

“At the Margins of Freedom: *A Day Off* (1968) and Film Censorship”
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This paper examines *A Day Off* (1968) as a battlefield for freedom of expression between state censors and Yi Man-hŭi, one of South Korea’s most popular filmmakers of the 1960s. By comparing different versions of the film script, I capture the filmmaker’s unconventional fight against the state’s modification order, which led him to give up on releasing the film rather than damage it. His response to the state’s operation of censorship reveals the limits of the constitutional right of free expression set by the state, inviting us to see a different vision of freedom that arose in their decisions. I argue that, while his reckoning with the contradictions in Korean democracy did not necessarily lead to more collective challenges of the unjust power in his time, it nonetheless entails the courageous acts of the filmmaker who tested out and ultimately refused the boundary of freedom set on cinema.