

'Anybody's Child'Helpful Tips.

Introduction.

The aim of the film is to show the signs of the grooming process and how easy child sexual exploitation can happen. It's not an easy film to watch, the situation the main character Charlie finds herself in is terrible. By the end of the film she is lost and would be almost impossible to save, totally controlled by Dan and the dangerous influences around her. At the beginning she is a typical teenager from a typical family. Speaking to parents, teachers etc. whilst making the film they often comment 'it only happens to kids at risk, it wouldn't happen to mine'. NO, this DOES and CAN happen to ANYCHILD, from ANY background, ANY family, ANY school, ANY area! It could be happening to children you know...

The young people in Chatback wanted to something to raise awareness. They decided not to save Charlie in their film because they want you to watch the film, learn how to recognise the signs, tell those around you and help other people to know the signs and then TOGETHER we can save hundreds of young boys and girls just like Charlie.

Don't forget, although Charlie is a girl in the story, it happens to boys too.

How To Use The Film.

'Anybody's Child' is divided into 5 short films, you can watch them one by one or all together, the titles are there to help you consider the most important message.

Below are the key prompt questions you may wish to consider about the characters and situations in the film.

One of the key factors needed is developing a safe and respectful relationship with the child/pupil. Where they can discuss ideas, problems and life lessons is THE most effective way to stop the child becoming a target.....TALK, TALK, TALK. This is what the bad guys do not want you to do, so make sure you do!

If in a classroom you may want to set the questions as small group discussions and then feedback to the group, you may want to stay as one group and debate them together.

Discussion Points

Film 1: Kids Today?

1. Should a young person's bedroom be a parent free zone?
2. What do you think Dan's parents would think/do if they went into his room?
3. What influences can you see surrounding Dan that are dangerous?

TIPS-These questions are meant to spark debate:

- How much personal freedom should children have?
- What's the effect of drugs & pornography on Dan?

- Why do you think Dan's parents do not check what he is doing?
- Charlie is from a typical family – why would anyone target her?

Film 2: Enemy At The Gate

1. This film is about the grooming process . what is the grooming process and how is it shown in the film?
2. How does Dan win Charlie's trust?
3. Why could Face book be dangerous in this situation?

Tips-These questions are meant to spark debate?

- Dan targeted Charlie because she's vulnerable, what made her vulnerable?
- Who can you trust, who can you talk to?
- Young people meet and think they are in 'love' very quickly. Dan is an expert at this, what does he do to win Charlie's trust?
- People like Dan target 'normal' places such as school gates, what could be done to make children aware of this? What precautions could your school put in place?

Film 3: Young Love?

1. How is Charlie in Danger?
2. What could happen if John spoke about his concerns to his mum at this point in the story?
3. Why is Charlie putting up with Dan's abusive behaviour?

TIPS-These questions are meant to spark debate?

- Why don't Charlie's parents know where she is?
- What effect can truancy have on her life?
- Making sure you tell the right person about your concerns at the right time, don't leave it too late!
- Why is John concerned? Why doesn't he tell his parents?
- Is it our duty to tell someone if we are concerned? What should Wendy's mum do?
- What should the police officer have done?
- Why is Charlie behaving like this/
- What's in it for Dan and his mates?
- What is 'Teenage partner abuse'?

Film 4: If You Loved Me You'd Do It

1. Charlie is obviously scared, why doesn't she tell someone?
2. Why don't Charlie's friends or teacher help?
3. What are the signs that Charlie is in too deep?

TIPS-These questions are meant to spark debate?

- Recognise your 'inner scream'-this is the moment when you have a panicky feeling inside, you know something is wrong. Charlie never acts on hers, why?
- The teacher acknowledges that Charlie is never at school, what should be done? Do you think the teacher understands what's happening to Charlie?
- What needs to be done to help teachers/parents/friends know the signs?
- Charlie is now trapped, she's gone too far. What can you and others around her do to help her?
- What is emotional abuse? How does Dan use this?
- It appears Dan is getting Charlie into trouble, stealing etc.-why is he doing this, what's in it for him?
- Discuss the influence of 'risky sex, drugs, alcohol.

Film 5: Hush Little Baby.

1. What does the future hold for Charlie?
2. Thinking back over Charlie's story, are there moments where someone could have intervened and helped her?
3. What's going to happen to Charlie's family?

TIPS-These questions are meant to spark debate?

- It's too late for Charlie now what has happened to her has changed her forever, her childhood is lost.
- Who or what could have stopped this and when?
- How can we as a community stop child sexual exploitation and trafficking?

A Final Word From The Producer & Two Of The Actors.

Jane Ahmed Producer.

I hope that after watching this film you will agree that safeguarding children, is the responsibility of us all. Recognising how easy this can happen to 'Anybody's Child' including yours is the start.

The messages within the film are clear. I urge you to consider theses and ask yourself the questions raised in the film about the children you know.

I hope this storyline is a wakeup call to you all, and you like me can save the next Charlie or Dan!

Amelia (Played Charlie)

Charlie was not easy characters to portray, due to everything she experiences. Doing the character research alone was harrowing, having to learn about the reality of sexual exploitation and how easily any young girl could fall down this rabbit hole and become ensnared in such a horrifying situation. Charlie, like many other girls, becomes trapped and lost within a cycle of shame and abuse and cannot escape her situation, This is why it's imperative that everyone who watches the film realises

that anyone could be in her situation, and use the film and the knowledge gained from the film to be able to spot potential Charlie's, to help to save even just one life.

Dan (Played Lewis)

"Portraying the character Dan, was terrifying. Don't get me wrong I loved every seconds of making the film! But after studying this nightmarish persona to the extent that I hated him, and then having to watch the movie come to life, with me as the face of this indecent human being; it was horrible to see and it's opened my eyes to the truth of this world.

I do however hope that people watching this all over the country hate Dan just as much as I do, as that's the only way that people will notice the signs and dangers of sexual exploitation, so people can finally do something about it.

My dream outcome of this project is to bring families together so that parents and siblings will notice the warning signs at the beginning and prevent the hurt and danger before it even starts."

Rachel Sharpe Writer and Director

Jane Ahmed Producer

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