

Director's Note on *Statistic*.

The short film *Statistic* is a drama documentary exploring the issue of an unwanted pregnancy experienced by a young girl living in Dublin. It was topical at the time (1983) as it was made in response to the first referendum on abortion in Ireland. It was a final year project in film studies and was crewed by my fellow students at the Media Communications course in Rathmines, and used student actors/non-actors.

The film was shot on 16mm, with the exception of scenes of protest marches which were shot on a small Super 8 camera whilst hanging precariously off statues in O'Connell St and College Green to get a good vantage point.

Even though the film was a low budget student film, it still caused something of a stir at the time. Aside from the political backdrop, it also has a certain punk-chic style, reflecting the music and fashion of the early '80s. Film aficionados of the time also noted a Godard-type style in the film, which echoed my own influences.

My favourite scenes in the film are the dream sequence where the protagonist in a wedding dress struggles with the conflict of wishing for freedom and coming to terms with possible motherhood, and the documentary protest scenes shot on the streets of Dublin.

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