



Present

The Invisible War

A Film by Kirby Dick and Amy Ziering
Directed and Written by Kirby Dick

Academy Award® Nominee: Best Documentary Feature

2012 Independent Spirit Award Nominee: Best Documentary
2012 Writers Guild Awards Nominee: Best Documentary Screenplay
2012 Directors Guild Awards Nominee: Outstanding Directorial Achievement
One of the Ten Best Films of the Year – Time Magazine
One of the Five Best Documentaries of the Year – National Board of Review
One of the Ten Best Films of the Year – Stephen Holden, The New York Times
Best Documentary of the Year – Chicago Film Critics Association
Best Documentary of the Year – San Diego Film Critics' Awards
2012 Sundance Film Festival Audience Award: U.S. Documentary
2012 International Documentary Association Nominee: Best Feature

Distributed by Cinedigm and Docurama Films

Release Date: Friday, June 22, 2012

Running Time: 97 minutes

www.InvisibleWarMovie.com

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ABOUT THE FILM

From Oscar®- and Emmy®-nominated filmmaker Kirby Dick (*This Film Is Not Yet Rated*; *Twist of Faith*) comes ***The Invisible War***, a groundbreaking investigation about one of America's most shameful and best kept secrets: the epidemic of rape within the U.S. military. The film paints a startling picture of the extent of the problem—today, a female soldier in combat zones is more likely to be raped by a fellow soldier than killed by enemy fire. The Department of Defense estimates there were a staggering 19,300 service members sexually assaulted in 2010 alone.

Focusing on the powerfully emotional stories of rape victims, ***The Invisible War*** is a moving indictment of the systemic cover-up of military sex crimes, chronicling the women's struggles to rebuild their lives and fight for justice. It also features hard-hitting interviews with high-ranking military officials and members of Congress that reveal the perfect storm of conditions that exist for rape in the military, its long-hidden history, and what can be done to bring about much-needed change.

At the core of the film are often heart-rending interviews with the rape survivors themselves—people like Kori Cioca, who was beaten and raped by her supervisor in the U.S. Coast Guard; Ariana Klay, a Marine who served in Iraq before being raped by a senior officer and his friend, then threatened with death; and Trina McDonald who was drugged and raped repeatedly by military policemen on her remote Naval station in Adak, Alaska. And it isn't just women; according to one study's estimate, one percent of men in the military—nearly 20,000 men—were reportedly sexually assaulted in 2009.

And while rape victims in the civilian world can turn to an impartial police force and judicial system for help and justice, rape victims in the military must turn to their commanders—a move that is all too often met with foot-dragging at best, and reprisals at worst. Many rape victims find themselves forced to choose between speaking up and keeping their careers. Little wonder that only eight percent of military sexual assault cases are prosecuted.

The Invisible War exposes the epidemic of sexual assault in the military – one of the most under-reported stories of our generation, a story the filmmakers are proud to be breaking to the nation and the world. They hope the film will help lead a national dialogue about the crime of rape perpetrated on the very people who have pledged to protect our country and are gratified to see the film is already making an impact. Since it premiered at Sundance, the film has been circulating through the highest levels of the Pentagon and the administration. Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta watched ***The Invisible War*** on April 14. Two days later, he directed military commanders to hand over all sexual assault investigations to a higher-ranking colonel. At the same time, Panetta announced that each branch of the armed forces would establish a Special Victims Unit. While these are promising first steps, much more needs to be done.

To that end, ***The Invisible War*** is a call for our civilian and military leadership to listen. And to act.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

For Oscar- and Emmy-nominated director Kirby Dick (*Outrage, This Film Is Not Yet Rated*), the inspiration for *The Invisible War* came from a 2007 Salon.com article about women serving in Iraq entitled “The Private War of Women Soldiers,” by Columbia University journalism professor Helen Benedict. When Dick and Emmy-nominated producing partner Amy Ziering (*Outrage*) read Benedict's piece, they were astounded by the prevalence of sexual assault in the military.

“We were extremely surprised by the extent of the problem, how psychologically damaging it was, and the extent of the cover-up,” Dick says. “More than half a million service men and women have been sexually assaulted since World War II. That comes as a shock to everyone we’ve spoken to. This is my 10th film and its subject matter is the least known to the public of any of my films, even though it most widely affects our society.”

The filmmakers were equally surprised to learn that no one had yet made a feature documentary on the topic and almost immediately decided to make a film about the subject. They began by contacting victims which proved to be a challenging task. “The military really keeps information on lockdown,” Dick says. “If you’re in the military, you can’t speak to the press without approval or you could be court-martialed. And you can’t sue the military for anything that happens to you while in service, so civil courts are not an option to get the truth out.”

Add to that the victims’ difficulty in talking about what they’d experienced. Many are highly traumatized and suffer from shame, agoraphobia and severe depression, Ziering says. “There’s much about being raped in the military that’s very different from civilian rape,” she explains. “In many ways it can be even more profoundly damaging. If you’re a civilian, you can seek immediate comfort and support from friends and family, and you can seek recourse through the criminal justice system. If you are raped in the military, you don’t have these options. Plus, it goes against the creed you’ve been taught—‘A good soldier doesn’t tell on a fellow soldier -- good marines suck it up.’ All these things combined have kept so many victims from being able to talk about what happened to them.”

To find subjects, the filmmakers put up a Facebook page inviting victims to share their stories off the record. They also scoured the Internet for press stories, usually from small outlets, on the topic, and began contacting victims’ advocates and journalists. It started slowly at first but over the next few months, Ziering says, “I had dozens of very sad and astonishingly similar e-mail messages from all over the country. Over and over again different women recounted virtually identical stories of experiencing a brutal assault followed by ostracization and isolation. It was chilling,” Ziering says.

Dick and Ziering contacted over 150 women, interviewing approximately 70 of them for several hours each. Based on these interviews, they narrowed it down to their top two dozen subjects to film preliminary interviews. The filmmakers chose to travel to wherever their interviewees would be most comfortable; for people whose ability to trust had been all but shattered it was a crucially important decision. The encounters with the victims turned out to be profoundly emotional.

“For many, it was the first time they were speaking to anyone outside their family or a few close friends,” Dick recalls. “These were the most emotional interviews I’ve ever done. They allowed us to understand the real depth of the trauma and extent of the issue. We were able to find some wonderful film subjects.”

The filmmakers were concerned that the process of recalling the trauma of rape would trigger post-traumatic stress episodes in the subjects, many of whom had already been diagnosed with PTSD. But despite the pain in recounting their travails, the experience ultimately proved cathartic for many of the interviewees. “They were so validated by it,” Dick says. “This was the first time an authority of any kind was saying, ‘We believe you and understand what you’ve gone through. We want to tell your story.’ It meant a lot to them and it meant a lot to us.”

Ziering says it took an enormous amount of strength for the women to open up. “Many of them had met with reprisals for speaking out in the military, and here they were being asked to share their story again, this time for the whole world. Whenever I’d ask any of them why they had elected to talk, they would say: ‘I’m speaking now because I don’t want another servicewoman ever have to go through what I went through.’”

Ziering conducted the subject interviews, which focused mainly on female victims. “Amy did one of the most remarkable series of interviews in recent documentary history,” Dick says. “She was able to go very deep with them and still be very caring. It’s one of the reasons the film is so powerful.”

Dick, Ziering and producer Tanner Barklow (*Outrage*) were relentlessly persistent in pursuing extremely reluctant and unforthcoming military personnel to speak on the record. Eventually, they were able to conduct a series of high-level Pentagon interviews which included Brigadier General Mary Kay Hertog, the Department of Defense’s Director of the Sexual Assault and Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO), Dr. Kaye Whitley, former director of SAPRO, and Rear Admiral Anthony Kurta, Director, Military Personnel, Plans and Policy, U.S. Navy.

The Invisible War was able to achieve something very rare for a documentary - the breaking of a major news story: the cover up of a large number of incidents of harassment and sexual assaults at Marine Barracks Washington, the oldest and most prestigious Marine base in the country, over the past five years. After the film broke the story at the Sundance Film Festival it was covered by all major networks and news organizations across the country.

As to why the military’s response to the epidemic within its ranks has been so tardy and ineffective, Dick is baffled. “It’s a good question,” he says, estimating that the military is losing thousands of its best soldiers each year due to the problem. “There’s no question that by effectively dealing with this issue they would have a much stronger fighting force. They talk about zero tolerance but they’re not doing what they need to do to achieve it. If there’s a soldier who is hurt on the battlefield in Afghanistan, the military code is to go out there and get that soldier – no soldier is left behind. They need to have the same attitude toward protecting their own soldiers from sexual assault.”

It's not that the military isn't capable of making profound, organization-wide cultural changes, Dick observes. By way of evidence, he points to the way it dealt with another corrosive issue—racism. In the 1960s and '70s, the military campaigned against rampant racism within its ranks. And while the effort didn't eliminate racism entirely, Dick says it's now much less evident in the Armed Forces than in society at large.

“It's a very positive model,” he says. “They were able to achieve that change within a decade. They could do the same thing with sexual assault and they haven't. Instead of the rate of assault in the military being double what it is in the civilian world; I'd like to see it be half. It's an objective I believe they can achieve if they really set out to do it.”

The filmmakers say they hope *The Invisible War* will raise awareness about the issue. “In many ways, this is one of the most under-reported stories in the country over the last couple of generations,” Dick says. “There are many in Congress on both sides of the aisle who want change, but it has to come from the top, whether it's U.S. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta or the Chiefs of Staff. Then I think you will finally see progress.

While Panetta's recent announcement of changes to the system are commendable, much more needs to be done to protect our troops. As *The Invisible War* shows, the vast majority of sexual assaults in the military are committed by a small minority of service members who are serial perpetrators who carefully select, stalk, and assault their victims again and again. The DoD needs to immediately initiate a proactive strategy to go after these 'enemies within.'

Dick and Ziering also call upon The Department of Defense to immediately change policy so that everyone convicted of a sex crime while in the military is listed on the National Sex Offender Public Website (NSOPW). The military must also end its practice of diagnosing victims of sexual assault with personality disorders and then discharging them from the military without being eligible for benefits. Finally, the Department of Defense and the administration should issue a formal apology to the hundreds of thousands of women and men who've been sexually assaulted in the military over the past 75 years.

Dick says the rape survivors featured in the film agreed to participate on condition that it not be an anti-military film. “All of our subjects were very idealistic and proud to have served,” Dick says. “Regardless of one's opinion of the wars in Iraq or Afghanistan, we all can agree that people risking their lives should be protected from assault by their own soldiers. The military is a very effective fighting force when it comes to dealing with the enemy without. It's really now time for them to start dealing with this enemy within.”

“Many of the victims have been unable to move forward because they've been disbelieved, exiled and discarded,” Ziering continues. “Our hope is that the film will be a healing tool for all the survivors who have felt abandoned despite all they have sacrificed and done for our country.”

FACTS ABOUT MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA (MST)

- In 2011 there were 3,158 cases of sexual assault reported within the U.S. military.
- While sexual assaults are notoriously under-reported, this problem is exacerbated in military settings. The Department of Defense estimates that less than 14% of survivors report the assault, and that in 2010 alone, over 19,000 sexual assaults occurred in the military.
- Prosecution rates for sexual predators are astoundingly low—in 2011, officials received 3,192 sexual assault reports. But only 1,518 of those reports led to referrals for possible disciplinary action, and only 191 military members were convicted at courts-martial.

Source: Department of Defense

- In 2010, approximately 55% of women and 38% of men report that their assailant sexually harassed or stalked them prior to the incident of rape or sexual assault.
- The Department of Defense does not maintain a military sex offender registry that can alert service members, unit commanders, communities and civilian law enforcement to the presence and movement of military sexual predators.
- Some evidence suggests that rape, sexual assault and sexual harassment survivors who have been treated in military medical settings experience a “second victimization” while under care, often reporting increased rates of depression and PTSD.
- While experiences of rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment are strongly associated with a wide range of mental health conditions for both men and women veterans, MST is the leading cause of PTSD among women veterans, while combat trauma is the leading cause of PTSD among men.
- Rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment and their attendant consequences are often risk factors for homelessness among women veterans. 39% of homeless women veteran VHA users screened positive for MST (Military Sexual Trauma) in 2010.
- In 2010 alone, 108,121 veterans screened positive for MST. (45.7%, 49,388, of these survivors were men). Also in 2010, 68,379 veterans had at least one VHA outpatient visit for conditions related to MST; 39% (26,904) of these patients were men.
- The Veterans Administration spends approximately \$10,880 on healthcare costs per military sexual assault survivor. Adjusting for inflation, this means that in 2011 alone, the VA spent almost \$900 million dollars on sexual assault-related healthcare expenditures.

Source: Service Women's Action Network (SWAN); June, 2011; Brittany L. Stalsburg

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

KIRBY DICK (Director) is an Academy- and Emmy Award-nominated documentary director. The son of a World War II Navy veteran, Dick was nominated for an Emmy for *Outrage* (released by Magnolia Pictures) a searing indictment of the hypocrisy of powerful, closeted politicians and the political and media institutions that protect them. In 2006, he directed *This Film Is Not Yet Rated*, released by IFC Films. A breakthrough investigation of the highly secretive MPAA film ratings system, the film compelled the MPAA to make long overdue changes in the way it rates films.

Dick's prior film, *Twist of Faith*, is the powerful story of a man confronting the trauma of his past sexual abuse by a Catholic priest. Produced for HBO, *Twist of Faith* received a 2004 Academy Award nomination for Best Documentary Feature. Dick's other films include *Derrida*, a complex portrait of the world-renowned French philosopher Jacques Derrida, which won the Golden Gate Award at the San Francisco Film Festival, and the internationally acclaimed *Sick: The Life & Death of Bob Flanagan, Supermasochist*, which won the Special Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival and the Grand Prize at the Los Angeles Film Festival.

AMY ZIERING (Producer) is an Emmy-nominated and award-winning Los Angeles producer and director. Her film *Outrage* was produced and distributed by Magnolia Pictures and had its television premiere on HBO. Ziering's previous release, *The Memory Thief*, which she produced, stars Mark Webber and Jerry Adler and is a thought-provoking examination of the relationship between empathy, narcissism and trauma. It was a New York Times critics' pick and won several festival awards. Ziering also co-directed and produced *Derrida*, a documentary about the world-renowned French philosopher and the philosophical movement known as deconstruction. The film premiered at the Sundance Film Festival, won the Golden Gate award at the San Francisco Film Festival, and was released theatrically by Zeitgeist Films.

Ziering also produced Richard Cohen's critically acclaimed *Taylor's Campaign*, a documentary about Ron Taylor, a homeless person who ran for a seat on the Santa Monica City Council. Prior to becoming a filmmaker, Ziering taught literature and film at Yale University.

TANNER KING BARKLOW (Producer) was the co-producer of the Emmy-nominated *Outrage*, a searing indictment of the hypocrisy of powerful, closeted politicians and the political and media institutions that protect them. He was also the English assistant director on the 2011 Chinese film production *Case Sensitive*, directed by Gil Kofman. He studied at Harvard University, Bennington College in Vermont and Hollins University in Virginia.

DOUG BLUSH (Editor, Associate Producer) has been a documentary filmmaker for over 15 years, as a director, producer, editor, writer and cinematographer. His previous feature documentary editing credits include the crossword-culture hit *Wordplay*, the Academy Award-shortlisted national debt primer *I.O.U.S.A.*, the film adaptation of *Freakonomics*, and the feature documentary *Outrage*. Blush also edited *These Amazing Shadows*, a wide-ranging appreciation of the National Film Registry, and *Superheroes*, an on-the-street documentary tracking the adventures of real life crime-fighters which was seen on HBO and released theatrically. In addition to editing, Blush also co-wrote *These Amazing Shadows* and was an executive producer of *Superheroes*. Blush is co-owner of MadPix, Inc, a production and post-production company

based in Los Angeles. He has recently completed co-directing, shooting and editing a documentary feature on new understandings of bipolar disorder entitled *Of Two Minds*, with his wife, Lisa.

BIL WHITE (Animation and Graphics) is a director and designer specializing in mixed media animation. He has designed the titles and animations for the recent films *This Film is Not Yet Rated* and *Outrage* by director Kirby Dick. White lives in Santa Monica with his wife and daughter.

ABOUT THE FILM'S PARTICIPANTS

Featured Subjects

- Kori Cioca
Oregonia, OH
US Coast Guard
E-3 – Seaman



In December 2005, Kori Cioca was raped by a commanding officer while serving in the US Coast Guard. Her jaw was broken in the attack. Kori was told by her chain of command that if she went forward with the case, she would be court-martialed for lying; her attacker, who admitted to the attack but denied the rape, received 30 days of base restriction and loss of pay. Kori, who has PTSD and nerve damage to her face and is currently battling the VA for approval of a surgery she desperately needs, is a plaintiff in a class action civil suit against the Department of Defense.

"He didn't rape me because I was pretty or that he wanted to have sex with me; he raped me because he hated me."

- Jessica Hives
Hampton, VA
US Air Force 2001-2011
Senior Airman E-4, Tactical Aircraft Maintainer (Fighter Jet Crew Chief)



After reporting her rape, Jessica Hinves was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder and discharged from the military. During the investigation into the assault, her perpetrator was awarded "Airman of the Year."

- Ariana Klay
Washington, D.C.; Southern California
US Marine Corps



As a former Marine officer assigned to the prestigious Marine Barracks Washington, Klay, who graduated with honors from the U.S. Naval Academy and served in Iraq, was assaulted by a senior officer and her civilian boss. Her assailant was convicted of adultery for the rape. She is now a plaintiff in a civil suit against the Department of Defense in which she charges the Marine Corps said she must have welcomed the assaults because she wore make-up and skirts – which were part of her regulation uniform.

- Trina McDonald
Central City, KY; Seattle, WA
US Navy
E-3 – Seaman



Trina McDonald was drugged and raped repeatedly by military police at the remote Adnak Naval Operating Station in Alaska's Aleutian Islands; she did not report the attacks. "The people that were involved in my assaults were police personnel, security personnel, higher-ranking officers, the people that I would have gone to and reported."

- Elle Helmer
Wilmington, N.C.; Washington D.C.
US Marine Corps
Second Lieutenant



A Public Affairs Officer at the Marine Barracks, Lt. Helmer alleges in a lawsuit she was raped after a mandatory night of drinking with fellow officers. Despite reporting to a senior officer that she had been raped, the lawsuit alleges NCIS conducted a short investigation with inconclusive results. The Marine Corps 'lost' her rape kit.

- Hannah Sewell
US Navy
E-1 – Seaman. Fireman Recruit in school for GSM (Gas Turbine Systems Technician-Mechanical)



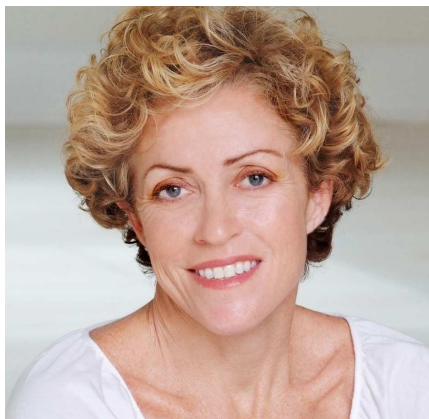
Hannah Sewell was assaulted by a fellow cadet while training at Naval Station Great Lakes, Illinois. Her father, Sgt. Maj. Jerry Sewell, is active duty Army and is currently deployed in Afghanistan.

- Myla Haider
Seattle, WA
US Army, Criminal Investigation Command
Sergeant. Special Agent.

Myla Haider alleges she was raped in 2002 while interning in Korea with the military's Criminal Investigative Command. "It is an atmosphere of zero accountability in leadership, period," she said in explaining why she did not report the rape. In April, 2012 she joined eight other women in a lawsuit asserting the military had a "high tolerance for sexual predators in their ranks."



- Paula Coughlin
Virginia Beach, VA
US Navy
Lieutenant. Helicopter pilot



One of a handful of women entrusted by the Navy to pilot its biggest helicopter - the CH-53 Sea Stallion - Paula Coughlin attended the infamous Tailhook conference in Las Vegas in September 1991, and became one of the first of 87 female attendees who reported being sexually assaulted by over 100 U.S. Navy and Marine Corps aviation officers. After a lack of progress due to "closing ranks and obfuscation" she went public in June, 1992. Coughlin resigned from the Navy in February 1994 after being subjected to continued abuse in retaliation for her allegations – allegations which ultimately led to the end of the careers of over 300 officers and 14 admirals. In 1994 she won a civil suit against the Las Vegas Hilton Hotel, and its parent company.

"I'll never forget how really, really bad it was, but I am very gratified by the fact that I had the strength to stick it out. As much as I wish it weren't true ... the Paula Coughlin Hate Club is still out there."

- Michael Matthews
New York City; Albuquerque, NM
US Air Force
E-6 - Technical Sergeant



Michael Matthews joined the Air Force in 1972 and honorably served 20 years, 12 on active duty. A year into his service, while stationed at Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri, he was raped and assaulted by three servicemen. With death threats from his assailants and burdened with shame, Mathews did not report the crime. He suffered depression for years and attempted suicide five times; today he speaks publically about his experience and, alongside his wife Geri Lynn, a psychiatric social worker, continues to work to raise awareness about male survivors of military sexual trauma.

“The devastation in my life was pretty severe. I didn’t realize what was causing all my problems. I went 30 years without telling a single soul.”

Featured Experts

- General Claudia Kennedy (Ret)
Retired Lieutenant General, US Army

In 1997, Kennedy became the first woman in the US Army to hold a three-star rank. She was named Army Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence. In June 2010, she was appointed as chairwoman of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services, a committee which is appointed by the US Secretary of Defense and which reports to the United States Department of Defense.

- Brigadier General Wilma L. Vaught (Ret)
US Air Force

Vaught is the President of the Board of Directors of the Women In Military Service For America Memorial Foundation, Inc. She is the first Air Force woman graduate of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

- Brigadier General Loree Sutton, M.D. (Ret)
Psychiatrist, US Army

Brigadier General Sutton was the highest-ranking psychiatrist in the US Army and has served as director of the Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) since November 2007.

- Major General Dennis Laich (Ret)
US Army

Major General Laich spent the last 14 consecutive years of his 35 years of service in command positions including joint command, culminating in command of the 94th Regional Readiness Command at Fort Devens, Mass. His military awards include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit and the Joint Meritorious Service Medal.

- Susan Burke
Attorney, Burke PLLC

Susan L. Burke, the daughter of a career Army officer, frequently represents women and men who were raped or sexually assaulted while on active duty in the military. An experienced and successful litigator, Burke has defended and prosecuted a series of class action suits involving a wide range of topics, such as ERISA fiduciary obligations, disability discrimination in public housing, and failure to provide mental health services and toxic torts.

- Captain Anu Bhagwati (Ret)
Director, Service Women's Action Network (SWAN)
US Marine Corps

Anu K. Bhagwati is the executive director of Service Women's Action Network (SWAN), a non-profit human rights organization that advocates for and provides direct services to servicewomen, women veterans and their families. Bhagwati, the second woman to complete the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program instructor trainer school (earning a black belt in close combat techniques), has a BA in English from Yale University and a Masters of Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government, where she focused on international human rights policy. She has spoken to numerous audiences on the issues faced by women in the military, including Military Sexual Trauma, equal opportunity violations, the changing roles of women in combat, the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy and the VA's health care and benefits system.

- Captain Greg Rinckey (Ret)
US Army JAG Corps

Served as an attorney in the US Army Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG).

- Staff Sergeant Stace Nelson (Ret)
Naval Criminal Investigative Service, US Marine Corps

Served 13 years in the US Marine Corps as a military policeman, criminal investigator, marksmanship instructor and NCIS Special Agent.

- Russell Strand
US Army CID Special Agent (Ret)
Current chief of the Family Advocacy Law Enforcement Training Division at the U.S. Army Military Police

Strand established, developed, produced, and conducted the U.S. Army Domestic Violence Intervention Training and Child Abuse Prevention and Investigation Techniques courses currently used by the Department of the Army to train CID Special Agents. He also supervised the development of the Critical Incident Peer Support course. Strand was the Recipient of the End Violence Against Women 2012 Visionary Award.

- Susan Avila-Smith
San Jose, CA
US Army Specialist (E-4)
Founder & Director, VetWOW

Avila-Smith served four years in the United States Army as a Chinese Linguist in the field of Military Intelligence. In 1992, Ms. Avila-Smith experienced sexual assault by her medical team after sinus surgery at Darnell Hospital Ft. Hood, Texas; realizing that American service personnel's needs were too often being ignored by the military and the government, she formed VetWow, the leading grassroots non-

partisan organization, which addresses the needs of American service members and veterans. Avila-Smith, who was honorably discharged, has participated as an active member of the veterans' community since 1995, specializing in development of VA benefit claims for victims of MST. She earned the National Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal and Army Commendation Medal.

- Amy Herdy
Journalist, "Betrayal in the Ranks"

A Denver Post investigative series Herdy co-authored in 2003, "Betrayal in the Ranks," outlined how the military mishandles cases of sexual assault and domestic violence. The series spurred congressional reforms and was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in 2004. Ms. Herdy also reported a television news version of the story for KUSA-TV that was nominated for a regional Emmy. Ms. Herdy has won awards for her work in journalism, including an Emmy for an investigative television series she produced on the misconduct of public officials; Society of Professional Journalists awards; a Radio, Television News Directors Association award; an Associated Press award; two American Society of Newspaper Editors awards and a Military Reporters & Editors award. She is the author of the highly praised "Diary of a Predator: A Memoir" (Vincent Publishing House; 2011).

- Helen Benedict
Journalist. Author: *The Lonely Soldier; Sand Queen*

Helen Benedict, a professor of journalism at Columbia University, has testified twice to Congress on behalf of women soldiers, and lectures at colleges and military academies around the country about gender justice and the military. Benedict's article on women serving in the military during the Iraq War, "The Private War of Women Soldiers" (Salon, March 2007) prompted Kirby Dick and Amy Ziering to begin the research which ultimately resulted in *The Invisible War*. Benedict's article was awarded The James Aronson Award for Social Justice Journalism in 2008; in 2010, both her book and article, "The Scandal of Military Rape," won the EMMA award from the National Women's Political Caucus.

Featured Members of Congress (in order of appearance)

- US Representative Chellie Pingree
(D) Maine
Introducing legislation to make it easier for veterans who have suffered sexual assault during their military service to get the benefits they deserve.
- US Representative Louise Slaughter
(D) New York
Included authorizations into the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that protected members of the military from sexual assault/related trauma.
- US Representative Mike Turner
(R) Ohio
Introduced H.R. 1529 Defense STRONG Act (Defense Sexual Trauma Response, Oversight and Good Governance Act) with Rep. Niki Tsongas (D) Massachusetts. (Turner and Tsongas co-chair the Military Sexual Assault Prevention Caucus.)
- US Representative. Loretta Sanchez
(D) California
Sanchez chairs the House Caucus on Women in the Military.
- US Representative. Jackie Speier
(D) California
Introduced H.R. 3435: Sexual Assault Training Oversight and Prevention Act.
- US Representative Ted Poe
(R) Texas
Spoke on the House floor on Feb. 18, 2011, to denounce rape and sexual assault in the military and to encourage the support of survivors of violence.
- US Representative Susan Davis
(D) California
Chair of the Armed Services committee, joined in the Turner-Tsongas legislation.
- US Representative Niki Tsongas
(D) Massachusetts
Introduced the Defense Sexual Trauma Response, Oversight and Good Governance Act (H.R. 1529) Defense STRONG Act) with Rep. Mike Turner (R) Ohio.

Department of Defense Officials

- Major General Mary Kay Hertog
Director, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO)

Prior to her position at SAPRO, Maj. Gen. Hertog was the Commander, 2nd Air Force, Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., where she was responsible for the development, oversight and direction of all operational aspects of basic military training, initial skills training and advanced technical training for the Air Force's enlisted force and support officers.

- Rear Admiral Anthony Kurta
Director, Military Personnel Plans and Policy

Rear Admiral Kurta formerly served as director, Surface Officer Distribution Division at the Navy Personnel Command, director for Policy, Resources and Strategy for U.S. Naval Forces Europe and Africa, and most recently commander, Combined Joint Task Force Horn of Africa in Djibouti.

- Dr. Kaye Whitley
Former Director, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO)

As the Director of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO), Dr. Whitley was, until July 31, 2011, the Department of Defense's single point of accountability for all sexual assault policy matters and reports to the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

CREDITS

Written & Directed By.....Kirby Dick

Producers.....Amy Ziering, Tanner King Barklow

Executive Producers.....Regina Kulik Scully,
Jennifer Siebel Newsom, Geralyn White Dreyfous, Abigail Disney, Maria Cuomo Cole,
Sarah Johnson Redlich, Women Donors Network, Teddy Leifer, Sally Jo Fifer, Nicole Boxer-Keegan,

Editors.....Doug Blush, Derek Boonstra

Design & Animation.....Bil White

Cinematography.....Thaddeus Wadleigh, Kirsten Johnson

Co-Executive Producer.....Kimball Stroud

Associate Producer.....Doug Blush

Interviewers.....Amy Ziering, Kirby Dick

Additional Camera.....Steven Bradford, River Finlay,
Scott Jacobson, Ian Kellett, Aaron Kopp, Michael Miller, Marie-Joelle Rizk, Gopi Shastri,
Michael JC Wooten,

Production Sound.....Tom Casetta, Aaron DelGrosso,
Marianna LaFollette, Bob Silverthorne

Assistant Editor.....Edward Patrick Alva

Additional Writing.....Amy Ziering, Doug Blush

Stock Footage Consultant.....Kate Coe

Music Supervisor.....Dondi Bastone, Gary Calamar/GO

Re-Recording Mixer.....Jeremy Grody

“Need Someone” Performed by Mary J. Blige. Courtesy of Geffen Records under license from Universal Music Enterprises

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Executive Producer for ITVS.....Sally Jo Fifer

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