

LOVE AND HATE

MINI-SERIES



PRODUCER

Bernard
Zukerman

DIRECTOR

Francis
Mankiewicz

WRITER

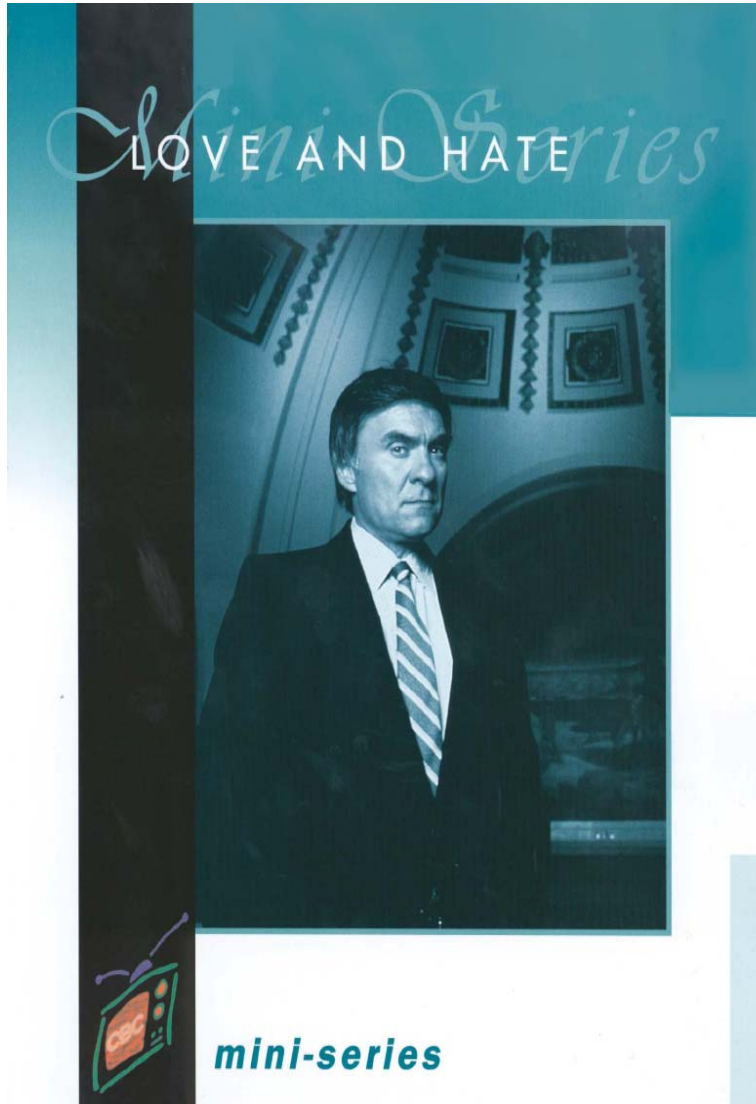
Suzette Couture

CAST

Kate Nelligan,
Kenneth Welsh,
R.H. Thomson,
Cedric Smith

DURATION

2 x 120 minutes



mini-series



How far will one man go to win the custody of his children? An explosive, true story of how a manipulative politician almost got away with murder.

SYNOPSIS

When they divorced after 17 turbulent years of marriage, their three children became spoils in a vicious custody battle between Colin and JoAnn Thatcher. Thatcher, a millionaire rancher and politician, schemed unabashedly to keep his children. But would he go so far as to murder his ex-wife?

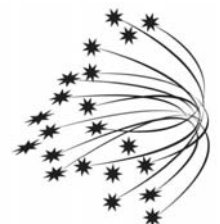
LOVE AND HATE recounts the events that led up to the grisly discovery of JoAnn's blood-soaked corpse, and follows the courtroom drama as Thatcher, the prime suspect, tries to wield his considerable power and influence to pin the blame for her murder on someone else.

For three years, Colin and JoAnn battled over the custody of the children. JoAnn won each time, but Colin's animosity and resolve were undiminished. He maintained a playboy lifestyle befitting a J.R. Ewing while making insinuations about his ex-wife's loose morals, working to turn the children against her. JoAnn endured menacing phone calls, sinister figures constantly watching her home, and malicious, life-threatening acts. In a prelude to the final violence, she was wounded by a bullet fired by an unknown assailant.

At stake was Thatcher's pride, and the appearance of a successful career, a profitable ranch and a happy family.

Although it was obvious that only Thatcher himself could benefit from JoAnn's death, the police had few clues to link him to the killing.

The country watched with voyeuristic fascination as larger-than-life characters appeared before the court. But the public and the media couldn't get enough of the star attraction – the scowling and malevolent Colin Thatcher, and the trial dragged on for 28 days. It was only when, in a final desperate move, the prosecutor called a surprise witness, that the case against Thatcher fell into place.



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