      transform: translateX(-50%);
30      z-index: 1;
31      pointer-events: none;
32    }
33
34    #witch-figure {
35      position: absolute;
36      top: 96px;
37      left: 50%;
38      transform: translateX(-50%);
39      z-index: 5;
40      text-align: center;
41      line-height: 1.5;

```

Just my honest feeling. No man could stand being her husband. 👍

Crazy chicken lady, suffocating mai lin vibe, drama queen, always picking unnecessary fights. 👍

Her extreme insecurity stems from long-term financial and emotional dependence within the marriage. This is a structural issue in the relationship, not a personal flaw of hers. 👍

Toxic partner, overly nagging, depressing to be around, emotionally twisted, overly sensitive. 👍

She has an unlikeable personality. Being with her is exhausting, as a partner or just a friend. 👍

Put yourself in their shoes. Anyone would break down living like this with their partner long-term. 👍

It's just the truth. Nobody wants to be friends with someone full of negative energy. 👍

Her husband also has his share of problems. It was a two-way relationship conflict; it's unfair to only blame the woman. 👍

I mean no harm. I just don't appreciate this way of dealing with things. 👍

The show's editing took things out of context, only showing her negative emotions. 👍

控制台 清空