



## Fighting the New ***SOLD*** Global Slave Trade

*"Cinematically beautiful despite the hideous subject ... 'Sold' will make you want to applaud. (It) will make you want to do something."*

- Kathleen Parker, The Washington Post

Directed by: **Jody Hassett Sanchez**

Narrated by: **Mira Nair**

Length: **54 minutes**

### SYNOPSIS

Can one person make a difference when it comes to ending child slavery today? In *SOLD: Fighting the New Global Slave Trade*, you'll meet three modern-day abolitionists who dare to challenge powerful interests in this battle. A Hindu, a Christian and a Muslim, this trio has never met, but they're each fighting to derail a \$27 billion-a-year business that's flourished under globalization – the buying and selling of humans.

### CHARACTERS



**PAKISTAN** | Ansar Burney is a Muslim attorney in Karachi who rescues young boys who have been sold and sent to the Middle East to be camel jockeys. Slave traders convince poor families that their sons will work in wealthy homes but instead they are strapped onto camels and forced to ride 12-14 hours a day on desert racetracks.

Ansar applies political and diplomatic pressure to try to end this brutal practice. But will these former child slaves be vulnerable to other dangerous influences after they return home to Pakistan's tribal territories?

**WEST AFRICA** | Symphorienne Kessouagni lives in rural Togo where families who can't afford to feed or educate their children send them to live with distant relatives in the city. The kids end up in the hands of brokers, who smuggle them across the border to do heavy labor.



Symphorienne visits the markets where these children work, slowly earning their trust and ultimately helping them to escape. A firebrand Christian, Symphorienne is raising many of the former slaves herself. She struggles to help them believe in a heavenly father who cares for them, when their earthly fathers have abandoned them.



**INDIA** | Sunitha Krishnan is a former Hindu nun in Hyderabad who organizes brothel raids and runs 17 schools for the young girls she rescues. They master the skills to run their own businesses and they learn to create new identities vastly different from those they were given in the brothels.

Sunitha prays to the Hindu deity Ganesh, "He's my god because he's like me, very temperamental, very dominating and loving too.

When I pray, I never say, remove my obstacles, I always say, give me strength to face the obstacles."

## **THE VISION: It's not another movie about what is wrong with the world**

We want our audience to be outraged that there is more slavery than ever before in history, but we want them to move from anger to action. Our hope is that SOLD will advance the public conversation about how we can end slavery in the 21<sup>st</sup> century precisely because it is not another movie about what is wrong with the world. It's a film about a Christian, a Hindu and a Muslim who are overcoming extraordinary obstacles and making a difference.

To learn more, please visit:

[www.soldthefilm.com](http://www.soldthefilm.com)

## **CREDITS:**

Director and Producer: Jody Hassett Sanchez

Editors: Cathy Shields and Laughing Dog Productions

Directors of Photography: Mira Chang, Sarah Levy

Music: Bert Mueller

Sound Design: Henninger Media Services

On-Line Editor: Larry Asbell

Narrator: Mira Nair

Legal Counsel: Michael Donaldson, Donaldson & Hart

Representation: Jim Nicolay, CAA

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## DIRECTOR BIO:



Jody Hassett Sanchez is president of Pointy Shoe Productions (PSP), a documentary company in Washington, D.C., that explores issues of faith and culture. PSP currently has two other documentaries in pre-production.

Jody spent 17 years in network television news; most recently she covered religion, culture and education for *ABC's World News Tonight with Peter Jennings* and filed stories for *Nightline*. Jody traveled the globe with CNN for almost 12 years, serving as a senior producer of CNN's 24-part series on the legacy of the Cold War, and as the State Department producer covering Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. She's a Smith College graduate and native Cape Codder.

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