

Child sexual abuse short film hits a nerve during the Corona crisis

Crowdfunding achieved target within 12 hours of launch



Amsterdam, May 3, 2020 ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - The deeply moving Dutch short film **SILENCE UNDONE** by Kristjan Knigge and Linda Jacobsen is already attracting attention before its premiere. The film is based on the true story of Jacobsen and deals with the consequences of sexual child abuse later in life. The initial crowdfunding goal was achieved within only 12 hours, which in the opinion of the makers underlines the social relevance and shows how current this topic is in the context of the ongoing crisis. The crowdfunding campaign remains active. In addition to that, the project is supported by the AFK (Amsterdam Fund for the Arts) and collaborates with the Project Speak Now Foundation to raise awareness for this topic – both now and beyond the premiere date.

The film was shot by a group of international experts under the direction of Kristjan Knigge and is supported by the AFK (Amsterdam Fund for the Arts). Its aim is to raise awareness for sexual child abuse and its consequences in adulthood. "We want to show other victims that their childhood and youth do not have to determine their future and inspire them to make decisions that lead to trust and connection rather than fear and loneliness," says Linda Jacobsen.

SILENCE UNDONE is based on the true story of actress and scriptwriter Linda Jacobsen (30). In the short film, she lets the viewer in on the confronting inner path of a young woman who opens herself up to a deep relationship for the first time after her childhood trauma.

"When I was nine years old, I was sexually abused by my stepfather for two years. At the age of 17, I finally had the courage to talk about it. Therapy helped me, but it took years before I dared to open up to other people again. Now that I have regained my voice, I want to give others the courage to do the same," says Linda Jacobsen.

To give this mission a boost, the team has been working with Project Speak Now, a foundation that

encourages victims of sexual abuse to share their experiences and helps them heal. Together they organize previews for invited guests, after talks, and interviews with Jacobsen. "I see the film as a strong and hopeful portrayal of the path that victims of sexual abuse often take in their search for happiness," says Marianne Kimmel, chairwoman of the Project Speak Now Foundation.

Due to the Corona virus crisis, the topic of SILENCE UNDONE is more relevant than ever. During a lockdown, children who live in an unsafe environment have no way out and thus no access to safe places. A fact that has become painfully clear through the dramatic increase in incoming calls at children's emergency hotlines during recent weeks.

The team will, therefore, continue the campaign. Despite the overwhelming success of the crowdfunding, which has now reached over 200% of its target, the makers are already working on concrete follow-up steps. Creating alliances with other relevant organizations and enrolling the film for international film festivals are just a few of them.

The crowdfunding campaign for SILENCE UNDONE will continue until Tuesday, May 19th.

You can support the film at cinecrowd.com/nl/stilteongedaan.



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