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## LOGLINE

**The 8th** tells the story of Irish women and their fight to overturn one of the most restrictive abortion bans in the world. After a 35-year struggle the pro-choice side radically shift tactics to try to bring an historically conservative electorate over the line.

## SYNOPSIS

**The 8th** traces Ireland's campaign to remove the 8th Amendment - a constitutional ban on abortion. It shows a country's transformation from a conservative state in thrall to the Catholic church to a more liberal secular society.

**The 8th** includes voices from both sides of the debate, but its primary focus is on the dynamic female leaders of the pro-choice campaign. The film follows the veteran campaigner Ailbhe Smyth and self-described glitter-activist Andrea Horan as they chart a bold strategy of grassroots activism and engineer the impossible. This dramatic story is underscored by a vivid exploration of the wrenching failures that led to this defining moment in Irish history.

An urgent narrative, a cautionary tale and a roadmap for progressive reforms in a modern era where authoritarianism is on the rise, **The 8th** shows a country forging a new progressive path at a time when reproductive rights are threatened around the world.

*The 8th “offers a potent message at a time when thirst for local and global change is mobilising new generations to a seismic degree.”*

*Screen Daily*

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**Norm Wilner** ✓  
@normwilner

It's this year's KNOCK DOWN THE HOUSE, in that it reminds us that some fights are a) worth the fighting for and b) winnable.

**THE 8TH Documentary** @the8thfilm · 2m

We're delighted to see that @normwilner's list of the 10 must-see films at #HotDocs2020 includes #The8thFilm! Ontarians can stream it from home starting tomorrow, 5/28.

Virtual tickets (in limited supply) available now. [bit.ly/the8thhotdocs](https://bit.ly/the8thhotdocs)  
[nowtoronto.com/movies/feature...](https://nowtoronto.com/movies/feature...)

## THE TEAM

### Maeve O'Boyle, Director/Producer/Editor

Maeve O'Boyle is an Emmy-award winning editor and producer. She edited *The Education of Mohammad Hussein* (HBO), which was shortlisted for an Academy Award. She co-produced and edited the Emmy-award-winning and 2014 IRE Award winning, *Firestone and the Warlord* (PBS). She also edited and co-produced *Growing Up Trans* (PBS), which won a DuPont Columbia award and co-wrote and edited *Do I Sound Gay?*, which premiered at TIFF and was awarded the runner up for People's Choice Award. Other work includes *Left of the Dial* (HBO), *Heat* (PBS), *112 Weddings* (HBO & BBC) and *The Kids Grow Up* (HBO), which premiered at IDFA and Full Frame and was awarded a special Jury prize at AFI Docs. She is currently co-directing and editing a feature documentary on the folk singer Joan Baez.



### Lucy Kennedy, Director/Producer

Lucy Kennedy is a journalist and documentary filmmaker. She directed four episodes of the Netflix investigative documentary series *Rotten* including *Lawyers, Guns & Honey* and *The Avocado Wars*. She was the commissioning producer for three years of the Emmy-award-winning investigative series, *Fault Lines* on Al Jazeera. Over that period she directed and commissioned for the series; directing credits include *Death on the Bakken Shale*, *One Day in Charkh* and *American Sheriff*. Other work includes *Explorer* (National Geographic), *Frontline* (PBS), *Need to Know & Wide Angle* (WNET) & *Prime Time* (RTE). She is a graduate of the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism.



### Aideen Kane, Director/Producer

Aideen Kane is the VP of Production at Fork Films. She is currently a producer on *Women in Blue* and *Inequality* (WT), feature documentaries for release in early 2021. Previous credits include Emmy-winning and nominated, feature-length and television documentaries, including: *The Armor of Light* (dirs. Abigail Disney & Kathleen Hughes), *The Trials of Spring* (dir. Gini Reticker), *The Awful Truth* (dir. Michael Moore), *Face to Face: The Schappell Twins* (dir. Ellen Weissbrod), and *Voices of the Children* (dir. Zuzana Justman). In Ireland she produced several award winning documentaries and documentary series for public television and is a producer on the international theatrical hit *Alone it Stands*.



### Alan Maher, Producer

Alan Maher is a partner in Cowtown Pictures and his recent feature film *Rialto*, written by Mark O'Halloran and directed by Peter Mackie Burns, premiered in the Orizzonti Competition of the Venice Film Festival in 2019 and will be released internationally in 2020. Alan's other recent productions include: Tom Burke's feature documentary *Losing Alaska*; Pat Collins' feature film *Song of Granite*; and Maya Zinshtein's Emmy Award winning feature documentary *Forever Pure*. Current productions include *Songs For While I'm Away* a feature documentary on Phil Lynott by Emmy Award winner Emer Reynolds.



GENRE	Documentary
LENGTH	94 minutes
LANGUAGES	English
PRODUCTION	A Black Tabby Films production in association with Fork Films and Cowtown Pictures.
SHOOTING LOCATIONS	Ireland
DIRECTORS	Lucy Kennedy, Maeve O'Boyle, Aideen Kane,
PRODUCERS	Lucy Kennedy, Maeve O'Boyle, Aideen Kane, Alan Maher.
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS	Abigail E. Disney, Gini Reticker, Jess Kwan, Amy Nauiokas, Lesley McKimm
ORIGINAL SCORE	Sarah Lynch
EDITORS	Jordan Montminy, Maeve O'Boyle
GRAPHICS	Conor O'Boyle
FUNDING/SUPPORT	This film was made with the support of Fís Éireann/Screen Ireland, A grant from Open Society Foundations, Incentives for the Irish Film Industry provided by the Government of Ireland, Fork Films, Sabrina Merage Foundation, Ford Foundation / JustFilms & Archer Gray.