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## The Circle Jerks – My Career As A Jerk (MVD Visual)

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The Circle Jerks 30+ year career gets the documentary treatment from director Dave Markey (most well known for 1991: The Year Punk Broke). Archival footage, band member interviews and musician testimonials are used to tell the story of the band who released one of hardcore punk's greatest albums, Group Sex, in 1980, but never really knew what to do next. Even though they never had a long term plan for growth and change, it didn't stop them from trying to figure out a

career for themselves over the next thirty years. While the footage from their early years shows The Circle Jerks at their jaw-droppingly primal best, for me the most enjoyable part of the movie is when the focus switches to those lean years in the late-'80s and early-'90s when the band put out awful albums while aimlessly cycling through a steady stream of band members, musical styles, and personal issues. Perhaps there isn't anything all that special in the Circle Jerks' story that would warrant the 96-minute runtime that it's been given, but the experiences of pre-Nirvana American Underground bands are always entertaining enough that you'll allow yourself to overlook some of the film's weaker spots. Speaking of entertaining, there are few people as entertaining to listen to as Circle Jerks frontman Keith Morris, who is at his nervous/intense self-reflective best in his interviews here. How he hasn't been tapped for some kind of TV/film/radio work is a mystery to me. Even if it's not perfect, if you love the old days of hardcore punk's infancy, then checking out My Career As A Jerk is simply a no-brainer.

Bonus features: Deleted scenes and interviews. Trailers.

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