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Kontinent Agency presents the exhibition

CHILDREN HAVING CHILDREN

by Linda Forsell

During 2014, the award-winning photojournalist and medical student, Linda Forsell, travelled to Guatemala to document the harsh reality faced by young girls having children. In a country with strict abortion laws, 5,100 girls between the ages of 10 and 14, gave birth as a result of rape in 2013. Tragically, these figures are rising. *'Children Having Children'* is an important body of work based on an unerring belief in the necessity to tell the stories of these young girls.

Forsell's exhibition *'Children Having Children'* aims to raise awareness of gender-based violence in order to end violence against girls and women. In 2016, a new UN global agenda for Sustainable Development was accepted worldwide and is applicable to all countries. The global Agenda 2030 recognises gender equality and the empowerment of women as a key priority. It aims to prevent and eliminate all violence against women and girls and affirms that "no one will be left behind".



Sample works



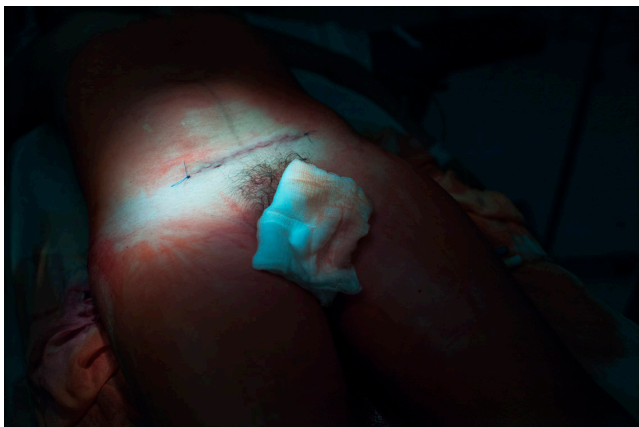
Sample works



Sample works



Sample works



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To watch a short multimedia piece about the project please click on the following link:

<http://lindaforsell.tumblr.com/post/126937687893/best-of-children-having-children-an>



In Depth Text

Forsell's powerful images bring a hidden world of child sexual abuse, shame, pain and sorrow, but also of love, to public attention. The photographer chronicled the daily lives of nine children, already mothers, or in the process of becoming mothers. Now, a medical student with an interest in reproductive health, Forsell, wanted to give a face to the fundamental problem of gender-based violence and inequality in Guatemala.

As Forsell herself explains:

"The physical complications from having a baby before the body is fully developed are severe. The girls are often psychologically broken from the assaults, and society stigmatizes them, for example, by banning them from school. Sexual education is basically nonexistent, and the powerful church discourages it. Complicated societal structures lie behind the oppression, including a heritage from the civil war where rape was used as a weapon, and a surge of drug cartel activity in the country. Since most rapes do not lead to pregnancy, these cases are of course only the tip of an iceberg."

The issue of pregnant children in Guatemala describes a significant problem that touches the root of all gender-based violence and inequality in the world; that women and especially girls are prescribed a lower value than men, by men but also by themselves. This is what first caught my interest back in 2012. The youth and naivety of these girls is hard to ignore. To all who remember being 13, their innocence is evident and the toll on their lives are high. Take a deep breath and try to absorb an ounce of their stories."

'Children Having Children' was carried out with the help of the Swedish Arts Grants Committee. It helped initiate a change in Guatemala's marital law, improving the lives of young girls. Throughout 2015, the exhibition was shown widely in Guatemala, during which time, it aided a campaign by local organizations such as, The Reproductive Health Observatory (OSAR), to increase the legal age of marriage from 15 to 18. Ultimately, the campaign was successful and by the end of 2015, after the exhibition had been shown to 12 of the countries ministers, the amendments to the law were made.

'Children Having Children' has created a powerful platform for debate on the greater structure behind gender inequality, the rights of children and the significance of reproductive health. The story has been published in a wide variety of media including the Guardian, Washington Post, BuzzFeed, Dagens Näringsliv, The Huffington Post and most Guatemalan tv channels and newspapers.



Exhibition details

Kontinent offer a range of photographic exhibitions to museums, galleries and institutions worldwide. The exhibitions vary in size from 14 to 110 images. The minimum showing period is 8 weeks, however we are happy to accommodate your needs wherever possible.

IMAGES

- 65 colour/black and white photographs in total.
- All Kontinent exhibitions are stored in archival crates and are accompanied by explanatory texts.

EXHIBITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The exhibition venue is responsible for:

- The rental fee, transportation, wall to wall insurance, and technical installation.
- Travel and lodging expenses for exhibiting photographer/ Kontinent representative (outside of Stockholm) for the installation and opening of the exhibition.
- Production of promotional materials (catalogue, brochure, posters etc)



'Children having Children' by Linda Forsell, Guatemala City, Guatemala, 2015

KONTINENT AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES

Kontinent Agency will make available to the exhibitor, in the form of digital files, 2-3 photos for editorial promotion of the exhibition in the press, for the poster and for the invitation. These photos may be used solely and exclusively in the context of promotion of the exhibition, beginning 2 months before the opening of the exhibition and until the end. Should certain photographs be used in this context, it is imperative that the photographer's copyright be mentioned: © Name of Photographer/ Kontinent Agency.

Appearing on all promotional material will be the Kontinent logos, those of the exhibitor, together with the logos of any sponsors. All promotional material must be submitted to Kontinent in advance to allow for approval before printing or dissemination.

FURTHER DETAILS

For further information regarding exhibition fees, visual materials and other information please contact Malin Sjoberg, Project Manager on +46 (0) 7 22 62 96 14 or email malin@kontinent.se



Linda Forsell

Linda Forsell is an award-winning Swedish photojournalist. For the past five years, she has worked extensively with women's issues all over the world. Her project '*Children Having Children*' lead her to embark on a medical degree, focusing on reproductive health. (Below is just a selection of her many exhibitions, clients and awards.)

EXHIBITIONS

- 2015 *Children having Children*, Cinelux, Guatemala City (solo)
- 2015 *Children having Children*, Cooperacion Espanola, Antigua, Guatemala (solo)
- 2015 *Cause of Death: Woman*, Värmland Museum, Karlstad, Sweden (solo)
- 2013 *Cause of Death: Woman*, Galleri Kontrast, Stockholm, Sweden (solo)
- 2013 Magenta Flash Forward, Toronto, Canada
- 2012 *Cause of Death: Woman*, solo exhibition at 3 venues across Beijing, The Ullens Center, Zhajia and One Yuan Co-op (solo)
- 2012 *Life's a blast*, Galleri London, Uppsala, Sweden (solo)
- 2012 *Life's a blast*, Galleri Kontrast, Stockholm, Sweden (solo)
- 2012 *It's a thin line between love and hate*, United Photo Industries, Brooklyn, New York, USA
- 2009 *Only Human*, Stockholms stadsmuseum, Stockholm, Sweden (solo)

AWARDS

- 2016 Documentary Photo Award, Arbetets Museum, Sweden, Winner
- 2016 Diploma from Norwegian International Reporter Organisation
- 2015 The Visura Grant, Top Finalist
- 2015 The Wendela Prize, Nominated
- 2015 Swedish Picture of the Year, Portrait Category
- 2013 The German Lead Awards, Reportage Category, Bronze Winner
- 2013 Magenta Flash Forward Award, US, Winner
- 2013 Swedish Picture of the Year, Special Prize Winner
- 2012 One Life Photo Award, Ideas Category Winner
- 2010 SIDA sponsoring Cause of Death: Woman
- 2010 Magnum Expression Awards, Finalist
- 2008 Swedish Picture of the Year, Swedish Story Category

CLIENTS

Dagens Nyheter, The Guardian, Washington Post, Vice Magazine, The New Yorker, Lens Magazine (China), Aftonbladet, Dagens Næringsliv, Femmes en Résistance Magazine, Svenska Dagbladet, la Repubblica, Feeling Fame, Fokus, Cancerfonden, Save the Children, Time.com

For further details please contact:



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