

FOR PRESS

The Follow-Up to the Landmark Documentary
FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO

“Eloquent”

-Hollywood Reporter



WINNER • AUDIENCE AWARDS
ATLANTA • SEATTLE • FT. LAUDERDALE
ROCHESTER • PHOENIX • WARSAW

“Unforgettable”

-Documentary Magazine



for they know not what they do

A film by **DANIEL KARSLAKE**

BRUCE BASTIAN JANE & TAMI MARQUARDT PEACE & POSSIBILITY PROJECT TERESA & TODD SILVER RICHARD N. PURINGTON & THE DICKINSON FAMILY FOUNDATION
PRESENT A DANIEL KARSLAKE FILM "FOR THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY DO"
FEATURING THE ROBERTSON FAMILY THE MCBRIDE FAMILY THE BAEZ-FEBO FAMILY THE PORCHER FAMILY BISHOP V. GENE ROBINSON REVEREND DR. MEL WHITE REVEREND DR. JACQUI LEWIS REVEREND DR. DELMAN COATS
SCORE CHRIS MAXWELL & PHIL HERNANDEZ AS ELEGANT TWO MUSIC SUPERVISOR SUSAN JACOBS ASSOCIATE PRODUCER JOSEPH BRODM
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS BRUCE BASTIAN JANE & TAMI MARQUARDT PEACE & POSSIBILITY PROJECT TERESA & TODD SILVER RICHARD N. PURINGTON & THE DICKINSON FAMILY FOUNDATION
WRITTEN BY NANCY KENNEDY & DANIEL KARSLAKE EDITED BY NANCY KENNEDY PRODUCED BY DANIEL KARSLAKE SHERI HEITKER BARBARA SIMON DIRECTED BY DANIEL KARSLAKE

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for they know not what they do

a new film by **Daniel Karlake**

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100 WORD SYNOPSIS:

FOR THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY DO examines the intersection of religion, sexual orientation and gender identity in America. In the wake of the Supreme Court case legalizing marriage equality, the Right has launched a new campaign to limit the rights of LGBTQ citizens across the country. In collaboration with religious conservatives, politicians are invoking both the Bible and the U.S. Constitution in their arguments for the ‘religious freedom’ to openly discriminate. By telling the stories of four families struggling with these issues, FTKNWTDO offers healing, clarity and understanding to those caught in the crosshairs of scripture, sexuality, and identity.

179 WORD SYNOPSIS:

From the director/producer of **FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO** comes a new film, **FOR THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY DO**, a powerful exploration of the intersection of religion, sexual orientation and gender identity in America. The film features four families of faith including Rob & Linda Robertson, who were encouraged by their evangelical church family to put their son, Ryan, in conversion therapy; David & Sally McBride, life-long Presbyterians who were shocked when their youngest boy came out to them as a transgender woman; Victor Baez & Annette Febo, whose Catholic tradition and Puerto Rican upbringing greatly concerned their gay son; and Harold & Coleen Porcher, a mixed-race couple whose child endured self-harm before their parents’ acceptance enabled them to come to terms with their gender. Alongside these family stories of faith, rejection, validation, tragedy and triumph, the film weaves together unique perspectives from religious leaders. Through love, reconciliation, and acceptance, **FOR THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY DO** takes us on a journey of understanding what connects us all and gives us the courage to embrace each other.

CREW OF FOR THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY DO

DIRECTOR/PRODUCER

Daniel Karslake

EDITOR

Nancy Kennedy

WRITERS

Nancy Kennedy and Daniel Karslake

PRODUCERS

Sheri Heitker

Barb Simon

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

Bruce Bastian

**Jane & Tami Marquardt
Peace & Possibility Project**

Teresa & Todd Silver

**Richard N. Purington
&
The Dickinson Family Foundation**

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER

Joseph Broom

In loving memory of Mark Robert Koepke

MUSIC SUPERVISOR

Susan Jacobs

COMPOSERS

Chris Maxwell & Phil Hernandez

as

Elegant Too

POST-PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR

Helen Mendoza

ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS

Danielle Chu

Kiera Lewis

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Amy Bronson

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Doug Candler

ADDITIONAL CAMERA

Lorie Shaul

David Fox

Sarah McBride

Alexandr Fuchs

Holly Tuckett

Fletcher Johnson

Daniel Karlake

PRODUCTION SOUND

Diana Wilmar

Holly Tucket

MOTION GRAPHICS

Max Strebel

EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS

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Anna Sweeney

Zane Friedkin

Roger Carucci

Claire Stohlman

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Hell's Color Kitchen

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Job Fordham

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SPANISH TRANSCRIPTION
Ellen Estrada

ADDITIONAL GRAPHICS
Helen Mendoza – Tigre's Den Creative

WEBSITE DESIGN
Cecelia Dixon

END TITLES
Endcrawl.com



THE CAST

THE FAMILIES

THE ROBERTSON FAMILY

Linda & Rob Robertson are evangelical Christians who live in a suburb of Seattle, Wash., where they enjoy long bike rides, lots of Starbucks coffee and a thriving, involved community that cares about making a real difference in the world. Linda's passion and prayer is that Ryan's life and death will matter – and that the mistakes they made, as conservative evangelical parents with a young gay son, will serve to help someone else learn to really love their children, just because they breathe.

THE MCBRIDE FAMILY

Dave and Sally McBride and their three sons were the all-American family living in Wilmington, Delaware. When their oldest son told them he was gay, they adjusted. Then their youngest child came out as a transgender woman, saying simply that she's always known herself to be Sarah. Sarah McBride then made national headlines when she came out publicly as transgender while serving as student body president at American University. She soon became the first transgender intern at the White House and continues to shatter stereotypes and to break new ground.

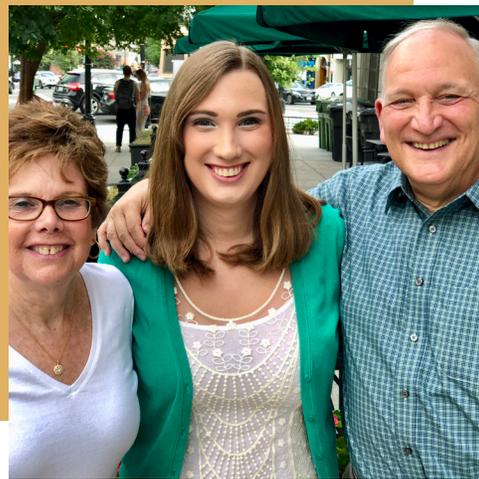
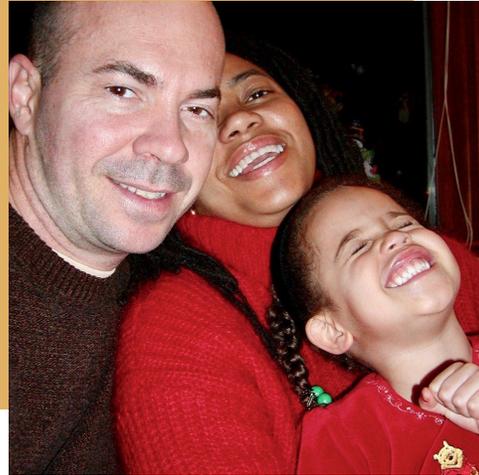
THE BAEZ FEBO FAMILY

Victor Báez, Sr. & Annette Febo were middle school sweethearts in Barranquita, Puerto Rico before they married in 1987. The family moved to Florida for Victor, Sr.'s construction job but after he graduated from high school, Victor Jr., moved back to Puerto Rico to live with his Catholic grandmother. When his grandma soon discovered that Victor Jr. was gay, she banned him from her house and outed him to his mom & dad...his greatest nightmare.



THE PORCHER FAMILY

Coleen and Harold Porcher were so excited when their daughter was born. There had been challenges starting their family, but now they were on their way, and they couldn't have been more thrilled. Growing up, their girl was a real tomboy who loved snakes and insects, but they didn't think much of it. But in eighth grade when she came to Coleen and Harold, and asked, "could you love me even if I were a boy?"...their lives changed forever.



THE CAST

THE EXPERTS

REVEREND DR. MEL WHITE

The Rev. Dr. Mel White is a Christian minister, author, and filmmaker and LGBTQ advocate. For 30 years, he was a pastor, speech-writer, and ghost-writer for the Religious Right, penning biographies for Jerry Falwell, Pat Robertson, and Billy Graham. He fought to overcome his own homosexual orientation for decades in all ways available to him: prayer, psychotherapy, exorcism, electric shock, marriage and family. That struggle and his journey to embrace his homosexuality and reconcile it with his faith, are documented in his book *Stranger at the Gate: To Be Gay and Christian in America*, published in 1994. In 1993, he came out publicly when he was installed as dean at the Dallas Cathedral of Hope of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC). He announced during his first sermon, “I am gay. I am proud. And God loves me without reservation.” In 1998, Mel White founded the non-profit organization, Soulforce Inc. with his partner, Gary Nixon.

BISHOP GENE ROBINSON (RETIRED)

Bishop Gene Robinson is an American retired bishop of the Diocese of New Hampshire in the Episcopal Church in the United States of America. Robinson is widely known for being the first priest in an openly gay relationship to be consecrated a bishop in a major Christian denomination believing in the historic episcopate. The story of Gene and his family was featured in **For the Bible Tells Me So** and he’s back in the new film talking not only about God’s love for all people but also about his latest work of uncovering affirming messages for transgender people in the Bible.



REVEREND JACQUI LEWIS

The Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis is Senior Minister at Middle Collegiate Church, a 1000-member multiracial, welcoming, and inclusive congregation in New York City. She is an activist, preacher, and a fierce advocate for racial equality, economic justice, and LGBTQ equality.

REVEREND DR. DELMAN COATES

The Reverend Dr. Delman Coates is an American Christian minister and the Senior Pastor of Mt. Ennon Baptist Church, a megachurch located in Clinton, Maryland. He is a board member of the Parents Television Council, and National Action Network. He is a member of the Society of Biblical Literature, Morehouse College Board of Preachers, NAACP, and a board member of the Parents Television Council, The African American Pulpit, and National Action Network. Dr. Coates is a religious progressive who argues quite persuasively against the cries of “religious freedom” coming from conservatives who want to use their religious beliefs as an excuse to discriminate.

REVEREND CYNTHIA ALICE ANDERSON

Rev. Cynthia Alice Anderson has been serving as senior minister at Christ Church Unity in Orlando, Florida since 2007. Under her spiritual leadership, Christ Church Unity continues to be a thriving ministry of community outreach, diversity and soul growth. Christ Church Unity is a welcoming community, dedicated to transforming lives, celebrating diversity and supporting soul growth.



BIOGRAPHIES OF KEY CREW

DIRECTOR - DANIEL KARSLAKE

Daniel Karslake is an award-winning American director and producer whose highly acclaimed work deals with pressing issues of national and international social justice. Prior to **FTKNWTD**, Karslake completed **EVERY THREE SECONDS**, a film amplifying practical solutions to global poverty and hunger which he began as a visiting scholar at Stanford University. Prior to that, he directed and produced **FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO**, a feature documentary about the intersection of religion and homosexuality in America, which premiered in competition at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival and was shortlisted for a 2008 Academy Award.

Karslake lives in Berlin with his husband, Russ, and their two cats, Rocky and Fred.

EDITOR - NANCY KENNEDY

Nancy Kennedy is a New York-based, award-winning editor. Her many credits include Sundance Grand Jury winner **Why We Fight, For the Bible Tells Me So, Gregory Crewdson: Brie Encounters, She's Beautiful When She's Angry, When the Drum Is Beating, Orchestra of Exiles, and Who Does She Think She Is?** Recent projects include **The Jinx**, a 6-part doc series for HBO, **Harry & Snowman**, and **Beyond Borders**. Nancy has also worked for all the major networks on such series as American Experience, American Masters, National Geographic, Saturday Night Live, and others.

PRODUCER - SHERI HEITKER

Previous to her producer duties on this documentary, Sheri Heitker was the co-executive producer of **EVERY THREE SECONDS**, a feature doc about ending poverty. She is also the Founder and Executive Director of Keep Her Safe, a non-profit mobilizing parents to stop campus sexual assault.

PRODUCER - BARBARA SIMON

Barbara Simon is a two-time Emmy Award-winning producer, one-time GLAAD award nominee, and full-time passionate advocate for (and occasional practitioner of) great storytelling. She is a producer for CBS News' Emmy-nominated morning news program, **CBS THIS MORNING**, where she produces interviews with presidential candidates, governors, CEOs, brain surgeons, country music stars, terror analysts and vigilante moms of Baltimore. In 2014 she won a Wilbur Award from the Religious Communicators Council for CTM's interview with Cardinal Timothy Dolan and Archbishop Edward Kurtz on "**The Francis Effect**," noting the changes in the American Catholic Church in Pope Francis' first year in the papacy. She lives in Montclair, NJ with her wife Margaret and their two kids, Nick & Cate.

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY - AMY BRONSON

Amy Bronson is a filmmaker currently living in Salt Lake City, Utah. She is the Executive Director of Reel Advocacy, a non-profit video production company that focuses on humanitarian causes. Amy also teaches two courses at the University of Utah: Documentary and Social Justice, and Himalayan Film for Learning Abroad – a three-week documentary course/humanitarian trek in Nepal.

MUSIC SUPERVISOR - SUSAN JACOBS

Susan Jacobs has been masterfully curating music for film since Spike Lee's 1986 movie, **She's Gotta Have It**. Since then, she has supervised music for some of the most notable projects in film and television. Her credits include: **Capote** (2005), **Little Miss Sunshine** (2006), **Lady in the Water** (2006), **Silver Linings Playbook** (2012), **American Hustle** (2013) and **I, Tonya** (2017), and **The Farewell** (2019).

Her television credits include the HBO mini-series **Sharp Objects**, **Mozart in the Jungle** and **Big, Little Lies** and for which she received an Emmy Award.



COMPOSERS - ELEGANT TOO

Elegant Too is an American record production and composer team based in New York City, consisting of the duo Chris Maxwell and Phil Hernandez. They are best known for their composer work on the FOX hit series

Bob's Burgers, - which won an Emmy in 2017 for an episode scored by Elegant Too. They are also known for their work on Disney's hit series **Walk the Prank**, Showtime's **Dice**, Netflix's **Who Was**, and many other well-known series including **Inside Amy Schumer**, **John Oliver's NY Stand-Up Show**, **Important Things With Dimitri Martin**, **The Onion News Network**, and multiple projects with Trevor Moore, including work on his recent Comedy Central special **The Story of Our Times** as well as his **The Whitest Kids You Know** and the production of his comedy album for Comedy Central, **High in Church**.

POST PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR - HELEN MENDOZA

Helen Mendoza is a frequent collaborator with Dan Karlake, serving as Producer for the documentary, **Every Three Seconds** (2013), and Co-Producer for **For the Bible Tells Me So** (2007) which premiered in competition at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival. In addition to her work in documentary films, Helen has produced commercials for television and radio, corporate and educational films. Helen created, wrote, and produced the original web series **Gay Daze** and LGBT search engine Outbox.com. Helen is also a vocalist and musician. She is a founding member of acclaimed women's choir, Vox Femina Los Angeles for whom she has produced video and multi-media elements for live concerts, as well as producing their first CD, **Taking Shape**. She lives in Los Angeles with her wife and two children.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY - DOUG CANDLER

Doug is a graduate of Georgia Southern College and is a multi-Emmy Award-winning news photographer and video journalist from Atlanta. After spending years shooting for Georgia television outlets, he moved to South Florida where he's a freelance videographer for organizations and businesses. Doug is also a philanthropist who has both supported and served on boards for many animal rights and LGBTQ rights organizations.

