



Join us for a **FREE SCREENING** of the film **A Girl Like Her**

by Ann Fessler <http://agirllikeher.com/>

A GIRL LIKE HER reveals the hidden history of over a million young women who became pregnant in the 1950s and 60s and were banished to maternity homes to give birth, surrender their children, and return home alone. They were told to keep their secret, move on and forget. But, does a woman forget her child?

The film combines footage from educational films and newsreels of the time period about dating, sex, “illegitimate” pregnancy, and adoption—that both reflected and shaped the public’s understanding of single pregnancy during that time—with the voices of these mothers as they speak today, with hindsight, about the long-term impact of surrender and silence on their lives.

CRITICAL PRAISE for A GIRL LIKE HER:

“A Girl Like Her is a marvel of formal invention ... a brutal examination of cultural hypocrisy.”—Dan Schindel, “The Doc Option: Before Philomena Watch A Girl Like Her”, Nonfics: Real Stories, Real Insight

“A Girl Like Her, Ann Fessler’s quietly devastating documentary ... offers a sociologically rich and important deconstruction of a

devastating double social standard that was in effect in those days. In revealing the painful legacy that permanently impacted so many mothers, Fessler has finally and respectfully given them a voice.” — Geneva Anderson, Art Hound

“Precise, daunting, and also allusive, this story recalls those bad old days ... when ignorance, silence, and repression were the preferred social strategies ... decidedly anti-nostalgic ... heart-wrenching.” — Cynthia Fuchs, Film and TV Editor, PopMatters

We must understand and acknowledge our past practices and philosophies about adoption. This film brings a unique opportunity to understand where we’ve been with adoption in our culture. Have we moved well beyond the experiences of this era or in what ways are we still practicing this way? In what ways does the adoption profession continue to serve women the way the movie portrays and in what ways have we advanced and changed? These questions, as well as your questions, thoughts, opinions and information will frame the discussion afterwards. Attending this event and participating in the discussion will be **Karen Wilson Buterbaugh**, a participant in the film and researcher/writer about the Baby Scoop Era in adoption (www.babyscooper.com)

JOIN US! This film is applicable and of interest to:

- Anyone interested, touched or impacted by US history & adoption
- Professionals working in law, medicine, human services, foster care and adoption
- Students in the following fields of study: social work, sociology, psychology, psychiatry, gender, sexuality & women's studies, rehabilitation counseling, history, education, medicine, nursing, child development

SPACE IS LIMITED TO 40 PEOPLE! This is a free event but you must register. If we have enough interest - we will plan for additional screening dates.

SCREENING WILL BE HELD Thursday, March 19th 6:00pm-8:00pm

Virginia Commonwealth University campus
Academic Learning Commons – School of Social Work – Room 3100
1000 Floyd Ave. (parking available West Cary Street Parking Deck or West Main Street Parking Deck; some metered street parking)
Richmond, VA

[CLICK or COPY THIS LINK TO REGISTER](#)

Or contact Rebecca Ricardo at rricardo@c2adopt.org or 804-354-1881

Our thanks to the MSWSA at VCU who has provided the space and will provide popcorn and drinks that will be set up before the film and can be brought in to the room during the showing.