

# Four wives one man

a film by Nahid Persson



“Offers a poignant and occasionally hilarious glimpse into an institution rarely seen from the outside  
– marriage.”

Sky Sitney

*Dir. of Programming, SILVERDOCS*



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# Four Wives – One Man

## Synopsis

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From Nahid Persson, the filmmaker of the award-winning *Prostitution Behind the Veil*, comes an intimate portrait of a polygamist family in a rural Iranian village. Persson reveals the intricacies of the relationships between the four wives, their husband, their astoundingly free-spoken mother-in-law and their numerous children. Sometimes humorous and often heartbreaking, this film follows the daily lives of the wives whose situation has turned them into both bitter rivals and co-conspirators against their abusive husband.

Persson's camera unobtrusively and beautifully captures the range of the family's interactions – from peaceful, pastoral scenes of a family picnic, to the temporary chaos caused by a broken faucet in the kitchen, to a furtive, whispered conversation between two wives about the latest beating. The women's work – making bread, weaving carpets, milking and herding the sheep – provide the background to their frank conversations. Avoiding sensationalism and sentimentality, this film provides unique insights into the practice of polygamy and its effect on the women involved.

## Credits

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**2007, 76 MINUTES, COLOR  
SWEDEN/IRAN, SUBTITLED (PERSIAN)**

**DIRECTOR**

Nahid Persson

**PRODUCED BY**

Setareh Persson & Nahid Persson

**EDITORS**

Bernhard Winkler

Nahid Persson

**CINEMATOGRAPHY**

Setareh Persson

Tara

**MUSIC**

Krister Linder

**SOUND**

Jan Alvermark

# Four Wives – One Man

## Director Biography

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Born in Iran, Nahid Persson immigrated to Sweden in the 1980's. After studying microbiology, she founded a local radio station. In 1993, Persson began her filmmaking career and enrolled at Film- och TV Skolan. Her film, *Prostitution Behind the Veil*, won first prize at the Marseille Festival International du Documentaire.

## Festivals

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For the most updated list, visit [www.wmm.com](http://www.wmm.com).

- SILVERDOCS
- Los Angeles International Film Festival
- Transilvania International Film Festival, Cluj