

California's Forgotten *Children*  
Documentary's

***OFFICIAL SCREENINGS GUIDEBOOK***



# *CALIFORNIA'S FORGOTTEN CHILDREN SCREENING & DISCUSSION TOOLKIT*

## Toolkit Contents

- Introduction
- About The Film
  - Synopsis
  - Survivor Leaders
  - About the Director
  - Cast and Crew
  - Supporting Interviews
- Hosting a Screening
  - What it Means to be A Host
  - Your Tools
- Key Questions to Ask As You Embark On Planning Your Screening
- Planning Your Screening: Event Flow and Logistics
  - Start planning now
  - Choosing the Right Venue
  - Making Sure You Have the Right Technology
  - Who do I Invite
    - Sample Invitation
  - How to Market Your Event
    - Sample Social Media Posts
  - Revenue + Profits
- Okay, you have your the film, your venue, the screening is sold out, audience is excited in the room, what do you do now?
  - Introducing the Film
  - Share your Connection to the Film
  - During the Film Screening Be Prepared
    - Trauma Informed Counselors
    - Crisis Trauma Trained Service Dogs
  - After the Film Screening
  - Post Screening Discussion Questions
  - Language
  - Call to Action
  - Important Numbers to Know and Share
  - Networking & Connecting
- Event Day Structure (What It Can Look Like)
- Start to Finish Checklist
- Resources
  - Logos
  - Graphics & Poster
  - Film Press Kit
  - Promotional Videos & Additional Media
- Printable Forms
  - Flyers
  - Invitations
- After Your Event
- Virtual Screening



***WELCOME TO CALIFORNIA'S FORGOTTEN CHILDREN DOCUMENTARY  
SCREENINGS GUIDEBOOK***

Thank you for joining us to learn more about our screenings impact campaign! California's Forgotten Children Documentary movement is dedicated to empowering the forgotten children by shining light on and combating child sex trafficking. As an Event Host, you are joining hundreds of people around the world to combat child sex trafficking. You are an integral part of the movement and we are so grateful for your support!

This guidebook is a comprehensive blueprint to help you plan and execute the screening of your goals. It includes information about our world impact campaign, key questions to consider as you embark on event planning, event flow and logistics, a suggested screening-day agenda, and what to do after your event is over.

Let's get started!



*"I was born to be used, as an object.  
And so, it became clear as I got older that my parents had planned on selling me the whole time.  
I really do think that the best way to describe my childhood is slavery."  
- Minh Dang, Survivor*

#### LOGLINE

"California's Forgotten Children" is a feature documentary about child sex trafficking. The film recounts true stories of girls and boys who were commercially sexually exploited in California and are now survivors and courageous leaders fighting for the rights of victims worldwide.

#### SHORT SYNOPSIS

"California's Forgotten Children" is a feature documentary about child sex trafficking. The film recounts true stories of girls and boys who were commercially sexually exploited in California and are now survivors and courageous leaders fighting for the rights of victims worldwide.

The survivors stories show that any child can be exploited regardless of ethnicity or social economic background. Highlighting heroic stories from abolitionist and advocates who work night and day to protect children and to put an end to this epidemic.

This film is a call to action by giving viewers the tools and the knowledge to combat this scourge. By creating awareness, this documentary empowers a movement to address this epidemic and support survivors on their path to freedom.

This is not just a documentary; this is a movement.



*“As long as they see it as just some girl who’s just selling herself, they’re never going to feel empowered to protect children and women of these communities.”*

- Leah Jonet Albright-Bryd, Survivor

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## SURVIVOR LEADERS

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### **Withelma “T” Ortiz Walker Pettigrew**

is a survivor advocate, policy consultant, and motivational speaker. T is a leading force in advocating for the civil and social rights of trafficking survivors, specifically highlighting the intersection between the child welfare system and domestic trafficking within the U.S. In 2014, Time Magazine named T as one of “The 100 Most Influential People in the World.” She is currently studying for a Bachelor of Science in Strategic Communications.

### **Minh Dang**

is a staunch advocate for survivors of child abuse, slavery, and human trafficking and is developing strategies to advance survivor leadership development. She holds Bachelor and Master’s degrees from University of California, Berkeley and is currently a PhD Student at University of Nottingham, School of Politics and International Relations. Minh was honored by the White House as a “Champion of Change” and is a Presidential Appointee to the first ever United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking. She founded The Survivor Alliance, uniting and empowering survivors of slavery around the world.





*“My accomplishments are really truly being able to wake up everyday and make a path in which I don’t necessarily want other young people who’ve been through my experience to follow, but I want them to surpass me and go further than I ever could’ve imagined like, go way beyond anything that I could have ever dreamed.”*  
Withelma “T” Ortiz Walker Pettigrew, Survivor



### **Carissa Phelps**

is an Attorney and Founder of Runaway Girl, a social purpose corporation which creates opportunities and services for runaway, former runaway and homeless youth. She is a nationally recognized survivor leader and holds Juris Doctor and Master of Business Administration degrees from University of California, Los Angeles. She aims to raise awareness, establish belief, and help to build capacity for effective responses to human trafficking in every field.

### **Rachel Thomas, M. Ed.**

is the Co-Founder of Sowers Education Group where she and a team of educators promote sex trafficking awareness and survivor empowerment. She shatters stereotypes of who can become a sex trafficking victim; trafficked while attending an Ivy League university. A graduate of UCLA with a Masters in Education, Rachel co-authored Ending The Game: An Intervention Curriculum for Survivors of Sex Trafficking. This curriculum has helped hundreds of survivors understand and overcome psychological coercion.





*"I wish that someone would have given me a microphone when I was fourteen years old. And my job now as an advocate and as someone who wants to empower continually every generation is to make sure the microphone gets into the hands of the fourteen year old, and be seen, heard, and really accepted in their community."*

- Carissa Phelps, Survivor



### **Nikolaos Al-Khadra**

is working on his masters and PhD degrees. He plans to become a therapist to help boys who have been exploited in the commercial sex trade. As a survivor of human trafficking and HIV/AIDS, Nikolas Al-Khadra is a beacon of hope, raising his voice against human trafficking. Nik breaks through gender stereotypes of what a victim looks like. Explaining how society plays a role in conditioning vulnerable youth who are bullied and abused in social environments end up trapped in the sex industry longer.

### **Leah Jonet Albright-Byrd**

is a nationally recognized motivational speaker and human rights educator. Leah is committed to helping victims become survivors and engages people to take on this social injustice. She founded the pioneering anti-trafficking nonprofit "Bridget's Dream" in 2011 and served as the Executive Director for four years. As a former social service provider and nonprofit leader, Leah understands the needs of both direct service staff and leadership. That is why she partners with agencies all over the country to provide an interactive insight-based training workshops.





*"We each have our own unique abilities and talents that we can use to change the world."*  
- Melody C. Miller, Director

### DIRECTOR'S BIO

*California's Forgotten Children* was directed by filmmaker Melody C. Miller. At 17 years old after finding out that students in her high school were being commercially sexually exploited, Melody embarked on a mission volunteering for organizations that support survivors on their path to freedom. At UCLA, she brought together 100 strong artists and 20 organizations to join her in the fight to end trafficking by making this film. After 4 years of hard work they completed the film and Melody continues to work on spreading its message every day.

Melody Miller is a creative storyteller, who works to make a positive impact in the world by making narrative films and documentaries. Melody graduated from UCLA School of Theater, Film, and Television. She has won various film awards nationwide including the The Motion Picture Association of America Award, Women in Film Award, and the Loreen Arbus Cinematography Award.

An advocate for women and children rights, Melody has dedicated from the start of her career making films that amplify the voices and stories of causes she cares about. She has gone above and beyond to not only create empowering films, but creating a movement of change. A member of the International Collective of Female Cinematographers, Women In Film, and the International Documentary Association.





## FULL CREW

**Executive Producer, Director, Writer,  
Melody C. Miller**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Producer</b> Jerry Heverly</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Associate Producer</b> Genice Jacobs</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Line-Producer (B-roll)</b> Betsy Tsai</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Motion Graphic Designer</b> Chloe Booher</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Animator &amp; Illustrator</b> Myriam Obin</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>B-Roll Production Crew</b></p> <p>2nd AD Julia Vazquez Nate'Eya Kahsai</p> <p>1st Assistant Camera Michael Pyrz Giorgio Daveed</p> <p>2nd Assistant Camera Belinda Chen Justin Richards</p> <p>Production Designers Robert Mcavine Valentina Vee</p> <p>Set Designers Dominique Curry Maria Tuadi</p> <p>Gaffer Minmin Tsai David Kirkeby</p> <p>Key Grip Shawn Tharayil James Orlando Brian Carr</p> <p>Set Photography Kiyomi Katamayan</p> <p>Production Assistants Medy Jean Krystie Lee Alex Camarella Alejandro Torress</p> <p>Grip/Electric Alex Aguila Neil M. Paik Seth Ronquillo Taryn Roraback Chris Rowell</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Director of Photography</b> Jason Knutzen</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Original Music Composer</b> Stephen Spies</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Main B-Roll Production Cast</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cami Kuruma as Young Minh</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Courtney Ramirez as Young T</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Julianne Collins as Young Carissa</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Valdi Belizaire as Young Leah</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Supporting B-Roll Production Cast</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Julia May Wong Chelsea Shaddix Kari Cowell Lorena Melgar CJon Quintin Mims Martin Mendez Vladimir Georgiev Ashleigh Montana Green Aaron Lichtanski Ayanna S. Flemings Vincent E. Cash</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Additional B-Roll Production Cast</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Aria Tomar Georgia Kate Danielle Dennis Emily Miller Britney Ortiz Isabella Gamez Jeremy Holm Charisma Joy Ursua Lexi Jusino Koko Crawford Thaies Quezada Dr. Zarif Collette Shaw Xander Paul Kendall Neal Kevin L. Preval Noland Stewart Jessica Hanasab Mads Purcell</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Office Interns</b> Alex Camarella, Briana Eckels, Anh Mai, Natalie Yip, and Kitty Hu</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Editors</b> Melody C. Miller Eric F. Martin</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sound Mix and Design:</b> Stephen Spies</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>5.1 Sound Mixer:</b> Bill Jackson</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Additional Cinematography</b> Melody C. Miller</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sponsors:</b> Anna Bastian Elisabeth Montgomery Isabel Allende Foundation International Documentary Association</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Very Special Thank you:</b> William McDonald Pamela Beere Briggs Patsy Northcutt</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Music Performers</b> Violin: Mari DiNapoli Viola: Rebecca Bacich Viola: Larry Robinson Cello: Killian Kelley Session Consultant: Kate Bacich Violin: Helen Rowe Violin: Viola You Violin: Joyce Kwak Cello: Matt Tong Harp: Amy Ahn</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Assistants to Production:</b> Nola Brantley Medy Jean Andrew Becker Javier Mendoza Russ Kuruma</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Make Up</b> Arnee Jacob</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Spacial Thank You to LA Stop The Traffik Team</b> Christal Chung Krystie Lee Anh Mai Briana Eckels Kunsorya Chhea Chris Gonnerman Elena Guevara Jennifer Grijalva Hayley Adams Berkowitz Jessica Hayley Bobis Brittney Tabel</p>
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## SUPPORTING INTERVIEWS

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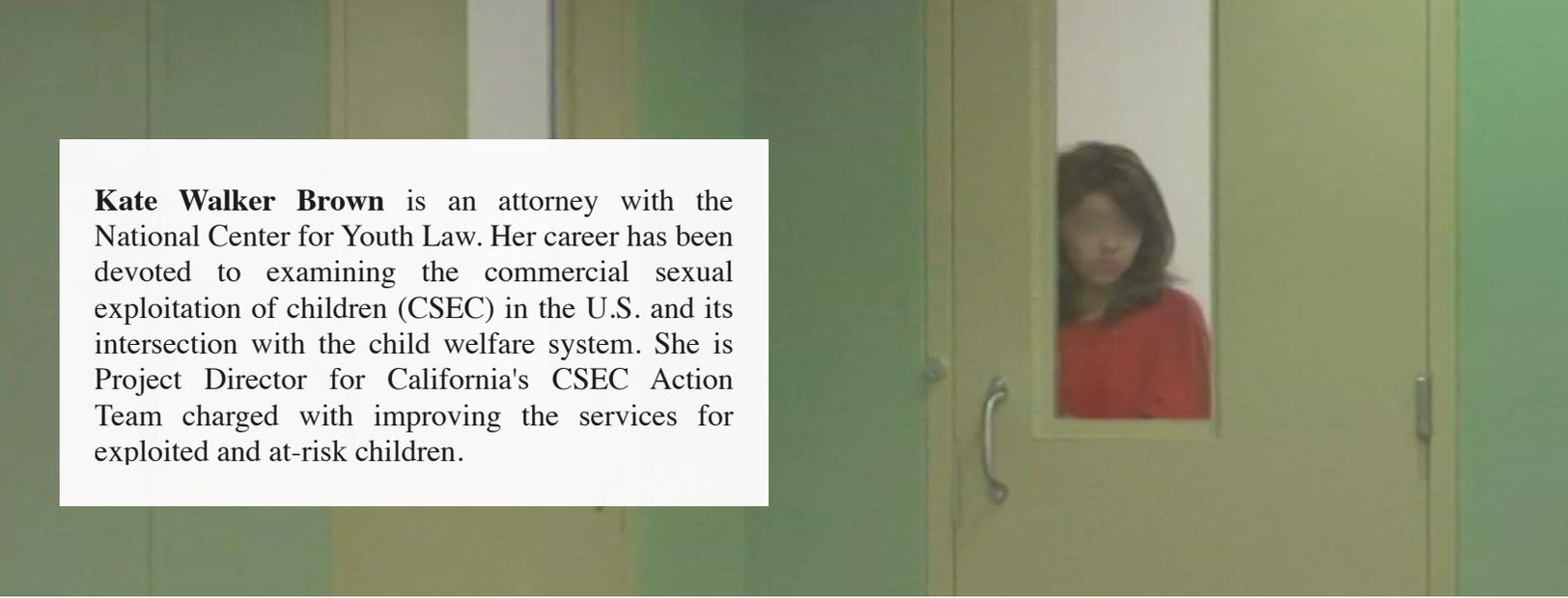
**Lieutenant Andre Dawson** is a 33 year veteran detective of the Los Angeles Police Department and led the Vice Unit dedicated to combating the commercial sexual exploitation of children. Recently retired, he now trains professionals on how to recognize and respond to incidents of human trafficking.

**Kim Biddle** has pioneered prevention and intervention programs throughout California to advocate for the safety of children in schools against traffickers. She designs trainings for a variety of professionals on how to prevent trafficking, identify child victims, and best practices in providing optimal aftercare to survivors.

**Daphne Phung** is Founder of California Against Slavery, a nonprofit, nonpartisan human rights organization dedicated to ensuring justice and protection for victims of human trafficking. She led the effort to pass Proposition 35, Californians Against Sexual Exploitation Act, which made critical enhancements to state laws to combat human trafficking



**Nola Brantley** is CEO of Nola Brantley Speaks!, a survivor consultancy dedicated to empowering women and girls. She co-founded the nonprofit M.I.S.S.S.E.Y. and a survivor leader. She has personally supported more than 1,000 youth in leaving sexual exploitation and has trained more than 50,000 professionals in the field.



**Kate Walker Brown** is an attorney with the National Center for Youth Law. Her career has been devoted to examining the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) in the U.S. and its intersection with the child welfare system. She is Project Director for California's CSEC Action Team charged with improving the services for exploited and at-risk children.

**Sarai Smith-Mazariegos** is Co-Founder, MISSEY and Founder of S.H.A.D.E. Project a survivor led organization. She has been helping high risk youth in various capacities for over a decade. Sarai is a specialist in crisis intervention and trauma informed care services for women and children who are at risk or have experience sexual abuse.

**Angela M. Chung** is a Policy Associate with the Children's Defense Fund in Los Angeles and formerly worked for the Coalition to Abolish Slavery as an Attorney. Angela focuses on juvenile justice reform in Los Angeles County and increasing alternatives to incarceration and promoting access to trauma-informed approaches to serving children and youth.

**Christopher Sean Watson** is the former manager of Bay Area Women Against Rape's Sexually Exploited Minors Program, providing 24-hour first crisis stabilization to all survivors of commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking. He is a first responder to rescue and connect victims with supportive resources. Since 1971, BAWAR has addressed the problem of sexual assault and established a place where rape and incest survivors could receive the quality counseling and advocacy they need, and provide community education regarding sexual assault issues.



El amor y el respeto  
¿Amar, proteger, defender, enamorar?  
¿Ganarse el cariño de una mujer?  
¿O comprarlo?

Love & Respect  
Love, protect, defend, romance?  
Earn the affection of a woman?  
Or buy it?

**Guido Hajenius** works with the anti-trafficking organization iEmpathize, to engage the region in the fight to end child sexual exploitation and trafficking through education, and culture solutions.



**Nancy O'Malley** is the District Attorney of the Alameda County and a national leader in addressing human trafficking. Her office is advancing anti-trafficking strategies statewide through its' nonprofit H.E.A.T. Watch and the H.E.A.T. Institute. Since 2006, the Alameda County District Attorney's Office has prosecuted 46% of human trafficking cases in California with an 86% conviction rate.

**Holly Joshi** is the former head of Oakland Police Department's (OPD) Child Exploitation Unit. As OPD's subject matter expert on human trafficking, she identified and helped recover hundreds of victims and has trained thousands of officers. She is now the Executive Director of M.I.S.S.S.E.Y., a nonprofit supporting survivors of child sex trafficking.



**Reverend Harry Williams** - Minister, Author and Advocate

“Give them a window to a world outside of the hood. That is the only way we are going to save these kids, a generation of good people.”

**Seven** - Activist/Ex Gang Member

“If we didn't live in a society that glorifies sex so much and feeds lust so much, then there wouldn't be such an appetite for this product.”

**Rebecca Dharmapalan** - Artist/Activist

“I listen to the beat and I listen to the rhythms of the song, and I really get into it, love it. And I wouldn't really listen to the lyrics and what he was saying. Almost all of his songs are about the exploitation of women and children. I had no idea.”



### *What It Means To Be A Host*

As a *California's Forgotten Children Documentary* screening host, you've taken on the responsibility of organizing and hosting an event with the goal of creating awareness in your community. It's *your* event. We want you to feel empowered to create the screening of your that you envisioned. We're here to help you every step of the way to ensure this becomes a reality.

When our audiences attend a *California's Forgotten Children Documentary* screening, we want them to feel as if they are entering into a safe space and community that is compassionate and understanding. 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys are sexually abused, that means there is a high chance one or more audience members may have been abused and some parts of the stories in the film may be triggering to them as it relates to their own story. We want them to feel comfortable, safe, and empowered when they come see the documentary. Our biggest dream is that the conversations at these events become part of a larger discussion that fuels the movement and sparks meaningful change for audiences around the world.

### *Your Tools*

The Screening & Discussion Toolkit is a tool to facilitate hosting a screening of *California's Forgotten Children* at your local theater, organization, place of worship or community center. It is an opportunity to gather with your family, friends and your community to discuss why human trafficking is an important issue plaguing our communities and support survivors by sharing resources. The evening can be formal or casual, depending on your preference, as long as everyone is engaged and joins the national conversation after the screening. This toolkit will provide all the information you need to make planning a breeze.

Now it's time to think about how you want your audience to feel!

**KEY QUESTIONS TO ASK AS YOU EMBARK ON PLANNING YOUR SCREENING:**

*Why do you want to screen California's Forgotten Children Documentary?*

Think of the initial moment when you first heard about this film. Maybe a thought came into your mind. Perhaps it was a feeling in your stomach, maybe even a feeling in your heart. Think of that moment, that feeling, that thought, and write it down.

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*What is it that you want people to take away from this very deeply moving film? How can we multiple these efforts? What feeling do you want people to have when they come to this event?*

Everything is set-up, you're running ahead of schedule and it's all ready to go. The doors open and people start to filter in. Who are they? What do they look like? What are they talking about? Write it down.

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*What community(ies) do you have access to that this film will inspire?*

Your community is the bedrock for your event. No one knows its inner workings better than you. Write down the communities you're a part of that you think would benefit from seeing California's Forgotten Children Documentary.

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*Do you have a community of supporters to help you in this process?*

Your desire to be a screening host suggests you have a passion to help children who have been commercially sexually exploited, runaway and homeless youth, kids in foster care, LGBTQ community, incarcerated youth, and more. Write down the people who are there to support you in this process.

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*What places and venues in your city do you love?*

Think of some of your favorite spaces. What do they look like? Feel like? If you know how you want people to feel at your event, chances are you know exactly what type of venue to book. Brainstorm a few ideas below.

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*Do you want to partner with any people or organizations for your event?*

Partnerships are a great way to lessen costs but more importantly, they also help to cast the net wide to other networks you may not currently belong to. Think of people or organizations you've wanted to collaborate with in the past. Here's your opportunity to make those connections!

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## ***PLANNING YOUR SCREENING: EVENT FLOW & LOGISTICS***

***Start planning now; early engagement guarantees a successful evening.***

This process can be one of the most enjoyable parts of being a host (aside from seeing yourself knock it out of the park night-of!) You pick the environment and in doing so, create the atmosphere for your screening.

***Choosing the Right Venue: Identify a quiet, comfortable venue location with adequate space and technological capabilities to stream the film.***

This may be an easy decision for you. Some people know the theaters and appropriate venues in their city through-and-through and already have a space in mind to reach out to host an event.

However, some of us will suddenly draw a blank.

***First thing's first:*** Open Google. If you have no idea of the types of spaces are available in your city, acquaint yourself with something new! It's important to note that you don't have to host in a theatre. Some of our events have taken place in conference centers, boardrooms or communal work space. Look at multiple venues' websites and scale it down to the top three.

***Second :*** Be sure to visit the venues you've chosen, not only so you can talk to the manager about logistics, but also so you can get a sense of the atmosphere, feel the seats, smell the popcorn and really see yourself and your community engaging in the space

***Third:*** Go with your gut. Where do you see your event taking place? Where can you see *California's Forgotten Children* documentary and its audience come alive?

***TIP:*** *It's very important that you commit to your decision. Instead of saying to the venue manager, "I'm thinking of hosting a screening" instead say: "I'm screening California's Forgotten Children Documentary and I need to know what's available in terms of timelines and logistics."*

Follow these steps and book it!



### ***Making Sure You Have The Right Technology***

Our team provides a DVD or BluRay disc of the *California's Forgotten Children* documentary film. Make sure you check in with your venue to make sure they have a DVD or BluRay player with audio capabilities. A BluRay won't work on a DVD player, but a DVD will work on a BluRay player.

**TIP:** *When you're setting up at the venue, check your technology. Then check it again. Do a test run. Familiarizing yourself with the set-up will make sure everything runs smoothly.*

### ***Who do I Invite?***

Think about your target audience size and create a guest list. We encourage you to view your screening as an opportunity to connect audiences who have no idea that child trafficking is happening or are on the front lines everyday. Filling the room with the people who support you as well as individuals who you know will be impacted by this screening are the ideal attendees for this event.

Think of people in your office, community, yoga class, city (anywhere, really!) and invite them to take part. If it's worthwhile to you to have them there, it will be worthwhile to others as well.

## ***SAMPLE INVITATION***

Creating an effective invitation is the first step in connecting with your guests. The goal is to create a social and interactive viewing experience around the film *California's Forgotten Children*. Depending on your intentions and expectation for your event, you can deliver invitations by mail, online or text message.

**TIP:** To make things easy, we suggest [Eventbrite](#) - it's simple and integrates with any email account (including Facebook) and is shareable on social media.

Here is a sample for you to use on any platform. Be sure to customize accordingly:

Dear **NAME**,

I'm thrilled to invite you to join me for a screening of **California's Forgotten Children** hosted by, **YOUR NAME HERE** on **INSERT DATE** at **INSERT TIME**.

"California's Forgotten Children" is a feature documentary about child sex trafficking. The film recounts true stories of girls and boys who were commercially sexually exploited in California and are now survivors and courageous leaders fighting for the rights of victims worldwide.

For National Human Trafficking Awareness Month, join me along with other partner organizations across the country, for special screening of *California's Forgotten Children* directed by documentarian Melody C. Miller.

It's a conversation that is more urgent now than ever. This January we will honor survivors by joining the call for 100 screenings across the world to create awareness and empower a movement to address this epidemic.

**LIST DATE, TIME, ADDRESS, ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS HERE**

Be sure to **RSVP no later than December 30th**, and feel free to contact me if you have any questions. To learn more, be sure to visit [californiasforgottenchildren.com](http://californiasforgottenchildren.com) and follow [@californiasforgottenchildren](https://www.instagram.com/californiasforgottenchildren) on social media.

Thank you,  
**YOUR NAME**



### ***How to Market Your Event: What We Provide***

Included in your screenings package is *California's Forgotten Children Documentary* marketing collateral, including information to promote on social media. You know how information is viewed, shared and promoted among the people in your network. Social media is an invaluable tool to spread the word and engage a wide community of supporters.

***Imagery & Design:*** Once you booked your event through our website, we will send over the imagery you need to promote your event. We provide you with social media collateral for Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter so you can spread the word about your screening.

***California's Forgotten Children Documentary Website Listing:*** Our team also supports your event through our official *California's Forgotten Children* documentary website. We will post the date, time, and location of your event. If you have a Facebook event link or Eventbrite link you want us to share, send it to [screenings@CaliforniasForgottenChildren.com](mailto:screenings@CaliforniasForgottenChildren.com)

***Social Media:*** Before the screening, be sure to share the official film trailer, helpful facts and other promotional graphics on social media to announce and promote your screening event. It's very important to use the official hashtag **#CaliforniasForgottenChildren** in each and every post in order to be recognized as part of the 100 screening campaign. There is also an opportunity for you to connect with other hosts and partner organizations across the country to curate a space to share suggestions, further amplify promotion, and encourage support by posing questions to receive tips & resources using the hashtag.

By hosting a screening, you, along with our national partners, ambassadors, filmmaker, and the nationwide advocacy community will join together in discussing the film and issues around this epidemic. This is a time for you to encourage guests at your screening event to **join the conversation** - by sharing perspective, asking questions and posting photos from your event while tagging **@californiasforgottenchildren**

1. For starters, be sure to take photos with your guests and tag **@californiasforgottenchildren** social media accounts before the screening begins.
2. Remind guests to log into Twitter and search for **#NationalHumanTraffickingAwarenessMonth** and send us a tweet.
3. Add to the conversation. Share themes and ideas that are covered during your pre-screening discussion. Think about enlisting key people in the room to post questions and responses from your guests to ask and/or share with the filmmaker.
4. Remember, this is an engaging way to interact with like-minded people from across the country in creating a safe haven to express thoughts around the film and share resources for victims and survivors to take action. Here are sample tweets you can use to get you started:

### ***SAMPLE SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS***

- **#CaliforniasForgottenChildren** empowers survivors in January for **#NationalHumanTraffickingAwarenessMonth**. Join us for a special screening of the film on **INSERT DATE & LOCATION**, RSVP TODAY! **INSERT LINK**
- **#100screenings** of **#CaliforniasForgottenChildren** around the world bringing attention to **#NationalHumanTraffickingAwarenessMonth**. Attend our screening of the film on **INSERT DATE & LOCATION**, RSVP TODAY! **INSERT LINK**
- I am honored to host a screening of **#CaliforniasForgottenChildren** in **INSERT CITY** in support of **#NationalHumanTraffickingAwarenessMonth**. Learn how you can host a screening at [www.californiasforgottenchildren.com](http://www.californiasforgottenchildren.com)

### ***Revenue + Profits***

To cover costs of hosting the movie screening event you can charge for tickets, or bring on sponsors to monetize your event, or creatively fundraise (upon donation entrance at door, selling your own merchandise and food). It is highly recommended to have a free screening so everyone regardless of financial background has an opportunity to see the film. *California's Forgotten Children Documentary* **does not take a percentage of ticket sales**. This means you can use your revenue however you see fit!



*Okay, you have your the film, your venue, the screening is sold out, audience is excited in the room what do you do now?*

### *Introducing the Film*

Share a brief introduction of the film:

“Directed by documentary filmmaker Melody C. Miller, California’s *Forgotten Children* recounts the stories of boys and girls who were commercially sexually exploited in California and are now survivors and courageous leaders fighting for the rights of victims worldwide. This film is a call to action by giving viewers the tools and knowledge to combat this scourge. By creating awareness, this documentary empowers a movement to address this epidemic and support survivors on their path to freedom.”

### *Share Your Connection to the Story*

This is the opportunity to share your personal story about how this film’s content shapes your understanding of human trafficking in the United States, creates an environment for advocacy around the issue, and fosters a safe space for survivors to heal past the trauma.

Remember the questions you answered at the beginning of this Guidebook? *Why do you want to screen California’s Forgotten Children Documentary?* Begin your screening by leading a conversation to share your perspective and life experience. To set the tone and give room for inspiration, leave your guests with these questions to reflect on as you share your personal story.

Let the audience know the resources they you have available at this screening.

**TIP:** “Some of the stories in the film may be triggering to an audience member who has experienced assault, in the lobby we have a trauma informed counselor who can help at any point during the film and after.”



*“He told me he was going to kill me  
if I didn’t do what he told me to do.*

*I looked on the dashboard and  
there’s this picture of this little girl.*

*And I asked him,*

*“Is that your daughter?”*

*And he said,*

*“yeah”*

*And I said,*

*“I’m somebody’s daughter too,  
will you please let me go?”*

*- Leah Jonet Albright-Byrd, Survivor*



### *During the Movie Be Prepared*

You may find it helpful to take notes during the film to refer to during the discussion. Be prepared for audience members to come out during the movie crying and needing to use the bathroom. Parts of the film may be triggering to some audience members who have experienced trauma or vicarious trauma and they might need a shoulder to cry on. We recommend having trauma informed counselors present at the screening and crisis trauma trained dogs. If someone might not feel comfortable sharing their feelings with a human, they might feel calmer with a trauma trained golden retriever so they can feel protected.

Be prepared to help victims during the film. Some audience members who are being or have been commercially sexually exploited might not know where to start to get help. So they have come to a screening about what is happening to them looking for help. Some might not even understand how they are being victimized until they see the film and it is a life changing realization for them. They might not even say they need help, by addressing the general audience with the resources you have available will make any victims feel more comfortable and safe to potentially be recovered at your event.

### *After the Film Screening*

We highly recommend holding a Q&A with local survivor leaders, non-profits from your area or hire one of our **Ambassadors** or bring in our **Film Director**. When the lights go up at the end of the film your audience will want to connect, share, and feel seen so it's a great way to create the space to continue the conversation after the film. It's also a chance for you to plug your own work by leading the conversation with your community as the panel's moderator.

To learn more about both visit: <http://www.californiasforgottenchildren.com/keynote-ambassadors.html>



### *Post-Screening Discussion Questions*

After watching *California's Forgotten Children*, anticipate an emotional response from your audience. The film will evoke a range of thoughts and viewpoints, which will be a great opportunity for you to facilitate a post screening Q&A with your guests.

**Bellow are a few questions to continue the conversation after the broadcast.** We want to make sure that an opportunity is not missed to get the audience important information they need to take action. You can change how the questions are worded, but pose it in a way that leads your panelists talking about the work they do. Try to incorporate questions that will uplift the leaders and organizations on the panel to promote the amazing work they are doing in the community.

- **What are some of the signs that we can look for to identify if a young girl or boy in our presence that is being sex trafficked**
- **What are some of the things that we as individuals can do in some small or large way to ensure we're a force of change in dealing with sex trafficking of young boys and girls?**
- **What do people do when they see a child being exploited on the street?**
- **If a person is a victim and needs help what do they do?**
- **If a person is a survivor and needs a support network what resources do they have access to?**
- **How can people help in the movement?**

## *Language*

When creating the discussion question make sure **not** use the word "*child prostitute*", there is no such thing. They should be called *commercially sexually exploited children or child*.

Don't use the word "*PIMP*", they should use *exploiter or trafficker*.

Instead of using the word "*john*" for the people that buy children, use the word *pedophile or child rapist that purchases children*.

## *Communication with Survivor Leaders on the Panel*

**Be respectful to survivors. The person you are interviewing on the panel makes the rules.**

If you are planning to have a survivor leader on your panel please speak to them ahead of time about what they are comfortable with talking about.

**Be transparent and deliberate as a moderator.** Ask yourself before hand what do you want the audience to gain from the survivor speaking that they already didn't learn from the film.

**Remember that this is a person, not a representative of a victim class.** Do not force a survivor to share their traumatic story, ask them to share only what they are comfortable sharing. If they do not want to share their story at all that is completely okay. They are MORE THAN SURVIVORS and are human being just like me and you. Survivors can be interviewed as experts, not just as case stories.

**Your purpose is to seek the truth and to tell it to the public.** The documentary is already very heavy with six different stories of children who were trafficked at the end of the film the audience is already feeling ready to do something. Have the survivor leader use the audiences energy to take action and talk about the steps people can take to help youth in their neighborhood. Discuss resources children need to prevent child trafficking. Survivor leaders are experts because they were once there in that child's shoes and know what the community needs to do to help these kids.

**Above all else, do no harm.** Resist the snowball questioning due to your personal state of shock. Often times, audience member will feel genuine horror about the stories they will hear. Their curiosity and need to make the world make sense, leads them to ask more detailed and personal questions to help them understand various characters in the narrative, to fill in plot gaps, or just to make sense of the interviewee's story. Before you ask a follow up question remember that you are asking a question about a painful experience someone had in front of an audience of strangers. Reflect on the purpose of these questions and whether or not they are central to your goal for this event. If you can, notice that this is happening and remind the interviewee that they can decline to answer any of the questions they don't want to answer.



### *Call to Action*

There are countless resources available to support victims and survivors locally and nationally, be sure to review the [Education Toolkits](#) available on the *California's Forgotten Children website* to arm yourself with relevant information. Here are a few ways you and your guests can help take action after watching *California's Forgotten Children*:

- Start a sexual abuse and trafficking prevention education program at your school.
- Inform teens about the tactics used by traffickers. Internet friends and fake modeling jobs.
- Teach parents, students and school staff to recognize the “red flags” of trafficking situations and report suspicious activity.
- Invite one of the Ambassadors or filmmaker to speak at the screening or future events in your area.
- Raise awareness about the dangers of sex trafficking in community, PTA, religious groups and scout troops.
- Share from California’s Forgotten Children Documentary website videos, articles and infographics on Facebook, Twitter and other social networks.
- Initiate a child sex trafficking awareness campaign in your community.
- Fundraise for local organizations that support youth.
- Learn how you can join, participate or support [www.CaliforniasForgottenChildren.com](http://www.CaliforniasForgottenChildren.com)

### *Important Numbers To Know and Share*

- National Police Hotline: 911
- National Human Trafficking Hotline: 888-373-7888
- or text INFO or HELP to BEFREE (233733)
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children: 800-THE-LOST
- National Runaway Safeline: 800-RUN-AWAY



## Networking & Connecting

One of our goals for these screenings is to promote and facilitate networking with a purpose - bringing a room together to establish connections with the intention of building new relationships into meaningful bonds.

Make the most of the people in the room! Every single person at your event has something meaningful to contribute, it's just a matter of encouraging them to open up and share.

Networking is a great way to end the event. People can share their reactions to the film and develop ideas to create change in the community.

## Stay Connected

The connections made on event day don't end when the lights go up after the credits. We hope that the connections fostered through these screenings never end, but rather, blossom and grow into productive, engaged and tremendously valuable relationships.

**TIP:** *The best way to keep in touch with all things California's Forgotten Children Documentary is to sign up for our newsletter. In emails from Melody and the team you can learn the most up-to-date information about the film, new videos, and life on the campaign.*

## ***EVENT DAY STRUCTURE (What It Can Look Like)***

### ***Welcome and Registration: 15-30 minutes***

*When your guests arrive, ask them to sign in and provide their name and email address. If you are doing a tote bag giveaway, you can also use this time for people to enter their names into the raffle.*

### ***Introduction: 5-10 minutes***

After everyone has settled into the theatre, welcome your audience to the screening and introduce the film. If you have panelists, now is a good time to introduce them as well. Let everyone know there will be a discussion and networking opportunity after the film.

### ***California's Forgotten Children Documentary screening: 93 minutes***

You may find it helpful to take notes during the film to refer to during the discussion.

### ***Discussion: 30 minutes***

We hope there is an emotional response at the end of the film. If you have panelists, ask them to share their reactions, opinions or thoughts. If you don't have panelists, throw out broad questions to the audience or even ask for testimonials.

Conclude by asking for closing thoughts from your panelists or even prepare your own conclusion that can serve as a way to spark discussion during networking. This is a great way to inspire deeper conversation in smaller groups.

### ***Networking: 30-45 minutes***

It's up to you how you'd like to structure this portion of the event. Whether it's exchanging business cards, emails or reactions, we are certain the room will be buzzing with excitement and purposeful discussion!

**TIP:** *Is your community fired up from the film and ready to help end child trafficking in their community? Then don't forget to remind your audience that they can continue the discussion and learn more ways to help the California's Forgotten Children Documentary movement at [CaliforniasForgottenChildren.com](http://CaliforniasForgottenChildren.com)*

## ***START-TO-FINISH CHECKLIST***

- Register your screening - [www.californiasforgottenchildren.com/host-a-screening.html](http://www.californiasforgottenchildren.com/host-a-screening.html)
- Follow *California's Forgotten Children* on social media and engage @californiasforgottenchildren
- **4 Weeks before**
  - Review all the *California's Forgotten Children* resources & suggestions
  - Confirm your location
  - Finalize your guest list and create your invitation
  - Start sending out invitations
  - Create an evening agenda
- **2 Weeks before**
  - Plan your food and beverage options; create a shopping list
  - Send reminder email to all RSVP'd guests, encouraging them to follow @californiasforgottenchildren on social media
  - Follow up with anyone that has not responded or RSVP'd. Consider sending personalized emails for a nice touch
- **1 Week before**
  - Start shopping for all items you need for the screening, which can include food, beverages, utensils, etc.
  - Survey the screening location to ensure all logistical needs are met, like sound volume, comfort and seating capacity for guests, etc.
  - Print all the resources you want to hand out during the screening
  - Send a last reminder email with any updates and parking instructions
- **Day before**
  - Tidy up and be sure the screening location is prepared
  - Prepare any food, beverages or activities ahead of time in order to make screening day easy & seamless
- **The Day of Screening**
  - Arrange furniture and seating so guests are comfortable and have a place to mingle before the screening
  - Greet your guests with enthusiasm and have fun!
- **After the Screening**
  - Show your appreciation with a personal thank you email to guests
  - Share your Eventbrite RSVP report, that includes full names and emails, to the California's Forgotten Children contact person so that your guests can stay informed with updates from the film

## ***RESOURCES***

We created the Screening & Discussion Toolkit to help you facilitate hosting a screening event of *California's Forgotten Children*. We've curated a [education resources](#) that contain a multitude of tools to help create your event with ease and arm you with information to confidently host a screening of the documentary. Take liberty to personalize your event and add your special touch, and feel free to contact the our team should there be any questions.

[\*Logos, Graphics & Poster, Film Press Kit\*](#)

### ***Promotional Videos & Additional Media***

*California's Forgotten Children* is a feature documentary and multi-platform project to research, gather, and share triumphant stories of survivors creating a new life after commercial sexual exploitation. For a greater understanding of the film, our hosts are encouraged to watch and share the official feature trailer along with other key media that are part of the campaign:

- [Feature Trailer](#) (2:55 minutes)
- [Interviews, Clips, Behind the Scenes Videos all 1 to 3 minutes each](#)

## ***AFTER YOUR EVENT***

We want to hear from you! A week after your event, we will send you a quick questionnaire for you to let us know how the screening went: what worked/didn't work, what you enjoyed and what our team could've done better. Your feedback is invaluable to us and helps us ensure we're always meeting the needs and expectations of our hosts!

Please feel free to share any event tips and tricks in the California's Forgotten Children Documentary Network. Your experience will undoubtedly provide helpful insights for other hosts as they plan for their screening.

Thank you again for being a part of this movement. Your passion for *California's Forgotten Children Documentary* and inspiring the next generation of leaders to combat child sex trafficking, we know you will have a fantastic successful event!

# *Virtual Screening Guide*

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## *Items You Will Receive*

- Virtual Screening License for the date of your event.
- Redemption link & code for # of attendees
  - Once the link is activated by an attendee they will have 3 days to watch the film.
- Guidebook to help you plan and execute the screening of your goals. It includes information about our world impact campaign, key questions to consider as you embark on event planning, event flow and logistics, a suggested screening-day agenda, and what to do after your event is over.
- Marketing Materials and Templates
- A list of names, emails, and location of individuals who watched the film for the event.

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## *Steps You Will Take*

Step 1) Set-up a sign-up sheet for your online event. This can be through your own email, eventbrite, google survey, mailchimp...etc.

Step 2) On the day of the event send the redemption link to the 90 minute film 2 hours before the Q&A discussion and instructions to the attendees. If you plan to also have a panel discussion after the film also send the zoom link.

- You may send the link earlier in the day or 24 hours before for those who might have busy schedules and need more time to watch it.

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## *See Templates on Following pages*

- **EVENT INTRODUCTION PAGE TEMPLATE**
- **DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENTARY TEMPLATE**
- **EXAMPLE MODERATOR AND PANELIST BIOS**
- **EMAIL TO SEND OUT ON DAY OF EVENT TEMPLATE**

## EVENT INTRODUCTION PAGE TEMPLATE

**[ORGANIZATION NAME]** invites you to a free virtual screening of an award-winning documentary, **California's Forgotten Children**, looking at the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC). It will be followed by a **[LENGHT]** panel discussion with experts in the field.

You will receive two links the day before the event:

- 1) Please view the 90-minute movie through the free waiver code to be sent **[DATE AND TIME THE LINK WILL BE SENT 2 HOURS PRIOR TO PANEL]** Please bring thoughts and questions for the panel.
- 2) Link to join the Question and Answer webinar panel at **[TIME AND DATE]**.

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### *Description of the Documentary*

*California's Forgotten Children* is an award-winning feature documentary that follows a diverse group of resilient survivors who have overcome commercial sexual exploitation of children and are changing the world by ensuring no child is forgotten. This film gives viewers the tools to combat this epidemic and empowers survivors on their path to freedom. Featuring stories from leaders in the movement such as Time 100 Most Influential People Withelma "T" Ortiz Walker Pettigrew, attorney Carissa Phelps, academic scholar Minh Dang, activist Leah Albright-Byrd, therapist Nikolaos Al-Khadra, and educator Rachel Thomas, M. Ed. The film supports the stories of survivors with current statistics and perspectives of sexual exploitation from professionals in social services, law enforcement, advocates, and child welfare.

TRAILER LINK: <https://vimeo.com/310866620>



## Example Design Moderator and Panelist Bios

### ABOUT THE PANELISTS



**Withelma "T" Ortiz Walker Pettigrew, is a Professional Orator, Human Rights Activist, and Motivational Personality. T is a leading force in advocating for the civil and social rights of all people, with a previous expertise in highlighting the intersectionality between the child welfare system and**



**Dr. Lela Bachrach** works with the department of adolescent medicine at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland. She leads UBCHO's multidisciplinary professional group dedicated to ending human trafficking and supporting survivors from a trauma-informed, public health perspective.



**Sarai Smith-Mazariegos** is the Founder of S.H.A.D.E. Movement, a survivor led organization. She has been helping high risk youth in various capacities for over a decade. Sarai is a specialist in crisis intervention and trauma informed care services for women and children who are at risk or have



**Joanna La Torre, MSW, ACSW** provides integrated behavioral health for youth in Federally Qualified Health Center, diabetes clinic, and gender clinic. She provides case management, therapeutic interventions, coordination of care, and linkage to persistently



**Melody C. Miller** is the director and executive producer of California's Forgotten Children documentary. She is a filmmaker and cinematographer who works to make a positive impact in the world by making narrative films and documentaries.



**CSEC WEBINAR TRAINING**  
JANUARY 22ND

In partnership with the Department of Family and Children's Services, the County of Santa Clara join us for a free virtual screening of the award-winning documentary California's Forgotten Children followed Webinar Training with experts in the fields.

On January 22nd, The Santa Clara County Department of Family and Children's Services (SCC DFCS) invites you to a free virtual screening of an award-winning documentary California's Forgotten Children looking at the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) followed by a one-hour panel discussion with experts in the field.



## ***EMAIL TEMPLATE TO SEND OUT ON DAY OF EVENT***

Thank you for attending the virtual screening of "California's Forgotten Children" Documentary and Q&A discussion with experts. In order to receive credit for this webinar, you will need to watch the documentary and participate in the webinar panel conversation.

**Watch the 90 minutes documentary. Enter the same Name and Email you used to sign up for the event.**

**[REDEMPTION LINK TO FILM]**

**USE WAIVER CODE: [———]**

Join the Question and Answer webinar panel at **[DATE AND TIME]**.

**[ZOOM LINK]**

### **Trigger Warning:**

Some of this content is very heavy and might be difficult to watch. If you are feeling bothered or overwhelmed, feel free to step outside or go to the bathroom for a few minutes to take a few deep breaths. If there is anything you would like to discuss in private, we will be available to check in with anyone individually after the live Q&A discussion.

### **Technical:**

Watch the film on a laptop or computer, it won't work on your cell phone or tablet.

Supported browsers: Google Chrome, Firefox, Microsoft Edge, Safari, Opera. We recommend using the latest version of your browser. Internet Explorer is NOT supported.

If you have an Apple TV, Chromecast, Roku, Firestick, or any similar device or smart TV, set your computer or mobile device to "airplay" or "cast" to the TV device.

If your internet connection is inconsistent, you may experience problems during playback. If you're on wifi, try moving closer to your router. Press pause on the film and let it buffer for a minute or two and press play again.

Thank you. See you at the screening event! Don't hesitate to email us with any questions!

For Film Technical Questions email: [screenings@californiasforgottenchildren.com](mailto:screenings@californiasforgottenchildren.com)



Thank you for the  
opportunity to share  
our film with you.

**CONTACT**

[info@CaliforniasForgottenChildren.com](mailto:info@CaliforniasForgottenChildren.com)

**WEBSITE**

[www.CaliforniasForgottenChildren.com](http://www.CaliforniasForgottenChildren.com)

**CONNECT**

Facebook: @CaliforniaForgottenChildren

Instagram: @CaliforniaForgottenChildren

Twitter: @CFCDocumentary