

Long Night's Journey Into Day

South Africa's Search for Truth & Reconciliation

For over forty years, South Africa was governed by the most notorious form of racial domination since Nazi Germany. When it finally collapsed, those who had enforced apartheid's rule wanted amnesty for their crimes. Their victims wanted justice. As a compromise, the Truth & Reconciliation Commission (TRC) was formed. Now, as it investigates the crimes of Apartheid, the Commission is bringing together victims and perpetrators to relive South Africa's brutal history. By revealing the past instead of burying it, the TRC hopes to pave the way to a peaceful future.

Long Night's Journey Into Day follows several TRC cases over a two-year period. The stories in the film underscore the universal themes of conflict, forgiveness, and renewal. A white special forces officer, deeply remorseful for the crimes he committed, struggles to reach peace with the embittered wife of a black activist he killed 14 years ago. A group of mothers, after enduring years of misinformation and denials by the authorities, learns the truth about how their sons were set up, betrayed, and killed in a vicious police conspiracy. A young black activist comes to recognize the anguish he caused by killing a white American student during a mob riot, while her parents see past their pain to embrace a new, multi-racial South Africa.

As it emerges from its tragedy, South Africa is showing the rest of the world that even the most bitter of conflicts can be addressed through honesty and communication. *Long Night's Journey Into Day* is witness to history in the making.

**IRIS FILMS • 2600 Tenth Street, Suite 413 • Berkeley, CA 94710 USA • tel 510.845.5414
fax 510.841.3336 • irisfilms@aol.com • www.irisfilms.org**