**Not Today: THE CAUSE**

**FACT SHEET**

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<td>SYNOPSIS</td>
<td>From California to India, <strong>NOT TODAY</strong> weaves a moving and inspiring story of a young man’s journey from spoiled Orange County “adult-olescent” to a true believer in the fight against human trafficking, risking his life to help the helpless.</td>
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| FEATURING   | Cody Longo *(Hollywood Heights)* is Caden  
Walid Amini is Kiran  
Persis Karen is Annika  
John Schneider *(Smallville, The Dukes of Hazzard)* is Luke  
Shari Rigby *(OCTOBER BABY, The Bold and the Beautiful)* as Sarah  
Cassie Scerbo is Audrey |
| RELEASING   | 2013 |
| DIRECTOR    | Jon Van Dyke |
| EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS | Mark Clayman |
| PRODUCER    | Matthew Cork |
SYNOPSIS

In Southern California’s affluent Orange County, spoiled trust fund kids like Caden Welles (CODY LONGO) have no problem with partying; the problem is how to fill so many amply funded nights and days. Why not blindly toss a dart at a world map to party where it lands? Yeah! So it is Caden blows past his Christian mom (SHARI RIGBY) and stepdad (JOHN SCHNEIDER) to join friends on a plane headed to Hyderabad, India.

In Hyderabad the problem for Kiran (WALID AMINI) is food to eat and a safe place to sleep for him and his young daughter Annika (PERSIS KAREN). As Dalits, they belong to India’s lowest caste, “untouchables.” For Kiran and Annika, every day is a struggle with want, prejudice and violence.

When a chance encounter unites the two men and little girl, Caden slams up hard against India’s caste system. His swagger unwinds further when he learns that Kiran, believing he’s sent his daughter away for an education, has sold her into sex slavery.

From the top of Orange County and from India’s bottom rung, two men embark on an odyssey to find a young girl and, for Caden, to find life’s meaning and value.

NOT TODAY is a story from today’s headlines about the blight of prejudice and human trafficking that enslaves millions each year, particularly from among India’s Dalits.
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND INDIA’S ‘DALITS’

Each year around the world, 2.5 million human beings are trafficked. Underage female prostitution alone is a multibillion-dollar industry. Each year across Southeast Asia, a million children are trafficked.

Yet no people group is as exploited and trafficked as India’s Dalits, a population whose name means “broken” or “crushed,” as in “outcasts” or “untouchables.” India’s Dalits literally are its “slum dogs”—debased, dehumanized, impoverished and defenseless against enslavement. Of India’s 1.2 billion people, more than 250 million are classified as “Dalits,” and of India’s trafficking victims, more than 90 percent are Dalits.

For most U.S. citizens, life in a caste system is hard to grasp—as is the plight of outcasts. Dr. Joseph D’souza is a higher-caste Indian who created Dalit Freedom Network, currently building 2,000 schools for Dalit children. In 2010, at the Lausanne Conference in Cape Town, South Africa, D’souza tried to convey the Dalit mentality: “I remember Dalit leaders telling us 15 years ago that by the time (children) are 12 to 13, ‘It’s over. Our kids are brainwashed at home.’ Parents, to protect their children, tell them, ‘Don’t go to that side of the well. Don’t go to that part of the village.’ . . . They go to the school and face discrimination. They’re beaten up. By the time they’re 12 or 13 many of them are abused—and we are raising a generation of people who have slavery in our heads.”

The Dalits’ “lowest of the low” status comes from India’s entrenched Hindu-sanctioned hierarchy—a 3,000-year-old system of rank and occupations, at the bottom of which Dalits’ work is believed to pollute them and make them contagious. Although India’s constitution officially forbids caste discrimination, its effects continue to label and cripple hundreds of millions of people.

Amid growing awareness of the unjust plight of the Dalits, Friends Church of Yorba Linda Calif., created Friends Media to produce NOT TODAY—to awaken Americans to a brutalizing mindset fueling a world crisis. Friends has committed $20 million to fund 200 schools—10 percent of D’souza’s 2,000-school goal. One hundred schools are up and operating, 42 funded by Friends, and NOT TODAY profits help advance that goal.

‘NOT TODAY’ MOVIE TO HELP FIGHT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Wealthy Orange County Church Makes Feature Film to Help India’s ‘Untouchables’ and Battle Sex Slavery

"We will build more schools but NOT TODAY can go further to inform the world of what is happening in our country. I would rather spend the money to make a movie to raise awareness around the globe of the Dalit issue."

Dr. Joseph D'souza
Founder, President, Dalit Freedom Network

YORBA LINDA, Calif. – June 15, 2012 – As part of the rising movement against international sex trafficking among U.S. Christians, an Orange County megachurch—Friends Church of Yorba Linda (FCYL)—has made a feature-length to help stir awareness and action.
“This is entertainment with purpose,” said Producer Brent Martz, also creative ministries pastor at FCYL. “NOT TODAY is the first feature-length, faith-based film to take on an international issue.”

In the film, Caden (Cody Longo, Hollywood Heights, Fame, Make It or Break It) is a spoiled SoCal rich kid who goes with friends to party in India. On its city streets he’s oblivious to the “untouchables” until a young girl sold into slavery draws him into the world of India’s lower-caste Dalits. Fighting to find her, Caden finds himself and God.

NOT TODAY is one means by which FCYL, Friends Media creator and the film’s producer, is meeting its promise to build 200 schools for Dalit children in India, a $20 million project. Film profits help Friends fund schools and change lives.

“At the bottom of the caste system are people robbed of any idea that they’re made in the image of God,” said Matthew Cork, NOT TODAY executive producer and lead pastor of Friends Church. “Dalit men and women grow up believing they’re less than animals. They teach their children that to touch light-skinned kids is to defile them.”

The Dalit population’s large size and abject status render them, of all people groups in the world, most vulnerable to the global industry in human abuse:

- An estimated 2.5 million people worldwide are in forced labor including sexual exploitation as a result of trafficking. SOURCE: U.N. Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking
- More than 1.2 million children in India alone are hired in human trafficking as child prostitutes. SOURCE: National Underground Railroad Freedom Center India Conference
- Profits from all trafficked forced labor: estimated $31.6 billion/year. SOURCE: U.N. Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking
- Examples of the rising Christian front in the fight against human trafficking:
  - “Dozens of Roman Catholic bishops in South America say human trafficking has seen ‘alarming growth’ in the region” and called for action. SOURCE: CNN, May 31, 2011
  - “World Relief and other Christian agencies like the Salvation Army are stepping up efforts and working with law enforcement to stem the flow of human trafficking, which includes sex trafficking and labor trafficking.” SOURCE: CNN Religion Blog 2012
  - 2011 Conference on Religion, Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery hosted by the Denver University’s Iliff School of Theology
  - As with Friends Church, many individual churches have programs and ministries against human trafficking locally and globally.
  - Louis Giglio, founder of the Passion movement, heavily focused the Passion 2012 conference on the battle against trafficking and the support of exploited people.

Certain international celebrities are drawing attention to slavery issues:

- Ricky Martin formed a foundation to fight trafficking and crimes against children.
- Ashley Judd signed on as U.N. Ambassador on the issue.
- Mira Sorvino, Academy Award-winning actress, is a U.N. Goodwill Ambassador since starring in one of the first feature films to tackle the issue.

Located in an “industry town,” Friends Media produced NOT TODAY with filmmaking veterans: noted documentary director Jon Van Dyke, making his feature film debut; cinematographer Abraham Martinez of SPIDER-MAN 3; and Don Harper, who composed or conducted for films such as NATIONAL TREASURE and HANCOCK.
Why a film? Why not use $1.6 million to more directly fight human trafficking? Because of the power of a well-told story, says Dr. Joseph D’souza, founder of Dalit Freedom Network, aiming to build 2,000 schools to educate Dalit children.

"We will build more schools but NOT TODAY can inform people far beyond India of the crisis here," D’souza said. “I would rather see the money raise awareness.”

For Friends Church, no choice exists between film and schools; one spurs the other. Friends' goal to build 200 schools in India arose from a commitment to meet 10 percent of D’souza’s efforts.

Coming to theaters in 2013, NOT TODAY opens new angles and important new conversations on a crisis finally finding its audience.

FRIENDS CHURCH FACT SHEET

FriendsChurchYL.com NotTodaytheMovie.com

WHAT
Over a hundred years ago citizens in Yorba Linda helped found a Quaker church called Friends, now the largest church in the Quaker denomination (though operating as non-denominational). Sunday attendance averages 5,000 people, and Friends lists as one of the top 100 U.S. Churches in terms of growth. Attracting young families from Yorba Linda and beyond, Friends attendees average age 40. Matthew Cork is lead pastor. (The Nixon Library is directly across the church parking lot.)

MISSION
The Friends Church mission is to “extend our lives (local church), to expand our influence (community) and to enlarge our impact (global)” – a commitment to become “a community of authentic Christ followers.”

Two-Part Global Mission
- To support Dalit Freedom Network and Operation Mercy Charitable Company: Both are unwavering in wanting to see the caste system eradicated in India, with education a key step in that process.

- To build 70 Dalit Education Centers in the short term toward a 10-year goal of 200 Dalit Education Centers. Also to build 30 Vocational Trade Centers helping Dalit women learn specific trades and make better livings.
FRIENDS CHURCH GLOBAL FREEDOM MOVEMENT

MISSION “To empower tomorrow’s generation today.”

VISION Through the Global Freedom Movement, Friends Church in Yorba Linda wants to help end India’s caste system and bring true freedom to the Dalit people. Using education, health care, social justice and other means to combat poverty—and through the gospel of Jesus—Friends members see the work with India’s Dalits as their church’s single greatest mission opportunity ever.

DESCRIPTION Friends Church is committed to becoming a community of authentic Christ-followers. The Global Freedom Movement advances Friends’ mission to:
- EXTEND our lives (Local Church)
- EXPAND our influence (Community)
- ENLARGE our impact (Global)

LAUNCH 2009 as the main vision of Friends Church

LEADERSHIP Matthew Cork, Lead Pastor

In the coming years, Global Freedom will:

Continue Current Partnerships in India: We currently work with Operation Mobilization India and Operation Mercy Charitable Company. Both unwaveringly want to see India’s caste system eradicated; both believe education is a key to Dalit freedom.

Build Schools: Heading toward our 10-year goal of 200 Dalit Education Centers, besides 70 Dalit Education Centers, we hope to build 30 Vocational Trade Centers for Dalit women to learn a specific trade and make better livings for their families.

Cast and Crew Bios

PRODUCING—CREATIVE TEAM

MATTHEW CORK
Executive Producer
Besides executive producing NOT TODAY, Matthew Cork is lead pastor of Friends Church of Yorba Linda, Calif., a 100-year-old congregation. During his tenure, Friends Church’s robust ministry, inside and out, has included a bold $20 million commitment to build 200 schools for the “untouchable” Dalit children of India.
In 2007, on Matthew’s first trip to India, two things stood out: the Dalits’ untenable circumstances and Dalit Freedom Network—using education to empower and free a long-oppressed people. Matthew returned to the U.S. and launched a new vision campaign, the Global Freedom Movement, “to empower tomorrow’s generation today.”

An accomplished professional musician, Matthew has an undergraduate degree in communications and music and a master’s in pastoral studies from Azusa Pacific University. He has served as worship pastor, executive pastor and lead pastor at Friends Church. He lives in Yorba Linda with his wife, Mardi, and their three children: Nolan, Sophie and Ella.

JON VAN DYKE
Director/Writer
Jon Van Dyke spent more than 22 years in the Hollywood entertainment industry, working on film and television sets for directors such as Tim Burton and entertainers such as Siegfried & Roy. His ability to guide and motivate, especially in work with talent, is a proven commodity in the production world.

One of his films, UNNACHGIEBIGE, was an audience favorite at the Los Angeles Film Festival and used by Sony as an example of excellence in high-def filming—shown at the Director’s Guild of America in Los Angeles and Hong Kong.

BRENT MARTZ
Producer
Brent Martz, producer of NOT TODAY, is creative ministries pastor at Friends Church in Yorba Linda, Calif., and no stranger to large-scale entertainment with purpose. Brent co-wrote, directed and produced an interactive musical-drama based on the last week in the life of Christ with a cast and crew of more than 200 members, which ran for three years and drew more than 10,000 viewers. Brent has produced four award-winning films, including DAY OF RECKONING and DELETES.

PRINCIPAL CAST
CODY LONGO
Caden
Before dynamic young actor Cody Longo landed a starring role in Nick at Nite’s anticipated series Hollywood Heights, he movie and TV fans knew him from FAME, Make It or Break It, CSI:NY and many more. To the pivotal role of Caden in NOT TODAY, Cody brings experience playing young men struggling to find their identity. A Colorado native, Cody is also an accomplished musician and composer.

WALID AMINI
Kiran
A native of Kabul, Afghanistan, Walid Amini was featured in the 2010 film BLACK TULIP, shot on location in Afghanistan, depicting Afghani’s newfound freedom after 9/11. For that film, Walid won Best Lead Actor (Breakthrough Performance) at the Monaco Film Festival. He also has appeared in U.S. television series such as NCIS and Lie to Me. Walid
graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in computer science and is an accomplished pianist.

PERSIS KAREN
Annika
The pivotal role of Annika, the young girl handed into slavery by her unwitting father, is portrayed by Persis Karen. Persis herself is a Dalit and a child of the slums of Hyderabad—she also is recipient of the Breakthrough Performance award at the 2012 Charity Film Festival in Monaco. The school Persis attends, an Operation Mobilization school funded by the Dalit Freedom Network, will benefit from the profits of NOT TODAY.

JOHN SCHNEIDER
Luke
John Schneider plays Luke, stepfather of Caden, in NOT TODAY. John began acting at age eight in his home state of New York; moving to Atlanta at age 14, he broke into local theater and film. (John had a small part in SMOKEY AND THE BANDIT (1977) starring Burt Reynolds.) John’s break came with the role of Bo Duke on The Dukes of Hazzard, which ran on CBS from 1979 to 1985. He later became a successful country singer with multiple No. 1 songs. He continues a successful acting career in both television and film and has created many memorable characters on shows such as Smallville and Dr. Quinn Medicine Woman.

SHARI RIGBY
Sarah
Actress Shari Rigby plays Sarah, Caden’s mother, in NOT TODAY. Shari hails from North Dakota, and it was stepping into her small town’s movie theater, she says, that her world opened into the transforming power of storytelling.

After her family moved to Phoenix, and still in college, she landed her first modeling jobs and appeared on a national magazine cover at age 20. Local and regional acting roles followed, as did Hollywood. Now in LA, Shari’s eight independent dramatic feature films include OCTOBER BABY (2012) with John Schneider and Jasmine Guy; EASY RIDER: THE RIDE BACK (2011); and NOT TODAY. Television credits include The Young and the Restless and The Bold and the Beautiful.

SHARE

Thanks for helping share the excitement as NOT TODAY will be coming to theaters in 2013. Grab a Facebook timeline image or avatar and help spread the word about the film.