

FROM THE EMMY®-WINNING TEAM BEHIND SUNDANCE DOCUMENTARY **QUIET HEROES**

NO CRIME IN SIN

VAVANI PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS **NO CRIME IN SIN** EDITED BY **STÉPHANE GLYNN**
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY **PATRICK RYAN GASS** EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS **JARED RUGA,**
JONATHAN M. RUGA & SCOTT F. YOUNG PRODUCED BY **JARED RUGA & AMANDA STODDARD**
DIRECTED BY **AMANDA STODDARD**

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LOGLINE

Kristy and Kathy Johnson were sexually abused by their father for decades, leaving them physically and emotionally scarred. The sisters and their brother, Kim, confront their demons and their abuser as they reconcile their past with whom they want to become.

SYNOPSIS

NO CRIME IN SIN is a story about confronting a traumatic past and reclaiming the future. Kristy and Kathy Johnson were sexually abused by their father over the course of decades. Because the Johnsons were active members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (the Mormon Church), clergy knew about this recurring abuse, did nothing to stop it, and ended up putting countless other children at risk as a result.

Since the late 1980s, Kristy Johnson and her siblings have been plagued by unanswered questions about why their father never served time in prison and why the Mormon Church never intervened to help them. So in 2016, Kristy and Kathy were joined by their brother Kim on a road trip to confront their father. What followed was a cathartic encounter between two survivors and the man who abused them—an unraveling of past mysteries in a last-ditch effort for justice. This film reflects the turmoil imposed on the lives of these siblings by the selfish, criminal acts of their father, and their emotional, lifelong search for hope with a broken compass.

KEY BIOGRAPHIES

Amanda Stoddard, Director/Producer

Amanda Stoddard works as a producer and director whose directing and producing credits include 1 REVOLUTION (2011), GLASS TEMPLES (2017), and QUIET HEROES (2018). Her first documentary feature, 1 REVOLUTION, screened throughout the world and won several awards in the U.S. and abroad. Her second feature-length doc, QUIET HEROES, premiered at the 2018 Sundance Film Festival, was nominated for a GLAAD Media Award and won a Daytime Emmy®. Amanda is interested in exploring the intricacies of the human condition in a way that lifts voices that were previously shut out of the conversation. Film, for Amanda, is about the power of story, collaboration, and the courage to take big risks.

Jared Ruga, Executive Producer / Producer

Jared Ruga is the Founder + CEO of Vavani Productions (2018 Sundance premiere QUIET HEROES, nominated for a GLAAD Media Award and winner of a Daytime Emmy® in 2019). He is integrally involved with all of Vavani's operations in narrative and documentary film and TV, from development through distribution. His producing credits include NO CRIME IN SIN (2019), QUIET HEROES (2018), and GLASS TEMPLES (2017), and his financing credits include BEFORE YOU KNOW IT (2019), THE DEVIL WE KNOW (2018), and THE DEATH AND LIFE OF MARSHA P. JOHNSON (2017). Hailing from an extensive academic background with advanced degrees in law, business, and film, Jared is engaged in his community, serving on the boards of Lightspark Foundation and Voterise, and as an Advancement Committee member of Sundance Institute's Utah Advisory Board. He is an advocate for the LGBTQ community and has taught film classes at the University of Utah.

Patrick Ryan Gass, Director of Photography

Patrick Ryan Gass is a classically trained filmmaker with a flair for resonant emotional arcs and seamless transitions. His previous works include editing 1 REVOLUTION (2011); producing, shooting, and editing a variety of short-form content (including shooting Vavani's GLASS TEMPLES); directing, producing, and editing a documentary about pioneering female lawyers in Utah; and editing the 2018 Sundance film QUIET HEROES.

Stéphane Glynn, Editor

Stéphane Glynn joined Vavani Production's team in 2017. He is an editor, videographer, and producer with an extensive portfolio of films, ranging from commercials and promotional works to television documentaries and short films. Prior to joining Vavani, Stéphane worked as an assistant editor and camera operator at KUED, Salt Lake City's PBS affiliate. Along with his position at KUED, he worked as a freelance editor and filmmaker for clients such as Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, P & Co Clothing, Desilva Gates Construction, Oberlin College, and others. Stéphane holds an MFA in Film & Media Arts from the University of Utah and a BA in Media Studies & Psychology from the University of Virginia. He has also honed his craft through various internships with ABC-Disney, A&E Films, ATO Pictures, and Paladin Media Group.

FILM STILLS

**Full resolution available upon request.*



Kristy Johnson speaks about family, religion, and trauma during an interview. *Photo credit: Patrick Ryan Gass; © 2019 Glass Temples, LLC*



No Crime in Sin's title sequence features archival photos of the Johnson family growing up. *Photo credit: Patrick Ryan Gass; © 2019 Glass Temples, LLC*



Kathy Johnson speaks about her father's abuse during an interview. *Photo credit: Patrick Ryan Gass; © 2019 Glass Temples, LLC*



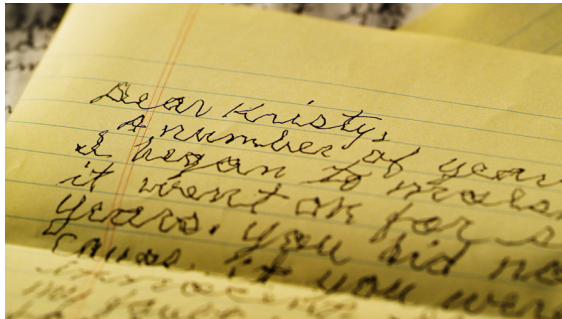
Kathy and Kristy speak with Kristy's grandchild over FaceTime. *Photo credit: Patrick Ryan Gass; © 2019 Glass Temples, LLC*



The landscape of Lehi, UT. *Photo credit: Patrick Ryan Gass; © 2019 Glass Temples, LLC*



Kathy and Kristy Johnson en route to Lehi, UT to confront their father, Melvin. *Photo credit: Patrick Ryan Gass; © 2019 Glass Temples, LLC*



Melvin Kay Johnson wrote letters to his daughters, apologizing for abusing them. *Photo credit: Patrick Ryan Gass; © 2019 Glass Temples, LLC*



Kim (left) and Kristy (right) visit one of their childhood homes in Westminister, CA. *Photo credit: Patrick Ryan Gass; © 2019 Glass Temples, LLC*



Chrissy (Kim's wife), Kim, Craig Vernon (attorney), and Kristy (left to right) walk to the bank together after finalizing a settlement with Melvin. *Photo credit: Patrick Ryan Gass; © 2019 Glass Temples, LLC*



Kathy discusses the personal and social issues caused by her father's abuse with her sister, Kristy. *Photo credit: Patrick Ryan Gass; © 2019 Glass Temples, LLC*



Kristy mentally prepares for a mediation with her father. *Photo credit: Patrick Ryan Gass; © 2019 Glass Temples, LLC*



Kathy, Kim, and Kristy (left to right) gather for a picture in front of their childhood home in Westminister, CA. *Photo credit: Patrick Ryan Gass; © 2019 Glass Temples, LLC*

FILM STILLs

**Full resolution available upon request.*



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

In the spring of 2016, Jared Ruga approached me with an idea for a documentary investigating the systemic and orchestrated cover-up of sex abuse crimes in the Mormon Church. Growing up in the Mormon Church, I had a front-row seat to the system of patriarchy, brainwashing, and blind obedience that the Mormon Church instills within its members. I knew this was a story we had to follow. While making this film, I have come to know many women and men who remain irreparably broken from past sexual abuse. Those they loved harmed them on such a deep level, that many of them struggle every day with trust, love, and self-worth. Not only do I empathize deeply with these victims, I feel compelled to help them tell their story. With producer Jared Ruga, our team has been working on this film before #MeToo and before there was any traction behind sexual assault as documentary material. We are dedicated to bringing this story forward in a big, innovative way.

Because of the chilling aspects of the subject matter, this film has gone through a long process with a small team that is committed to telling this story, often at the cost of personal comfort. Early in the process, we had members of our team quit this project simply because the subject matter was too heartbreaking. Our team has powered through, scene by scene, and eventually reached a cut that I think accurately portrays the turmoil and heartache that surrounds the Johnson siblings, while giving an honest reflection of their humor and heartfelt desire for healing.

Life is so complicated, broken, and beautiful. In the heart of great pain, there lies hope. Kristy and Kathy Johnson bravely came forward and confronted their father to gain perspective on their own lives, and hopefully help other people heal. Despite the tough nature of the subject matter, this is an important film. These women did something incredibly courageous, and I hope to tell their story in a way that honors them, examines the subject, and creates opportunities for discussion. It is time to stop allowing criminal behavior to be brushed aside, even when the subject matter is too hard to stomach.



—Amanda Stoddard

FILM CREDITS

Directed byAmanda Stoddard

Executive Producers Jared Ruga, Jonathan M. Ruga, Scott F. Young

Produced byJared Ruga & Amanda Stoddard

Director of PhotographyPatrick Ryan Gass

Edited byStéphane Glynn

SUBJECTS

(in order of appearance)

Kristy Johnson
Kathy Johnson
Kim Johnson
Melvin Kay Johnson
Craig Vernon
Chrissy Johnson

CREW

Additional Photography

J.R. LaFleur
Amanda Stoddard
Jared Ruga
Spencer Allred
Raji Barbir

Location Sound

J.R. LaFleur

Additional Editing

Amanda Stoddard
Conor Long

Colorist

Stéphane Glynn

Graphic Designer

Peter Fajardo

Story Consultant

Marta Reeder

Entertainment Counsel

Derek Julio, Esq.

Clearance Counsel

Donaldson + Callif, LLP

SPECIAL THANKS

Chrissy Johnson
Jimmy Stoddard
Justin Holmes
Lexie Collins
Melissa Warner
Nate Bryan
Tina Ruga
Victoria Potemkina

THANKS

DeAnn Tilton
Deborah Binkerhoff
Jacquelyn Orton
Karen & Jim Stoddard
Lauren Howells
Mark Lawrence
Restore Our Humanity
Talk To A Survivor
Yolanda Stange



ABOUT



**Bold.
Timely.
Incisive.
Empathic.**

Vavani Productions develops and produces ethos-driven films and television that move the conversation forward. Our documentaries and narratives compel audiences to confront some of the deepest issues of our time while spotlighting authentic stories and their tellers, steeped in lived experience. We partner with diverse creators, producers, financiers, and distributors to make moments matter.

Please read more at www.vavani.com.

CONTACT US

For interview requests and general inquiries,
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