



*Unifying the
New Generation
of
Military Widows*

MEDIA KIT

(PDF Format)



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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Austin, TX, February 2009: Members of The American Widow Project, a non-profit organization dedicated to this generation's military widows, will travel in an R.V. all across the U.S. to screen the film they created in hopes of easing the relentless grief that follows after losing a spouse in the Iraq/Afghanistan Wars. The widows hope to show society a glimpse into the other side of the loss of this Nation's heroes.

This film and organization were the creation of Taryn Davis, a widow who lost her husband in Iraq in 2007. She began traveling around the country to hear other women's stories of love, tragedy... and overall survival. In hearing their accounts, she hoped to learn more about the title that had been given to her and so many others....that of a military widow. What began as her personal journey has expanded into a non-profit organization, a documentary film, and a growing website.

The organization and its efforts have caught the eye of The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times, America Supports You, and many others.

Bases, small towns, universities and anyone else interested in screening the film are urged to contact The American Widow Project to make sure the RV of military widows makes it into their town to remember those who have sacrificed it all and to honor those surviving in the spirit of their love.

For more information on the tour or The American Widow Project, visit our website: www.americanwidowproject.org or give Taryn (512.618.1469) or Nicole (818.645.4656) a call.

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Our Mission:

The American Widow Project is a non-profit organization dedicated to the new generation of those who have lost the heroes of yesterday, today and tomorrow, with an emphasis on healing through sharing stories, tears and laughter.....Military Widow to Military Widow.

Our Services:

The Film- The 75 minute the documentary gives a candid look into the stories, struggles and perseverance of 6 military widows. Everything is covered from meeting the love of their life to the knock on the door, life as a single parent, and decorating a headstone. The film is being distributed FREE of charge to all military widows and widowers as a key to the healing process.

The Site (See Attached)- Built to house ideas, stories, and advice, we have compiled a multitude of resources to help with the lifetime of struggles that come along with being a military widow.

The Newsletters- Compiled and created by other widows, the newsletters range in content and keep the widows up to date on all our happenings.

The Hotline – No counselors will be answering the calls, just widows who are going through the same trials and tribulations.

The Events- We do not hold seminars or have speakers, we have each other. The widows come together to enjoy life the way they did when their spouse was still alive. From surfing to ziplining, we are here to enjoy each other's company and share some of our fondest memories.



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Taryn Davis, 22, was living the "normal" life; she had married her soul mate, was about to graduate college, and had her future with him to look forward to. That was until May 21, 2007. Her husband had been killed by multiple roadside bombs in Baghdad, just an hour and a half after they last spoke.

Feeling lost and alone in the new world she'd been thrown into, Taryn began traveling around the country to hear other women's stories of love, tragedy... and overall survival. In hearing their accounts, she hoped to learn more about the title that had been given to her and so many others....that of a military widow. What began as her personal journey has expanded into a non-profit organization, a documentary film, and a growing website.

Through the American Widow Project, the widows, left to carry the legacies of this nation's heroes, have grasped on and embraced their new lives with all the enthusiasm and passion they had when their spouses were still here. They are inspired solely by the willpower and strength of those "in their shoes" and found that true love is eternal, that the things their husbands said and did still run through their veins, and mostly....

They are not alone.



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Media Coverage:

The New York Times
NPR
GritTV
The Austin Film Festival
AOL
Jezebel
The Huffington Post
The Los Angeles Time
The Early Show
The L.A. Daily News
The Austin American Statesman
The San Marcos Daily Record
The Killeen Daily Herald
CinHouse
ABC News Now
I.A.V.A
American Supports You
In Their Boots
Fox7
News8 Austin
KVUE24
VetVoice
Philanthropy Today



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Our Website (www.americanwidowproject.org):

What to Expect- From a timeline that explains where their husband is being taken and how long before he returns home to writing a eulogy, this section shares those first few days, weeks, and months of widowhood.

Their Belongings- Our loved ones' belongings are now our only physical link to them. What to do with even the smallest things can feel like the biggest challenge and allows for a lot of us to be creative again. This section allows widows to see what others are doing and submit their own ideas..

All Alone- When you get married you become a unit, a team that can conquer the world. When you lose your significant other you lose not only your soul mate but also your identity. This section shares some of the challenges that widows may face in this transition, everything from dining out alone to spending your birthday without your spouse.

Share Your Story- This section features stories submitted from widows all over the country. Widows are allowed to share their grief by writing about it, while others can read their stories and know that they are not alone.

A Good Laugh- Never underestimate the power of a good laugh, and as widows we find humor in some strange places- after hearing "At least you're young" 100 times you can't help but giggle! This is the section where we can share all of those moments that only other widows understand.

Unique Situations- Some heroes don't lose their lives in battle. Some widows have to deal with a pregnancy amidst the loss. This section is dedicated to all those who face these differences.

Resources- From how to install a garage door opener to great reads, this section has it all! It empowers widows to take on tasks they never thought they could or just meet a new widow friend on MySpace.

The Help Board- People in the community can post services in their area they'd like to extend to widows. Babysitting, lawn mowing, tutoring- it's their way of saluting our troops and the sacrifices they make.

Calendar- From upcoming Anniversaries to widow and military-themed events, the calendar allows widows to share their special days with others.

What's New?- Film Festival? TV Show? New Story? The "What's New?" section keeps you updated on what's going on with the AWP.

Future Online Webinars/Support Groups- Based from the comfort of their home, widows will have the opportunity to have all the benefits of a support group at their fingertips