

## **PUZZLES When Hate Came to Town**

### Endorsements

*“A brilliant documentary, whose strength is not only in the captivating story it tells, but in the way that it is told--by the citizens themselves. In their own words those on both sides of this tragedy take us directly into the world of those changed by hate.”*

**Prof. Brian Levin**  
**Director, Center for the Study of Hate & Extremism**  
**California State University, San Bernardino**

*“Eye opening portrait of gay life in a multiracial, working class New England town struggling to cope with the economic downturn. PUZZLES serves as a catalyst for discussions ranging from anti-homophobia and bullying to gender relations, coming out and the challenges of working class families in America. Excellent documentary for use in education, sociology and LGBT and Gender Studies.”*

**Lance T. McCreedy,**  
**Associate Professor of Urban Education,**  
**Ontario Institute for Studies in Education**  
**University of Toronto**

*“Remarkable and important documentary! It’s unique in its ability to provide such access into the world of a Neo-Nazi hate crime offender and simultaneously the world of his victims. It allows the viewer an in-depth look into the friends of a hate crime offender and how they believe they must remain supportive of their friend even as some condemn his actions. PUZZLES vividly portrays the fear and anxiety that these crimes generate in members of the targeted community, in this case the LGBT community.”*

**Jack McDevitt**  
**Associate Dean and Director**  
**Institute on Race and Justice Northeastern University**

*“Beautifully made, heartfelt view of how all of us struggle for respect and connection in America today. The film portrays a dying city and people without jobs, a future or a safety net finding safe harbor in self-made “families”. PUZZLES is a deeply human exploration of the roots of hate violence and how a horrendous crime becomes a catalyst for a community to reach out for greater understanding and connection.”*

**Barbara Abrash**  
**Center for Media, Culture and History, NYC**

*“Beautiful. Through looking at an act of violence, PUZZLES humanizes people who are often seen as social outcasts.”*

**Louis Kontos**  
**Associate Professor Sociology Criminology**  
**John Jay College**

*“Timely! PUZZLES brings many crucial issues together in a tight, compelling way. Economic desperation, racism, intolerance, scapegoating, and violence--what a toxic American mix. This documentary will be invaluable in helping high school teachers and their students unpack the connections between multiple forms of oppression.”*

**Pam Sporn**  
**High School Teacher**