Vera Drake

Vera Drake (2004). Vera Drake is a selfless woman who is completely devoted to, and loved by, her working class family. She spends her days doting on them and caring for her sick neighbor and elderly mother. However, she also secretly visits women and helps them induce miscarriages for unwanted pregnancies. While the practice itself was illegal in 1950s England, Vera sees herself as simply helping women in need, and always does so with a smile and kind words of encouragement. When the authorities finally find her out, Vera's world and family life rapidly unravel. Director: Mike Leigh. Cast includes Imelda Staunton, Philip Davis and Eddie Marsan. Vera Drake won the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival, was nominated for three Academy Awards and won three BAFTAs.