

After more than four years in the making, a documentary by Happy Valley resident Charles Taylor Gould about the sexual exploitation of teenage girls in the Northwest is available to audiences nationwide.



by: PHOTO COURTESY: YOUR AMERICAN TEEN - From left, Portland residents Adrianna and Danielle (who did not give their last names) in Charles Taylor Gould's documentary about sexual exploitation of teenage girls in the Northwest.

"Your American Teen," which features interviews with Daryl Hannah, Jane Velez-Mitchell and Oregon U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden, won "Best full-length documentary in the Northwest" at the Columbia River International Film Festival in 2012 and is being distributed by Cascadia Pictures and MVD Distribution.

"Your American Teen" examines, through political and professional lenses, the impact of early childhood trauma on girls' lives. The film focuses on three young women living in the Pacific Northwest. Intense interviews are conducted with them over about two and a half years. Their stories are horrifying and tragic, yet despite it all, Gould strives to show beauty, innocence and hope.

Gould also details how, for decades, the systems designed to protect these girls was (and still is) broken. The film outlines the need for education of law enforcement, schools, media and the public.

"The goal from the outset was to educate 'Joe Public' on this crisis and create a conversation about what we all can do to stop this violence," he said.

To that end, the film has been made available in public libraries nationwide, including Oregon, a development that pleases Gould.

"This gives anyone who is interested in educating themselves about this extremely important issue, the opportunity to do so regardless of their budget," he said. "Getting this film into the library circuit is a big, big step."

The film can be purchased at various retail stores and websites, including [Barnes and Noble](#), and [Amazon](#).

Facebook comment form with a text input field labeled "Add a comment...", a "Posting as Micah Smith (Not you?)" dropdown, a "Comment" button, and a checked "Post to Facebook" option.

**Vickie Gantz** · Custody Service Specialist at Multnomah County Dept. of Community Justice  
And, if you don't have the \$\$\$, you can check it out at the Multnomah County Library :)  
Reply · 1 · Like · Follow Post · August 27 at 9:40pm

Facebook social plugin

**WANT TO SAY MORE?**

Don't have a Facebook account? Send a Letter to the Editor. [CLICK HERE!](#)

