

ORDINARY PEOPLE: IT COULD HAPPEN TO ANYONE

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In Saint Denis, a suburb north of Paris, on October 17, 2001, 5 women and two teenagers were victims of police violence in the courtyard of their building. With their neighbours, including Françoise Davisse, the filmmaker, they decide to seek justice and create an association. They then discover that it is not easy to call the police to account. Two witnesses are accused of contempt of a police officer and condemned, while the complaint of the female victims is slow to be investigated.

In their struggle for justice, the group meets other victims of police violence in the same city: Jean Michel who had his leg broken, Hakim who stayed 10 days in the hospital.
All are attached to the French republican ideals: justice, rights, equality. They will hear what some police officers and even institutions say about the place where they live, the Seine Saint Denis region. The heroes of the film become aware of the negative view French society holds of the inhabitants of Saint Denis, far removed from their daily reality or from what is seen in the film.
The documentary follows their story for two years. During this period, they will lose a lot of their illusions... Yet, together they still try to find answers to their need for justice.

AVAILABLE FOR SCREENING: original French version only.

Categorie(s): Society & Human Interest
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