

MY JUSTICE, MY VOICE: SPEAKING UP TO END CHILDHOOD SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Global film overview and screening guide





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THE BRAVE MOVEMENT

The Brave Movement is a global movement of survivors and allies working to end childhood sexual violence. Our campaigns demand bold, urgent action—holding governments, institutions, and tech giants accountable. We push for prevention, healing, and justice, and survivor-led solutions to protect future generations from harm.

About the film

"My justice, my voice: Speaking up to end childhood sexual violence" is a survivor-centered short film following the lived experiences of three survivors of childhood sexual violence in South Africa. It highlights the complex and often unspoken nature of intrafamilial sexual violence, and reflects on what meaningful action and accountability must look like to put an end to this issue.

The film showcases the difficult truth that childhood sexual violence often happens in settings where children are meant to feel safe - within families, close circles of trust, and critical gaps in legal and child protection systems. It reinforces the need for investment in child protection and violence prevention infrastructure, and calls for urgent action by world leaders to keep children safe.

The film was launched on 17 October 2025 ahead of the G20 Summit in South Africa, calling on leaders and governments to deliver the pledges they made at the <u>2024 Global Ministerial Conference on Ending Violence Against Children</u>. It's a call for governments to:

- Adopt trauma-informed policies from survivors that prevent harm
- Correct harmful laws to ensure justice for survivors
- Fund services for survivor healing



It also reinforces our global demands and brings visibility to the gaps in prevention, healing, and justice for children. It supports our broader <u>call to action for G20</u> <u>member countries</u> to:

- **Invest in children** and their future by increasing public spending within national child protection and violence prevention structures, and take a child rights-based approach to budgeting.
- **Enact globally-aligned legislation on online safety**, prioritising children's safety and ensuring coordination across government, law enforcement, the tech industry, and civil society.
- **Establish national survivor councils** and endorse the <u>Council of Europe</u> guidelines on engaging with victims and survivors of child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.
- The complete **removal of criminal and civil statutes of limitations** for child sexual abuse crimes.

Join us in calling for bold, urgent action to end childhood sexual violence in all its forms. Watch the film, share it with your network, and join the movement.





Development & co-production process

This film was co-produced through a collaborative process between survivor advocates, the <u>Brave Movement</u>, <u>Rays of Hope</u>, and <u>On Our Radar</u>. It was grounded in survivor agency, trauma-informed care, and community-led storytelling.

Filming culminated in a community activation event, where the three survivor advocates gathered with allies, civil society, and local leaders to spotlight the urgent need for prevention, healing, and justice for children and survivors.

The survivor advocates featured in the film were co-creators, writing their own scripts, reviewing edits, shaping narrative structure, and setting guiding principles to ensure the story was authentic and respectful. Safeguarding and well-being support were integrated at each iterative stage, including during the film launch and dissemination.

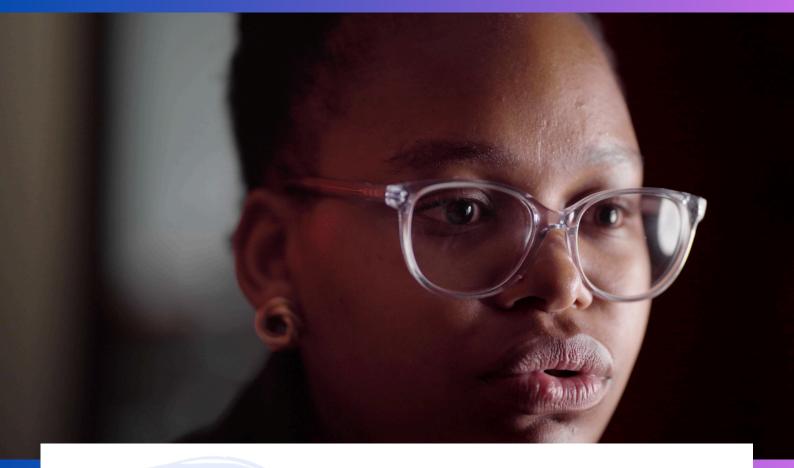
"Working with the Brave Movement through this co-production process was exciting and deeply engaging. I appreciated how my views and opinions were always checked, and the support made me feel part of shaping something important. The detailed and inclusive approach kept us aligned with the G20 vision and future goals. Collaborating with the filmmakers was both healing and empowering, giving me strength and perseverance to keep fighting. Overall, the process helped me revisit my ordeals with confidence, knowing that those who hurt me can never silence me again. Through the partnerships with Rays of Hope and the Masiphephe Network Forum, this work also created a broader community of support, collaboration, and empowerment that goes beyond the project itself." – Jacque

"At first, I was nervous, unsure if I could do it, but the encouragement I received from my family and the Brave Movement team gave me confidence. Everyone was so supportive and patient — they listened, guided me, and made the whole process much easier. Because of that care, I truly enjoyed the entire experience." – Sheila

"The filmmaking process was good, and I am confident it will have a significant influence." – Thabile



MEET THE SURVIVOR ADVOCATES Sheila | South Africa



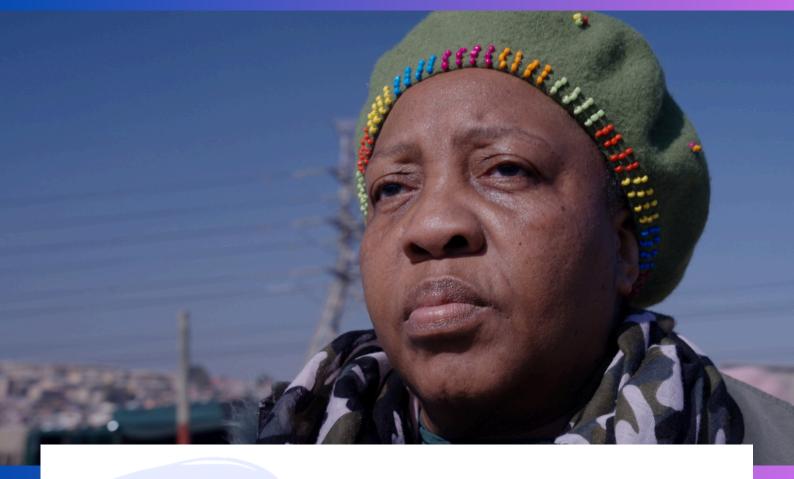
Sheila grew up in a violent home. At age seven, she was raped by someone close to her. It happened again when she was a teenager and continued for three years. She remained silent to protect those around her, and because no one noticed the changes in her. Even though she was not able to report or get her perpetrator arrested, she is now sharing her experience so others can get justice.

"I lost my mother to suicide due to physical, mental and emotional abuse. After my mother's passing, I lived in Zimbabwe with my grandmother, where I was first raped by someone close to me. A few years later, my father remarried. My stepmother noticed that there was a problem with my bladder and took me to our local clinic. After my parents found out what had happened, I didn't expect to experience another vicious cycle of abuse, but I did.

Creating a safe space for the children in my community is very important to me. Children should be able to just be children, without fear. That requires having honest and open conversations with our children and paying attention to learn and understand them. I want this film to teach people, parents and community members that we should be mindful of the children around us. They should feel safe to speak up if they are being harmed."



MEET THE SURVIVOR ADVOCATES Jacque | South Africa



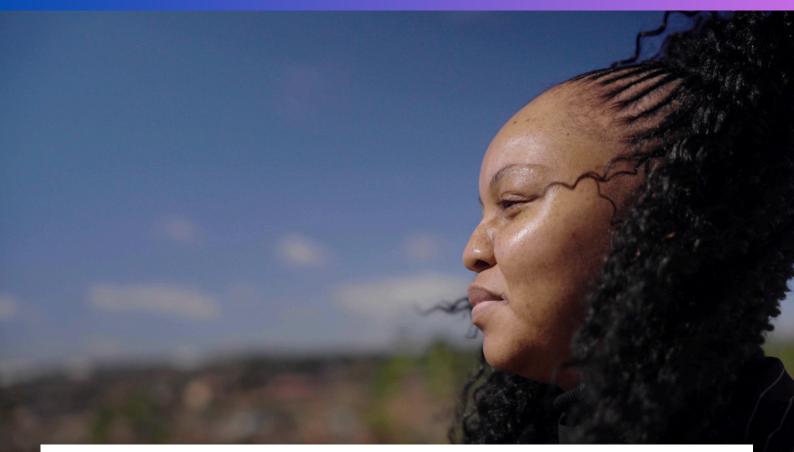
Jacque grew up in Alexandra, South Africa. She works for ADAPT, a civil society organization focused on addressing gender-based violence by providing support and training to women, men, youth, and the elderly. That is how she found healing and began helping others heal.

Jacque experienced intrafamilial childhood sexual abuse as a teenager. She sees this happening over and over again in South Africa. She believes the justice system in her country is failing victims and survivors, and law enforcement is re-victimizing survivors while being lenient with offenders. Jacque's hope is that the film motivates victims and survivors to seek help and find justice.

'I was raped by someone I knew when I was 17 and gave birth to a baby girl on my 18th birthday. I was threatened and told not to tell anyone if I didn't want my family to be killed, including myself."



MEET THE SURVIVOR ADVOCATES Thabile | South Africa



When Thabile was 17, she was raped by a friend. She blamed herself for it, asking herself what she had done to deserve it and if she could have prevented it. She went to the Alexandra police station and opened a case. The perpetrator was tried in court and later convicted.

"At 18, I learned that I was conceived as a result of rape. This revelation elicited intense emotions, including denial, anger, and bitterness. My childhood was marked by a dysfunctional environment, marred by abuse and rejection from both my community and family.

However, after reaching a breaking point, I sought help and discovered my faith. This transformative experience has empowered me to become a woman of faith, a mother, and a motivational speaker. I am determined to create a positive impact. My experiences have underscored the importance of creating a safe and supportive space for others who have faced similar challenges. I firmly believe that recognizing our individual roles in creating change is essential, and that we all possess the capacity to bring about meaningful change."



SCREENING GUIDE

If you are interested in hosting your own screening of "My justice, my voice: Speaking up to end childhood sexual violence", follow the steps outlined below.

Before the screening:

Step 1: Download the film

This should be one of the first steps as soon as you assemble your team. <u>Download the film</u> and save it on your tech equipment for the screening, using USB speakers or solar-powered projectors, hosting radio call-ins or WhatsApp listening circles for post-screening discussions.

Step 2: Assemble your hosting team

Start your planning process by assembling a team of volunteers to support your screening. These can be your friends, family, or wider community network, depending on the type of screening you would like to host.

Your volunteer team can vary in size, but should include individuals responsible for managing logistics for the event, outreach and communications to attendees, tech equipment on the day of the event, and discussions with attendees following the film screening. Where possible, assign one person as the trauma-informed discussion lead.

Visit the Brave Movement's <u>Get Help</u> page to find free, confidential support in your country.

Step 3: Find a venue and choose a date

After the team has been assembled, you should find a venue and choose a date for the screening. Ideally, the venue should be an accessible one. Consider partnering with community organisations, university societies, public libraries, or community centres for cohosting or cross-promotion. Depending on the scale of the screening, you can even host it at home with close family and friends.

When choosing your date, keep in mind who your audience will be and when they will most likely be available to join your screening.

Step 4: Outreach and invitations

Note: Remember to include a content or trigger warning in the invitation, as the film contains highly sensitive content. If you need free and confidential support, visit our <u>Get Help</u> page to find support resources in your country. You are not alone.

Once your date and venue are finalised, you can reach out to your audience through both digital and written invitations, word of mouth, and social media.

It is vital to invite individuals who play a role in keeping children safe in your community, such as local government representatives, traditional leaders, police officers, teachers, and other community groups.

- To manage and track who will be attending, create a please reply (RSVP) link using the platform of your choice, such as Google Forms, Apple Invites, WhatsApp messaging, or Eventbrite.
- Follow up with invitees and send out invitations as you get closer to your screening date. Ideally, you should aim to have at least 20% more attendees registered than your event capacity, to account for those who may not be able to make it at the last minute.
- Promote the event across social media, email, WhatsApp, and survivor networks.
- Send reminders 2–3 days and 1 day before the event, including an agenda and some <u>safeguarding resources</u> where possible.

Step 5: Assign a moderator or dialogue lead

Select and assign a co-host or moderator to facilitate discussions after the screening. Potential moderators could include religious leaders, women's group members, or local youth champions. If helpful, provide sample scripts in local or regional languages, depending on your region.

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During and after the screening

Step 1: Welcome and framing

Before attendees arrive, double-check the tech setup. Once everyone has arrived, welcome them and explain the purpose of the screening. Reiterate the film's content warning. If you have a safeguarding or trauma-informed lead, this will be a good time to introduce them.

Step 2: Play the film

Ensure everyone is prepared before pressing play. Keep the environment calm, safe, and respectful. Once the film finishes, allow 3-5 minutes for silence and emotional processing. Gently invite reflections or reactions, but do not force participation. Offer creative expression options if verbal sharing feels hard: post-it notes and, if online, emoji reactions.

Step 3: Facilitated discussion

Using our guide, ask questions that invite attendees to share reflections or learnings. The guide is included in the Annex (page 18).

Call to action (to end your screening)

Encourage attendees to take immediate action after your screening to keep the conversation going and build momentum. This not only extends the reach of the film's message but also connects the public to the broader goals of the Brave Movement and the overall government accountability process for ending childhood sexual violence.

Encourage attendees to:

- Share a link to the film on social media: after the screening, share the film's <u>public link</u> with attendees and invite them to share it on their preferred platforms with a short reflection on what they took from the screening.
- Share quote cards on social media: provide access to the <u>quote cards</u> and other social media posts for attendees to share. Encourage attendees to adapt the posts in their own words while tagging key decision makers and using #BeBrave.
- Join the Brave Movement
- Share event photos: if photos are taken at the screening, ensure all individuals pictured in the photos have given their consent before sharing. Encourage tagging Brave Movement's official accounts (@BeBraveGlobal on X, Brave Movement on LinkedIn, and @bebraveglobal on Instagram) and using the hashtags provided in the social toolkit (found below).

Note: The Brave Movement only works with adult survivors. We are committed to ensuring the safety of all the survivors with whom we work and are part of the movement, and therefore, we require that all adults featured in photos shared on social media have given their consent to do so. In addition, we strongly recommend not featuring children in any photos, especially if they are survivors, to ensure their safety and anonymity.



SAFEGUARDING

Creating a safe and respectful environment is essential at all film screenings, especially given the sensitive nature of the content. Screening organizers must ensure that every stage of the screening, from planning to post-screening discussions, prioritizes the safety, well-being, and dignity of survivors, attendees, and facilitators.

Visit the Brave Movement's <u>Get Help</u> page to find available support in your country.

Here is an example of a content warning message to share:

A Content warning and safeguarding

Please note that the film being screened contains sensitive and potentially triggering content related to childhood sexual violence, including intrafamilial abuse. We recognise the emotional impact this may have on survivors and others in the audience. Safeguarding staff will be available on-site throughout the event. All participants are encouraged to prioritise their well-being, and may choose to step out or seek support at any time during the screening or discussion. If you or anyone needs support, you can find a list of resources available in your country on our <u>Get Help</u> page.

Before the screening

- Content warning: Provide a clear content advisory for all invitations and promotion materials, and at the start of the event. This should outline that the film addresses childhood sexual violence and may be distressing.
- Consent and opt-in/out: Ensure participants are informed and voluntarily choose to attend and leave at will. Avoid situations where attendance is mandatory.
- Support services: Identify and partner with local psychosocial support providers who can be available on-site or virtually. Share their contact details before and after the screening.
- Facilitator briefing: Brief all moderators and speakers on safeguarding protocols, trauma-informed facilitation, and managing sensitive disclosures.

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During the screening

- Safe spaces: Provide a quiet, private area for anyone who needs to step out during the film.
- On-site support: Have a trained safeguarding or trauma-informed lead present and visible to attendees.
- Respect privacy: No filming, photography, or live-streaming should be allowed without informed consent from all featured speakers/audience members. We advise against filming the film's contents.

After the screening

- Facilitated discussion: Ensure post-screening conversations are guided by trained facilitators to avoid re-traumatisation and to keep dialogue constructive and respectful.
- Follow-up resources: Provide written and verbal information on support services and ways to get involved in advocacy. Our <u>Get Help</u> page can be a good place to start.
- Incident reporting and feedback: Have a transparent, confidential process for reporting and responding to safeguarding concerns during the event.



SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLKIT

Suggested posts for screening organizers

Platform	Сору
	Join us in watching and sharing @Brave Movement's new film, so we can put an end to childhood sexual violence!
LinkedIn	Survivors must be listened to—and global leaders must act now. It's time for stronger protections and urgent action to #EndChildhoodSexualViolence.
	₩ Watch the film ← https://youtu.be/lBahR9jb7lU →
	#BeBrave #ViolenceIsPreventable @Rays of Hope Community Development Foundation @On Our Radar
Twitter / X	5 Today we screened @bebraveglobal's "My justice, my voice: Speaking up to #EndChildhoodSexualViolence."
	Three brave survivors share their experience of childhood sexual abuse and call on leaders to take action factorized https://youtu.be/lBahR9jb7lU
	#BeBrave @rhofsdngo @OnOurRadar
Twitter / X	6 "I'm not ashamed to share my story because I know it's going to help someone heal."
	Today we screened @bebraveglobal's survivor-centered film "My justice, my voice: Speaking up to #EndChildhoodSexualViolence" https://youtu.be/lBahR9jb7lU
	#BeBrave @rhofsdngo @OnOurRadar

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Suggested images

- Photos/videos of your screening showing audience members and the film being shown on screen. Please ensure consent is gathered from attendees to take pictures and share them, and we advise not to feature children in any pictures.
- Approved survivor quote cards (provided below).
- Photos/videos from the discussion after the film, spotlighting individual members, speakers, and attendees. **Note:** If any of the attendees do not consent to be featured in photos or ask specifically not to be in them, please take this into account and not include them in any of the photos you take at the screening.

Downloadable assets for screening hosts

You can download these assets to promote the screening and the film:

- Approved <u>quote cards</u>
- Generic film graphic



SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLKIT

Suggested posts for screening attendees

Platform	Сору
LinkedIn	Today I attended a screening of "My justice, my voice: Speaking up to end childhood sexual violence", a short film by @Brave Movement following the lived experiences of three survivors of childhood sexual violence—Thabile, Jacque, and Sheila.
	The film highlights the complex and unspoken nature of intrafamilial violence and reflects on what meaningful action and accountability must look like.
	To #EndChildhoodSexualViolence, survivor voices must be heard and governments must invest in prevention, healing and justice. Watch the film 👉 https://youtu.be/lBahR9jb7lU 👈
	#BeBrave #ViolenceIsPreventable @Rays of Hope Community Development Foundation @On Our Radar
LinkedIn	"I'm not ashamed to share my story, because I know it's going to help someone to heal."
	Today I attended a screening of "My justice, my voice: Speaking up to end childhood sexual violence" a survivor-centred short film by @Brave Movement calling on urgent, transformative action by governments around the world to #EndChildhoodSexualViolence and help survivors heal.
	World leaders must #BeBrave so children everywhere can be safe. Watch the film ← https://youtu.be/lBahR9jb7lU →
	#ViolenceIsPreventable @Rays of Hope Community Development Foundation @On Our Radar
Twitter / X	"I'm not ashamed to share my story because I know it's going to help someone heal."
	Today I watched @bebraveglobal's survivor-centered film "My justice, my voice: Speaking up to #EndChildhoodSexualViolence" — https://youtu.be/lBahR9jb7lU →
	#BeBrave @rhofsdngo @OnOurRadar



DISCUSSION GUIDE

Facilitate a respectful group conversation after the film. We advise hosts to conduct a two-to five-minute grounding session to reduce anxiety and improve concentration.

1. Personal reflections and reactions

- What was your biggest takeaway from the film?
- Was there a moment that deeply resonated with your experience or community?
- What emotions are you feeling after learning more about these lived experiences?

2. Understanding intrafamilial childhood sexual violence

- In your opinion, how does intrafamilial child sexual abuse differ from other forms of childhood sexual violence?
- How is childhood sexual violence talked about or silenced in your community?
- What role does power play in these cases?
- What are some of the risks children and adolescents face in your community?

3. Impact on survivors

- How did the experiences shared by the survivors illustrate the different ways childhood sexual violence affects victims and survivors?
- What are some of the short and long-term impacts of intrafamilial child sexual abuse on survivors' mental health, relationships, and overall well-being?

4. Justice and accountability

- Thabile and Sheila both mention justice—what does justice mean to you? What role did justice play in each of their cases?
- What barriers do survivors face when seeking justice in your country or region?
- What opportunities exist in your community to demand action from legal systems and leaders?

5. Generational trauma and healing

- How does Jacque's story as both a survivor and a mother of a survivor show the cycle of violence?
- What helps survivors begin to heal?
- What local traditions, spaces, or practices support emotional recovery?

6. Role of family and community

- What role did the community's support or silence play in the film?
- What would a supportive community response look like?
- How can families become safer places for children and survivors?

7. Cultural, societal, and religious factors

- How does culture, society, or religion influence how people treat survivors in your environment?
- How can faith leaders, chiefs, elders, or community leaders help break harmful social norms?

8. Support systems and services

- What support services exist for survivors of intrafamilial child sexual violence abuse in your area?
- How can communities better support survivors in their healing journey?

9. Raising awareness and breaking the silence

- Why is it powerful for survivors to speak out publicly?
- What risks do they take and how can we protect them?
- How can young people, schools, and social media be part of raising awareness?

10. Call to action

- What is one action you will take after watching this film?
- What do you want your local government, traditional leaders, or school authorities to do
- How can this group stay involved beyond today's screening?



Appendix A

SCREENING CHECKLIST

Before the screening

Step 1: Download the film

To avoid issues on the day of the event, download the film in case you are unable to watch it on the Brave Movement website.

- Watch the film on the Brave Movement website
- Download the film

Step 2: Assemble the team

Identify two to four members as volunteers. Their roles can include:

- Host
- Tech/AV lead
- Discussion facilitator
- Community liaison (faith leaders, local orgs)
- Mental health support (if available)

Have a first meeting to align roles and responsibilities:

- First meeting
- Confirmed participation
- Decide if the screening will be online or offline

Step 3: Choose the venue and date

- Scope possible venues and decide whether to co-host with other civil society organizations, community centers, town halls...
- Get in touch with the venue to ask permission for use
- Get all necessary permits
- Confirm the venue
- Check for adequate seating
- Allocate a private space (if possible) for emotional support
- Check accessibility requirements
- Check electricity or solar backup
- Check access to AV or projector

Step 4: Set date and RSVP link

- Map audience and select a date and time that is convenient
- Where possible, use a Doodle poll to vote for available times and dates (this is not ideal for large gatherings)
- When designing the invite, it should state that the film features sensitive content and include a trigger or content to let attendees know ahead of the screening
- Include in the invite: To find available support in your country, visit <u>bravemovement.org/help</u>
- Send invitations using Google Forms, Apple Invites, Eventbrite, WhatsApp, or word of mouth
- Include RSVP in local languages to ensure accessibility
- Send the first reminder
- Confirm attendees and share the agenda and safeguarding resources
- Send final reminders
- Assign a member of the organizing team to support attendees in locating the venue on the day
- Promote the event by sharing it with your networks and on social media

Step 4: Assign a dialogue lead

Use our discussion guide (page 16) to facilitate a discussion after the screening.

- Assign a co-host or discussion lead
- Go over the questions in the discussion guide
- Print guides

Screening day

- Screening
- Audience reflections/facilitated discussion
- Feedback
- Call to action shared with attendees

After the screening

• Reflection and debrief with volunteer team members



Appendix B

LOGISTICS CHECKLIST

Tech/Screening the film:

- Do you have a strong enough internet connection to play it directly from the film website?
- Who will download the film so it can be played without internet access (as a backup)?
- Does the individual downloading the film have a USB to store the film and/or does their device connect to the projector at the venue?
- Does the projector at the venue have adequate sound capacity?
- Do you need to arrange for external speakers to attend the screening?

Attendee list:

- Will you have a sign-in process at the event?
- Who will be responsible for signing people in?
- Will refreshments be available at the event?
- How will you account for dietary restrictions?

Discussion:

- Who will be responsible for running the discussion after the film (discussion guide on p.18)?
- Will the discussion be held in small groups or with all the attendees simultaneously?

Set up and clean up

• Who will support the set up and clean up before and after the event?

Call to action

• Before you end your event, share the film's call to action with attendees and encourage them to share the film on social media. Include a link to the <u>film page</u>.

Use the social media toolkit provided in this guide to amplify your screening. Sharing the screening on social media will help keep the conversation going after your event takes place and hold world leaders accountable for implementing policy decisions and investing in ending childhood sexual violence.

Acknowledgements

We are extremely grateful to Jacque, Thabile and Sheila for their invaluable roles in the creation of this film.

Special thanks to our partners at <u>Rays of Hope</u> for their ongoing support and collaboration in making this film a reality.

Thank you to On Our Radar for their work on our second short survivor-centred film. The first one, <u>"Beyond the Screen: Hidden Voices of Online Abuse"</u>, released in 2024, sheds light on the crisis of online child sexual abuse. If you would like to screen this short film, learn how to do so in our <u>screening guide</u>.



