

the bad mother



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APRIL 2016

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ABOUT THE FILM

Tara is a mid-30's woman struggling with leaving a rewarding career to raise kids. When her 5-year-old son accidentally posts a private rant she wrote about her husband's evil workplace to the internet, Tara's marriage and family must deal with the dizzying consequences.

Tara becomes a lightning rod for other women in the same boat, is thrust into a spotlight she never wanted, and forced to face her choices... or lack of.

Written by and starring Sarah Kapoor, directed and produced by David J. Fernandes and Sarah Kapoor, and shot by Director of Photography, Gregory P. Bennett.

CONTACT INFO

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfmjuzuqEI6M68PjLymvBuA>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/badmothermovie>
Twitter: [@badmothermovie](https://twitter.com/badmothermovie)
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QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE BAD MOTHER:

Filmed with a real family

Sarah Kapoor, her mother Sadhna Kapoor, her husband John Christensen and their two children, Hart and Daya (five and one at the time of filming) as well as her best friend Kristen Roderick are all in the film and none are actors. The access to their natural intimacy gives the film the magic of a documentary AND the power of a polished dramatic film.

Successful Kickstarter Campaign

In April 2015, *The Bad Mother* successfully Kickstarted \$54,000 from 339 individuals over three weeks in order to complete its final ten days of filming. The film was completed in November 2015. The movie was financed entirely outside of studios or government grants.

David Avocado Wolfe is in the film

“Rockstar of the Nutrition World” David Avocado Wolfe, plays the role of fantastical ex-boyfriend in the film. The role was rewritten to appeal to his 5.5 million Facebook fans.

Jus Reign is in the film

YouTube comic and MuchMusic host, Jus Reign, plays news anchor “Clark Kaint” in the film. He has over 700,000 subscribers on YouTube and another 1.8 million followers on Vine, where his six-second videos have been looped close to a billion times.

Official Selections and Awards

The Bad Mother was nominated for Best Feature, Best Actress and won the Best Cinematography prize at its premiere at the Hamilton Film Festival. It has been accepted to upcoming festivals: Big Island Film Festival (BIFF) in Hawai'i in May, 2016 and the Niagara Integrated Film Festival (NIFF) in June, 2016.

CONTEXT

A few lucky mothers can bring their child to work. A few others have nannies and housekeepers and can “sit at the table” in corporate boardrooms.

The vast majority of middle-class and working-class parents in North America have so few options for affordable childcare, they don't lean in, they camp out in front of daycare centres with sleeping bags to get a spot. If successful, they might end up on a three-year waiting list for childcare they can't afford.

The more common antidote to this scenario is that women leave the workforce.

The stress on working families increases with each squeeze. Gone are the days of paying off student loans in two years and a city house in twenty. Affording a house in any major centre, raising kids, saving for post-secondary education – let alone saving anything for emergencies or retirement – requires two healthy and steady incomes.

“Women who want or need to work face massive obstacles. Women who stay home are left economically vulnerable,” says Sarah Kapoor, writer and star of *The Bad Mother*. “There's lots of fantastic documentaries and studies about this, but there wasn't an entertaining movie that got those ideas across. We made one.”

The Bad Mother is the perfect comic relief. Tara is the frustrated former career woman who gives up her seat at the table for kids, and is judged from all sides by maidens, mothers and crones alike.

The Bad Mother is as hilarious as it is real and it speaks to women and families silenced by the choices pitting family life against work life.

FILM FESTIVALS

Official Selections:

HFF (Hamilton Film Festival): November 2015

- Nominated for Best Actress
- Nominated for Best Feature
- Won Best Cinematography prize

BIFF (Big Island Film Festival): May 2016

NIFF (Niagara International Film Festival): June 2016

PRESS COVERAGE SO FAR

CBC

Article about the movie and Kickstarter campaign

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/hamilton/news/hamilton-film-the-bad-mother-a-good-look-at-life-for-working-moms-1.3049043>

Hamilton Spectator

Front page mention and cover of Arts section for premiere

<http://www.thespec.com/whatson-story/6063866-starring-hamilton-weeklong-festival-promotes-hometown-films-and-filmmakers/>

Masala Mommas

Review of the film

<http://masalamommas.com/2015/11/03/what-is-the-bad-mother-a-film-review/>

Creston Valley Advance

Article about Sarah Kapoor

<http://badmothermovie.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Creston-Valley-Advance.pdf>

They Roar

Interview with Sarah and David

<http://theyroar.com/2015/04/feature-friday-the-bad-mother-video-qa/>

CHCH morning show

Interview with David J. Fernandes

<http://www.chch.com/hamilton-film-festival-preview/>

Slash Film

Kickstarter Trailer review

<http://www.slashfilm.com/this-week-in-trailers-shake-the-dust-born-in-china-just-about-famous-love-at-first-fight-the-bad-mother/>

QUOTES

*"If you've ever wondered if you're 'leaning' in the right direction, you must see *The Bad Mother!*"*

I love it because it challenges the unspoken code of motherhood (not to tell anyone the ways you feel disappointed...) Even our own mothers won't utter the words. It is wonderfully authentic, vulnerable, and speaks honestly to paradox and imperfect trade offs that inevitably come with being a parent in the modern world.

Ditch your kids, and watch it with your friends! Better yet, see it with your own mom!"

Beth Hanson Fox

Working mom

"I brought this film in for a conference and watched this with a room full of women. Normally we bring in more Hollywood movies, and I wasn't sure how they would react to something that didn't have real actors. Their reaction surprised me. The LOVED the film. Personally I was surprised the lead wasn't an actress, she was very good!"

Kelly Hayes

Coordinator of Women and Equity Issues
Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario

"I laughed, I cried, I peed a little."

Lana Stace-Smith

Kickstarter supporter and mom

"For those that are parents, were parents or have parents this is a hilarious and poignant must-see about the trials and tribulations of raising children."

Jamie Broughton

Father, North America's Emerging Leader Specialist

TRAILERS AND VIDEO CLIPS

Teaser Trailer: <https://youtu.be/IVtLDCJD9IU>

Full Trailer: <https://youtu.be/UUfDjjLWfmA>

Clip 1: Tara's mom informs her that she's looking older. https://youtu.be/nkyfnQ_cljo

Clip 2: Tara's best friend Joan questions her sanity. https://youtu.be/jwFdCsl_PQk

Clip 3: Tara's ex-boyfriend and old colleague Francis (played by David Avocado Wolfe) misses her. https://youtu.be/JwOPTZpZ_h0

[Download full quality files for broadcast](#)

Sarah Kapoor

Writer, Lead Actor (Tara), Director



Sarah Kapoor is a partner at Pollinator Films Inc. and an accomplished documentary filmmaker.

She has had her work featured on *Oprah* and many of her commercial spots have been shared widely online. She has invented a story model that supports bringing the internal journey of a character to the forefront and applied that to the creation of *The Bad Mother*.

She currently enjoys running a company while being a recluse, raising her children, and trying to please her own mother.

David J. Fernandes

Director, Producer



David J. Fernandes' last short film *RE-WIRE* played in festivals world-wide, is distributed internationally and won "Best Sci-Fi" at the Hamilton Film Festival in 2012.

David's directorial focus is on creating the conditions for excellent, honest and nuanced performance from actors while also achieving the highest production values possible, visually and technically.

David is a new father and is actively working on the sequel, *The Bad Father*.



POLLINATOR FILMS

We are Sarah Kapoor and David J. Fernandes and we've been friends for 15 years now and founded a production company together in the last five.

We joined forces in 2010 with the goal of making movies together, but instead we did what we had to support our families. We made corporate videos and the occasional TV ad for a bunch of great clients.

It was going well, but it was always the sense of the dream deferred. There was a breaking point where the pain of staying the same was more than the pain of change.

We blocked off ten days in October of 2013. The mission: to each write a first draft of a feature length script, no excuses. Didn't have to be perfect, but it had to be at least 90 pages and it had to be done in ten days.

We sequestered ourselves into a remote mountain valley. In spite of aging parents, babies and tantalizing Internet distractions, we somehow managed to get our scripts done.

In the end, Sarah's was better. David laughed and cried when he read it the first time. And texted a lot of emoticons.

The Bad Mother is our first feature film. And definitely not our last.

<http://www.pollinatorfilms.com/>

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