

REBIRTH: Viewer Feedback

Since the theatrical and DVD release of *REBIRTH* in the fall of 2011, [Project Rebirth](#) continues to receive feedback from viewers. Many are inspired to share their own experiences coping with loss and recognizing the power of their own resiliency. Please scroll down to read all of the comments.

After watching so many 9/11 programs around the 10th anniversary, I had to take a break so I saved Rebirth and decided to watch it today.

I am glad I waited because around 9/11 I was so filled with grief and sadness all over again from watching the shows that were on that week that I never would have been able to see the healing, the joy and strength that comes across so beautifully in "Rebirth". Through the unspeakable tragedy these people experienced we get to see them all walk through the valley of the shadow of death and into bright healing light to a place of true rebirth in every sense of the word.

The film moved me so much and filled me with such hope. To actually see the people experience so many emotions and so honestly share with us their journey was beyond incredible. I felt so honored to be let in on their private struggles and triumphs. What a privilege it was and I applaud everyone who had a role in creating such a tribute to the memory of those lost as well as the survivors who openly shared over the years.

Thank you so very much for having the forethought to start the film years ago and to follow it over the years. This was a beautiful moving film and deserving of any recognition and praise it receives.

Many blessing to everyone and especially those who appeared and opened up to us. I have been touched by this in a very special way.

To the Producers:

I just wanted to commend you on the achievement of creating a documentary film that provides such an inspirational and uplifting tribute to the strength and resiliency of the American spirit.

Hi

My name is Jennifer and I was fortunate to watch your documentary last night, which was shown here on the ABC.

I felt compelled to write to you to let you know how much I enjoyed it. It was so remarkable watching how the human spirit copes with unimaginable grief.

I felt sad for what these individuals had to endure. But to witness their journeys and struggles in picking themselves up and finding their way, to move on to live happy and fulfilling lives again was truly inspirational.

Thank you for all your hard work over the years in bringing us these incredible stories. It's so important to hear these people.

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"We will never forget".

Kind regards

To Whom It May Concern:

What a beautifully done documentary! Credits are rolling as I type. I stumbled on it this morning on my way to tuning in to the *Today Show*.

To witness the subjects' growth and healing over the years was incredible, inspiring and gives me a great deal of hope. While the losses of 9/11 were shared by the world, all of us experience loss over the course of our lifetimes.

In my case I worry and pray over my young adult kids' healing from divorce and separation. Time CAN heal when we allow it to do so. I want to ensure that they watch this to understand that healing takes time and that it is okay to move on, forgive and while not forgetting is never an option, that it's okay to develop new and improved memories and lives.

May the works of your hearts and hands continue to be blessed.

The documentary is a good reminder for generations to come on the damage that can be caused by evil minds and at the same time it also brings home the fact that it is Hope that always sustains life even when under extraordinary hardships. This documentary should be shown in all high schools and colleges across the nation. Thanks for the opportunity to see it.....

WOW! The art of filmmaking is such a powerful form of communication. Project Rebirth takes you to the deepest parts of the human soul. I felt like I was living through the lives of the victims and yet I didn't feel sympathy for them; I felt like I was in awe of the way they worked through their grief. The retelling of their stories did not "sugar coat" the realities of what they were faced with either.

I loved the imagery of the rebirth of ground zero and the rebirth of a life. Loved it!

That was a very powerful experience...Coming from NY, I can identify my family members in the lives of the people in the film. Understanding how the tragedy affected them hit close to home. My aunt lost a nephew in the WTC on 9-11, as his story was similar to that of the 16-year olds mom in that the nephew had just started a new job a week prior to the attack. Again, very powerful and profound...

Got the DVD yesterday. Watched it again last night with my wife. All I can say is regardless of how profound the human experience of 9/11 is what's even more profound is the human experience of healing as documented in your movie. Thank you.

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1. This has to be a historically important film for sure. I would almost equate it to the Vietnam War which very few people understood or discussed, albeit as a series of newspaper or magazine articles or a couple pages in a history book. It was not until 30 or 40 years later when filmmakers superimposed the human life/tragedy element with the historical chronology of the Vietnam War or Post-Vietnam that people started to discuss it and understand it better. So you guys are 20 years ahead of your time.
 2. Seeing the personal stories makes me see 9/11 from an entirely different perspective than I have before. Makes you wonder about the thousands of untold human stories. [Like most other people, my recollection of 9/11 is mainly about remembering where I was that day, what I was doing, the TV news clips that I saw, memorable photographs from magazines of the event. This film evokes for me an entirely different perspective from previous ones].
 3. I was pleased to learn how this film, as a by-product, is psychologically helping those who endured a tragedy in their family from 9/11 work through their sorrow.
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I just want to say thank you for allowing us to be a part of this screening. It was an excellent movie and really makes you think about what the individuals in this area went through and what they continue to go through to rebuild their lives. We only saw the stories of five families that were affected; it is just amazing to believe that there are so many more out there that are still trying to put their life back together after losing a loved one. This is definitely an amazing project.

It was very moving, of course. But in between the tears I found myself analyzing the filmmakers' choices and I must say, it's an extremely impressive work. It is, in the end, a very objective work about a very emotional subject. Many filmmakers would have succumbed to the temptation to go for the easy heartstrings. What I found most moving about this work was its clear-headed honesty, it's very straightforward narrative and, ultimately, its pervasive message of endurance and optimism. You are rightfully proud of your association with this project.

Thank you for inviting me to a memorable evening. I felt fortunate to share in the experience of viewing a film on which so many have dedicated their lives over several years.

“Rebirth” was a remarkable and brave work, the cinematography daring and every engaging story was weaved beautifully throughout the production. You all should be very proud of creating a higher standard for documenting the human story in the 9/11 aftermath, the dedication to rebuild and the lives of survivors “letting go without letting go.”

If you would like to share your feedback about *REBIRTH*, please send an email to our Executive Director, Caitlin Olson, at caitlin.olson@projectrebirth.org. We hope to hear from you and continue to support the work of first responders. Thank you for your consideration and time.