

Statements

Poetry Slammer | Adina Wilcke | Actress, Teacher, Author

“Working on LASS UNS REDEN was a special and challenging task for me. In my preparation for the role and the text that I wrote myself for the person I embody in the film, it was very eye-opening for me how immediately present the topic is and that it is hardly talked about. As a woman, putting myself in the position of an affected person was particularly challenging for me, as I was not only allowed to participate in the many stories that I encountered on my writing journey, but also confronted myself with my childbearing capacity and the then-what-if question. It was not an easy journey, but it was a necessary one because I am convinced that many women and men long to be heard and for inclusivity.”

Protagonist | Petra Plonner | School Principal, Pastor

“After my abortion, I felt emotionally terrible. As I didn't know any other affected woman, I thought everyone was fine with it. Everyone but me. It was only much later that I found out that there can be long-term psychological effects after an abortion. Just then knowing that I'm not alone comforted me. That's why I want to talk today. For the many men and women who remain silent in their pain.”

Protagonist | Christine Faiella | Restaurateur, Counsellor

“It was and is very important to me to tell my own story as an affected person in the film. The thought of aborting a child had never occurred to me. Since not *one* person gave me encouragement to have the baby, the irreparable decision was made. Life after that was with constant ups and downs, a desperate search for something I couldn't name. A deep sadness had become my companion, no matter what I distracted myself with. Despite two healthy children and a good life, I never found peace. What am I missing?

A long, often stony path over 46 years then brought me to SaveOne and with the processing of my abortion, healing, calm and peace came into my life, which I can enjoy to the full today.

I would like to encourage parents to decide for the baby. I hear many sad stories at the recovery classes I have taught for years, and many tears accompany the phone calls I have weekly about abortion. If you have a voice on this, it is our responsibility to raise that voice on abortion.”

Protagonist | Ann-Christin Holzinger | Teacher

“Having a child or having an abortion is a difficult decision during a crisis pregnancy. In the moment of the decision, you are mostly on your own. However, an abortion is not "turning the clock back", but will often catch up with the woman, and with the man. It is therefore fair and important to learn what effects an abortion can have.

LASS UNS REDEN (LET US TALK) - The Film - Statements

Protagonist | Barbara Heißenberger | Technician

"Having an unplanned pregnancy isn't something I promote, but if someone asks and I might even be able to help, I'm happy to help. It's so important that women who are in this situation have someone they can talk to about the pros and cons. I know from experience that you expect criticism around every corner, that you are afraid of being judged for an already difficult decision - even before it is made - by people who lead different lives, have different stories and are different feel feelings. Especially as a thoughtful, spiritual/believer, it is terrifying to encounter Christian anti-abortion groups that scare you instead of being loving, unbiased support in decision-making. The fact that I found people at the time who stood by me and who supported me and my partner during and after our decision is a luxury for which I am very grateful. Perhaps my story will help to allay some of the fears of one or the other woman and show how much objective counselling centres are really needed.

There is no one right way. Every situation is individual, as are the decisions. "

Protagonist | Timothy Hall | Entrepreneur, Singer, Songwriter

"The aftermath of abortion is a global pandemic that has lurked in the hearts of injured victims for decades. If my story helps a person have the courage to break the silence and seek help, then my effort is worthwhile. Too often we adjust our lives to deal with pain."

Protagonist | Peter Eilichmann | Singer, Speaker, Author

"Whenever someone asks me why I was in the film LASS UNS REDEN, I go back to my own personal experience and what, as a young person, losing my child to an abortion had done to me. I then speak about my depression at the time, my feelings of guilt and a powerlessness that I had never experienced before as a man.

I believe that a documentary of this kind, which depicts the taboo subject of abortion from varying perspectives and experiences of different people, helps to open-up the matter to the viewer and have them take a closer look. Every story is unique; is moving and told entirely from personal experience. I firmly believe that the film has the power to open-up a topic that is often suppressed. A topic that is only too happily swept under the carpet by society.

I also think it's good that in the film "LASS UNS REDEN" men have their say and show through their personal stories that they too can suffer from the consequences of abortion. An aspect that is unfortunately often neglected.

The film, which is very honest from my point of view, can stimulate a rethinking. That would also be my wish for the entire project regarding the protection of unborn life."

Protagonist | Julia Granitzer

"I was involved in this film because I want to help bring hope and confidence to women!

Despite all the challenges, there is always a way for life. There is always a way out, even if the path can be rocky. However, the joy of the gift of life can heal and change so much for the better. Here I also agree with the quote from Mother Theresa: "Give every child the opportunity to love and be loved"."

LASS UNS REDEN (LET US TALK) - The Film - Statements

Expert | Rita Dullinger | Counsellor, Pastor

"I decided to be a part of this film because I am a victim of conflict pregnancy myself. Due to a long-standing cancer, I had two abortions on medical advice. It was years before I could let go of the grief for these two children. Also, I have worked with many addicts who have had problems such as depression, anger, and the like, due to their history of abortions. The consequences of an abortion are often more serious than we think."

Expert | Mag. Valerie De Agostini | Life and Social Counsellor | Psychological Counsellor

"During my pregnancy with our third child, it was found out that he had trisomy 21. Although we were opposed to abortion in principle, we had to go through this difficult decision-making process before we together finally decided to have our son. This experience prompted me to train as a psychological counsellor to support parents in this difficult decision-making process and to accompany them before, during and after."

When I heard about the film project "LASS UNS REDEN" it was very important to me to offer my support in whatever form. Being an expert in the documentary was a particularly moving experience and I think the film is great, especially for the impartiality of the cast and the balance of pros and cons. The aim of inviting people to engage in dialogue in order to support those affected has definitely been achieved!"

Expert | Verena Schindler, BSc. | Psychotherapist, in training under supervision - Individual Psychology

"Due to my many years of professional experience in the psychosocial field and in socio-pedagogical institutions, my focus and experience lie in dealing with mentally stressed children, adolescents and adults. An abortion can have psychological consequences, but far too little is said about it. After an abortion, those affected often do not know where to get help."

Expert | A. Univ.-Prof. Dr. Daniela Karall, IBCLC | Specialist in Pediatrics and Youth Medicine

"As a person, wife, friend, acquaintance, mother and being professionally involved in the care of people with congenital (inherited / genetic) diseases, I was already confronted with "conflict pregnancies" or the possibility of an abortion during my studies. When accompanying women and parents, it has become more and more important to me to accompany and advise them openly and honestly on questions about their unborn child. In over 30 years I have not seen an abortion "just like that" and without consequences."

Over the years, I have experienced how hard the fronts between the camps "pro and contra abortion" have become and that as result those needing help, but do not get it, are overlooked because the matter is not discussed objectively but only very emotionally - or not at all."

I really welcomed the offer of an opportunity to be part of the film as it addresses a relevant issue that affects not just individuals but very many. I am delighted with the successful

LASS UNS REDEN (LET US TALK) - The Film - Statements

implementation! In the film, the subject is treated very sensitively in all aspects through the various life reports and is clearly an invitation to the dialogue: "LET US TALK".

Initiator | Sonja Horswell, Director of SaveOne Europe | Help after an abortion

"My intention for the documentary film "LASS UNS REDEN" about conflict pregnancy is to bring this big topic to the wider public through real life stories from women and men. The film is intended to show where we currently stand on abortion in Austria and to promote specific contemporary, social and political improvements, especially for the younger generation.

The idea for this documentary came about during my many years of experience in pregnancy counselling and post-abortion recovery work, which moved my heart and which I felt to be an important "building block" for Austria. A great film team made this a reality. "

Film Production Company | Editing | Performance Picture Entertainment

"Their motivation for making this film stems from their personal belief that everything can and should be talked about. With such an explosive topic, it is all the more important to deal with it in a balanced and fair manner, which is why it was a basic requirement to allow opinions to be expressed from all perspectives.

It was important to them that this film did not lecture, but that it stimulated discourse. The topic of abortion affects everyone much faster and more closely than you think. Mainly because it is still such a taboo, many are not aware that there are many more personal experiences in their immediate surroundings than they are aware of.

They are happy when they can contribute to an open exchange, and perhaps this not only means that the topic of this film is discussed more broadly, but society in general becomes a step more open, can approach one another and, above all, to be able to listen."