

Reactions to the documentary film All God's Children

"I would highly recommend you see this movie. If you are a survivor you'll walk away with your heart touched from what happened to the survivors in this story, and knowing someone gets it! If you're part of a survivor's support team, the determination of the people in the movie will help inspire you. If you're just curious about the subject this is the most elegantly told story I have ever seen."

- Tim Fischer, clergy abuse survivor, advocate, blogger, www.timfischer1.com

"All God's Children is a chilling snapshot of what can happen when an institution like the church ignores the signs of abuse: isolated and vulnerable children are harmed and their trauma remains for years. This is the story of courageous survivors who ask their church for justice and healing. They got less than they deserve. But they stood up for themselves and each other. Thanks be to God."

- Rev. Dr. Marie M. Fortune, [FaithTrust Institute](http://FaithTrustInstitute)

"There's much we can learn from this film - about predators and about "good people" whose silence enables predators. At the same time, we can learn about how courage and unified action can shed a light on horrific crimes and help deeply wounded victims recover."

- David Clohessy, national director of SNAP, the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests: SNAPnetwork.org

"All God's Children struggles to find meaning amid grief compounded by decades of disregard and a willful lack of justice. It also serves as a clarion call to organizations that would ignore and suppress the truth rather than drag it kicking and screaming into the light. [...] The tragic implications are clear: All God's Children forces us to ask ourselves, What does it gain a man if he saves the whole world but loses his own children?"

- Brandon Fibbs, [Christianity Today](http://ChristianityToday)

"I just watched the documentary All God's Children a few days ago. I was just blown away! [...] You were all so brave to stand up - not only in front of your denomination, but in front of the world - and speak about Mamou. It is incredible. [...] I was shocked by the last paragraph of the movie which stated that people from over 21 denominations have come forward, but that only 2 denominations have done anything about it. ONLY TWO! How shameful! I hope God will use the movie to move the hearts of those who need to be moved to respond."

- Mary Turnbull, MK United Methodist Church, abuse survivor at Presbyterian Church (USA) boarding school

"I believe that this story is a valuable addition to the growing awareness of how children have been long sacrificed on the altar of God's work, and that alone will be healing for many of us, so thank you for that."

- William Paul Young, author of NY Times #1 Bestseller [The Shack](http://TheShack)
www.windrumors.com

"All God's Children is both a disturbing reminder that the Christian community is not immune to abuse and also a deeply moving case study on the complex dynamics of healing from spiritual, emotional, sexual and physical wounds. The redemptive possibilities that emerge when survivors find the courage to tell the truth and support each other in the process of healing are powerfully illustrated. I recommend it highly."

- Dr. Dale S. Ryan, Associate Professor of Recovery Ministry, Fuller Theological Seminary
www.recoveryfromabuse.com

"Deeply moving, the film tells of children who were cast onto the rocks of horrific abuse by the siren call of God's will. Yet years later, the wounded adults manage to shine a little light for all of us. Their stories stand as testimony to the transformative power of truth-telling."

- Christa Brown, author [This Little Light](http://ThisLittleLight)
and founder, StopBaptistPredators.org

"All God's Children tells a tragic story—one that no one really wants to hear, but one that responsible adults need to hear. It reminds us that all souls need saving, starting with the ones God has seen fit to put in our care."

- Cliff Vaughn, EthicsDaily.com

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"Exposing a horrific scandal that's virtually never been highlighted anywhere, this deeply moving film is about far more than childhood betrayal. It's also about the heroic work of wounded adults to hold callous and deceitful church officials accountable for stunning crimes. It's both jaw-dropping and awe-inspiring."

- David Clohessy, national director of SNAP,
the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests: SNAPnetwork.org

"I felt all that has been described here, It's hard to put into words how it affected me. I didn't attend Mamou but the boarding school I went to mirrored the experiences I saw on this film. I grieve for each of you, and for all of us with wounded children still hurting within us. [...] The word needs to be spread. I felt deeply saddened by it, but also validated, that I'm "not the only one", and am not alone."

- Suzie Baer - MK and former boarding school student

"[...] brilliantly woven together, picking up the threads of the individual stories and unique personalities, to give us the powerful, collective drama. [I hope] that many more will have the desire and the courage to see this story [...] The message is as multi-faceted as the story, in fact. [These] lives stand as a testimony to the transformation of horrific suffering, a transformation that is contagious enough to bring about change in all who are willing to awaken."

- Dee Ann Miller, advocacy writer, www.takecourage.org
author of How Little We Knew and The Truth about Malarkey

"I've watched the [DVD]... it is powerful. [...] we both could hardly sleep last night. I kept remembering things when I wakened during the night hours. I was reminded of the impotency of our lives there, our helplessness. [...] I know why I struggle with being an over achiever more clearly now, why I can't seem to rest, or be at peace."

- Vivian Harvey - author, MK and former Mamou Academy student

"For Canadian Beverly Shellrude Thompson, participating in the project was both difficult and helpful. 'One of the things that has been my mantra is that the story needs to be told, that there's healing in telling the story,' she said from her home in Burlington, Ont. 'I've always carried in my head a deep shroud of secrecy that allowed both the pain and the system to go on.'"

- Debra Fieguth, Faith Today

"... Solary and Westphal's film is sad yet unflinching, and demonstrates what can happen when unsuspecting parents put too much faith in an institution. The tone of the film may be more than just cautionary, however: it could be humanitarian."

- Joel Rozen, Sarasota Herald Tribune

"The documentary was professionally done. It gave an excellent setting of what life was like in Africa during that time - the African people, the mission stations, the missionary work, and the remoteness of the stations from the school. For someone to be able to understand how this kind of abuse came about, they must understand this atmosphere. Those of us who watched the documentary have now shown it to our spouses and adult children so that they can understand us and our background better."

- Mary Turnbull, MK United Methodist Church,
abuse survivor at Presbyterian Church (USA) boarding school

"The film is very moving, and instructive regarding the long-term impact of abuse on those victimized. Thank you for bringing this tragic situation into the light."

- Elsie Goerzen, Abuse Response and Prevention Program Mennonite Central Committee, BC

"We had a viewing of this film in our church a few weeks ago. What a powerful and moving film. Every Christian needs to see this documentary. I pray that God will use this film to make a difference."

- Faith Ingraham, wife of Rev. Dale Ingraham at Curtis Baptist Bible Church, Campbell NY