

BETRAYED

Fighting the War Against Child Sex Abuse

LOGLINE

Joelle Casteix has a job that scares most people – she exposes child sex abuse scandals and the men and women who commit and cover-up the crimes. In **BETRAYED**, she shares the most gripping and engaging stories of her career.

DESCRIPTION

A Self-Contained, Scripted Documentary True Crime Series.

Go “in the trenches” with child sex abuse victims’ advocate, author, and spokeswoman Joelle Casteix as she reveals some of the most gripping cases of her career: insidious cover-ups of child sex abuse by beloved institutions. Part mystery-thriller, part courtroom drama, each episode examines a single story from Joelle’s 15 years of exposing global criminal conspiracy and how she helps victims achieve vindication and justice - often in unconventional ways.

From the first call for help to the jury verdict, Joelle is the only person who walks with victims as they seek justice for sex crimes committed against them as children. Each episode of **BETRAYED** is a unique and true story of how her fierce resolve has exposed well-loved and respected predators and wrong-doers around the world. Episodes will then peel away the layers of the onion of conspiracy to show the viewer – through secret documents, interviews, video, and reenactments – the full scope and scale of the cover-up and how victims get justice and vindication.

Viewers will never look at institutions the same way again.

PARTNERSHIPS

BETRAYED, like the stories it tells, was born out of partnerships. The show and its creators have worked closely with, received endorsements and/or agreements from individuals and organizations, including:

- The National Center for Victims of Crime
- Survivors of Institutional Abuse (SIA)
- SNAP, the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests
- Rape And Incest National Network (RAINN)
- MaleSurvivor
- Bishop Accountability
- National Association of Adult Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse
- Attorneys including Jeffrey Anderson, Mark Gallagher, Joseph George, Marc Perlman, Irwin Zalkin, Timothy Hale, John Manly, Tahira Khan, Nikki Gorovski and Kenneth Roosa.

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Sample BETRAYED Episodes

Episode One – Father Hollywood

He was the perfect priest: handsome, smart, charismatic, and a pro when it came to separating people from their money. With fast cars, the latest technology, and a home hidden from prying eyes, his house became the gathering place for teen boys, who loved the freedom and the alcohol the priest provided. That is, until the victims began to come forward.

Episode Two – Killer Camps

Jodi Hobbs thought her parents wanted the best for her, but after the doors of the “behavior modification teen camp” locked behind her, she was trapped in a world of torture, abuse, and indoctrination.

Episode Three – Hiding in Paradise

Hawaii is known for the spirit of Aloha, sunny skies, and the look and feel of paradise. But at one Honolulu high school, a man was hiding ... a man who had been banned from other states, abused at other schools, and covered up by a system that allowed him to live in the shadows for decades.

Episode Four – Hockey High

Shattuck-St. Mary’s was known for one thing: hockey. That is, until a popular drama teacher turned the prestigious prep school into a predator paradise.

Episode Five – Terror in Tinsletown

When the first child came forward about Los Angeles Unified School District teacher Mark Berndt, district officials thought they could keep the teacher and the children contained. But after years-long court battles, attorneys for more than 70 children learned that Berndt had a history and a past that the school district could no longer keep under wraps.

Episode Six - The Confessor

Donald McGuire was the confessor of kings. But by the time of his conviction, more than 100,000 pages of documents told a different story of abuse, cover-up, and conspiracy that covered the globe.

Episode Seven – Delaware’s Doctor Doom

Pediatrician Earl Bradley was sitting pretty. He had a successful practice and generations of patients. But when Delaware changed the law for child victims of sexual abuse, the children began to come forward ... and their lawsuits showed that local hospitals had known about the predator pedestrian for decades.

Episode Eight – Running to Mexico

Neighbors in the Mazatlan neighborhood where he lived thought that Fred was just a nice elderly man. So when US Marshalls stormed the quiet hotel where Fred lived, chasing Fred to his death, neighbors were shocked to learn that Fred was actually former priest Sigfried Widera, who was wanted on 47 counts on child molestation. Cutting a swath of abuse across the United States, Widera’s victims tell stories of abuse and cover up from Wisconsin to California.

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Episode Nine – Predator Performer

Jimmy Saville was one of Great Britain's most popular and powerful performers. But when dozens of children came forward to say that Saville sexually abused them, they exposed a decades-long cover-up that infiltrated the nation's largest television network

Episode Ten – Un-Happy Valley

Penn State Football was as American as apple pie. But when an assistant coach discovers that a popular local coach is using his nonprofit and the power of Penn State Football to attract and abuse children, the tapestry of cover-up begins to unravel ... taking down a nationally loved coach, a division one football program, and exposing a web of lies at every level of the university.

Episode Ten – The Hell Files

After thousands of boys come forward to tell how they were sexually abused in the Boy Scouts, lawsuits reveal that the organization had amassed and hidden decades of files about predator volunteers.

Episode Eleven – Vigilante Justice

When William Lynch walked into the rest home to visit the ailing priest, no one expected punches to fly. Not even Lynch himself, whose trial for beating the man who molested him as a child showed that the sweet old man in the rest home was anything but.

Episode Twelve – The Porno Priest

When the complaints started coming that a local priest was creating child pornography, his bosses decided to keep things mum. But by the time the story was over, the priest would be in jail, a bishop would be criminally charged and parents would win the fight to learn how long church officials had hidden the priest and his porn.

Episode Thirteen – Making Stars

The Minnesota Children's Theater was a shining star in Minneapolis. That is, until ten child actors and stage technicians came forward and used the civil courts to show that the group's founder created the organization for the sole purpose of hunting victims.

Episode Fourteen – The Vanishing Volunteer

When volunteer Joseph Lundowski was spirited out of a remote Eskimo village, the priest impostor left behind generations of Alaska Native child victims and a web of cover-up that went all the way to Rome.



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More about BETRAYED

Nearly 70% of all sexual assaults reported each year are crimes committed against children age 17 and younger. How does it happen? How do the criminals get away with it? In many cases, predators ensconce themselves in organizations that care for our children, organizations that pride themselves on protecting the youngest and most innocent among us. Churches, civic groups, sports leagues, schools and universities have all hidden and sheltered those who prey on children.

How can they be stopped? By the dogged determination of a warrior.



Joelle Casteix, the leading in the trenches expert on child sex abuse cover ups, regularly takes calls from victims pleading for her help in bringing perpetrators to justice. She's fearless in hunting down the evidence of wrongdoing and tireless in pursuing justice. She's no stranger to holding public rallies and protests, knocking on doors to find witnesses and canvassing neighborhoods to encourage survivors to come forward. For each case, she convenes an ad hoc team of attorneys, researchers, journalists, and victims' rights organizations to hold institutions accountable for protecting predators

and she shines a bold spotlight on the abusers themselves.

Her snappy wit and sometimes caustic humor make uncomfortable conversations approachable while her ability to give voice to the voiceless is inspiring. From the first phone call reporting abuse to the final scenes of vindication, she expertly navigates the winding road to justice. Follow along as Joelle uses all the tools available to blow the whistle on the organizations that value their reputations more than the safety of the children they claim to serve.

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JOELLE CASTEIX

Host, Author, Expert, Television Personality, Co-Producer

Joelle never expected to become the world's leading "in the trenches expert" on the exposure and prevention of child sexual abuse. Since 2009, her blog [The Worthy Adversary](#) and her website [Casteix.com](#) have kept her tens of thousands followers up to date on the latest transgressions by abusers and the victories of those who have been abused.

As a teen, she was a victim. Then as an adult, she found her voice and became the leading spokesperson and advocate for other victims – part detective, part researcher, part fighter – rooting out abuse, exposing wrongdoers, and uncovering and conspiracy across the globe.

Her TV experience is vast and varied. She has become the "go-to" face and voice when these stories break. Why? Her ability to tell the story, make it relevant, engaging, and easy to understand, and her uncanny use of the sound bite. She's an easy friend and confidante to the television audience.

Joelle's cases have taken her from the remote island of Guam to the walls of the Vatican. She's sifted through the secret files of universities and civic organizations.

Joelle is the ONLY person who has access to a vast library of these stories and is the only person who can show the world how the justice system has worked not just for victims, but has worked to keep you and your children safer.

Her firsthand knowledge of thousands of cases, her media experience, and her global travels as the "in the trenches" global expert on the matter, Joelle can "peel the layers of the onion" for audiences, expanding seemingly simple stories to expose entire webs of intrigue and criminal activity.

A natural storyteller and engaging camera presence, she has a distinct gift for presenting stories as a survivor and advocate, while focusing on justice and accountability, with a positive call to action for audiences. (Plus she's exceedingly telegenic, funny, accessible, and a natural on camera.)

Her books include [The Well-Armored Child: A Parent's Guide to Preventing Child Sexual Abuse](#) (RiverGrove Books); [The Power of Responsibility](#) (based on her wildly successful [TEDx talk](#) that's been viewed more than 93,000 times); [The Compassionate Response: How to help and empower the adult victim of child sexual abuse](#); [Scram! A Parent's Quick-Start Guide to Preventing, Identifying, and Ending Bullying](#); and [The Well-Armored Teen: Easy Tools Protect Your Teen and Tween From Sexual Abuse, Bullying, and Exploitation](#).

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AMBER NELSON

Marketing Consultant, Communications Expert, Writer, Co-Producer

Every project she takes on has its own story. She knows how to combine the dramatic with the pragmatic, the magical and the rational to create excellent solutions for her clients. Amber credits her innate curiosity, her degree in Broadcast Journalism from Boston University and her qualitative research experience for much of her success. She understands the key elements of storytelling, but more than that, she has the flexibility of mind to capture the needs of the audience, while inspiring the production team to both deliver their own message and meet the expectations of the audience.

She has launched newspapers, developed learning programs, produced videos, managed media tours, advised executives and written and taught extensively about the value of great communication. Last year, she founded and produced TEDxPasadenaWomen, an independently organized nonprofit venture that brought together a diverse line-up of compelling speakers, passionate partners, and ardent audience members.

Amber is a natural problem solver who relies on her ability to quickly build rapport, strategically engage contributors and swiftly execute solutions across mediums and industries to deliver excellence to her broad client base. She runs Lingo Consulting, Inc., a Los Angeles-based marketing and communications firm dedicated to helping individuals and organizations deliver the right message to the right audience in order to influence beliefs and incite action. Her clients have included General Mills, Target, Kaiser Permanente, Transamerica, American Heart Association, Nestle and more.

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JOELLE'S IMPACT

Advocacy Groups

"Joelle is a powerful advocate and survivor using her voice to raise awareness and make a difference by changing the way we think about Institutional Child Abuse. She is courageous and fearless in her pursuit of justice and fighting for change." Jodi Hobbs , President , SIA Organization

"I'm convinced she's helped thousands of people ... She's also modeling the kind of person that survivors can become...What she has been able to do is just so remarkable." Terry McKiernan, Founder. BishopAccountability.Org

"She's helped hundreds of victims break the silence, go to police and seek justice ...It's not an exaggeration to say that from coast to coast, she's had an impact." David Clohessy, Executive Director, SNAP

Victims

"For 20 plus years I was trying to get someone to listen and respond to my accusations about a predator working with at-risk youth. Joelle was the first person to listen to my every word and to map out an action plan. With her help, we outed this predator via the front page of a large newspaper in the city where the perpetrator worked. She not only became an advocate, she became my friend. The perp was finally removed from ministry, helping to provide a safer environment for children. Our journey is not over yet. Stay tuned." Eric Johnson, Boulder, CO

"[Joelle has]been there every step of the way for me ... [Her support] was pivotal. It empowered me." Elaina Kroll, Newport Beach, CA *(Kroll was one of four women who reached a nearly \$6.7 million settlement with the Diocese of Orange in 2007 for abuse perpetrated by her high school music director.)*

"She's my angel," Christina Ruiz, Orange County, CA *(Ruiz's case against her prestigious high school's assistant boys' basketball coach for repeatedly raping her when she was a student during the mid-1990s.)*

The Media and Attorneys

"Casteix is charming, funny, iron-willed, indefatigable--and on top of all this, she's a hell of a writer, especially when it comes to the topic of her incredible life." Gustavo Arellano, Editor, OC Weekly

"What she [does takes] more courage than I can ever hope to have." John Manly, Attorney, Manly, Stewart, Finaldi