

## "EVERY MOTHER'S SON"

### TRANSCRIPT

#### (Dialogue and Title Cards)

Kid's voice: A beautiful sunny day, 72 degrees, a flip of the coin to start the game ... and what is it? Heads!

Iris: Tony came to New York for Christmas. The boys found a football, and they started playing. They noticed a police car that was parked in front, and about an hour after they were in the game, another police car came and parked parallel to that one.

Henry threw a ball. It hit the ground and ricocheted and hit the car. Police Officer Livoti came out and told Raymond, "Who's the leader of the gang?" And Raymond said, "This is not a gang, we're brothers."

Ramon Baez: He went over to my younger brother and he grabbed him by the jacket and said, "You're under arrest."

Iris: Tony said, "You can't do that. We know our rights. We're not doing nothing." Livoti pushed him against the jeep and put a chokehold on him.

Police radio: Let me have an 85 with one or two cars, to Cameron and Jerome.

Iris: Two officers came out of the car, and one put a gun on Henry and told him to lay down. The other two boys were yelling at my husband to come down. He ran to where the car was and was pleading with Livoti to let Tony go.

Police radio: Yeah, can you just send me one available unit, no emergency, to Jerome and Cameron.

Iris: Tony wasn't conscious. They didn't pick him up, they dragged him and shoved him in the car. They didn't call no ambulance.

Livoti: I'm not going to apologize for who I am, or apologize for what I've done. I've been the best cop I can be in the street, and I see no reason to be ashamed of that.

CARD: Anthony Raymond Baez  
1965-1994

TITLE CARD: During the 1990's, under Mayor Giuliani's administration, policing became more aggressive, a pattern that could be seen in many American cities.

TITLE CARD: This film tells the stories of three women – Iriz Baez, Kadiatou Diallo and Doris Busch Boskey – who turn the tragedy of having a son killed by police into an opportunity for change.

TITLE CARD: EVERY MOTHER'S SON

Iris Baez: All my life, I lived in the Bronx. I came here when I was one year old, from Puerto Rico. I thought I had a pink world, I don't know, I lived in a pink world, and nothing could destroy it because I had six beautiful kids that the Lord gave me, and five that I adopted, and everybody else that was around.

There are 17 here, 17 kids in the whole house. We've got two kitchens. This is for the early eaters, and upstairs is for the night eaters.

My son Anthony always walked around with a Bible. My pastor used to be always on top of him, talking, because he wanted him to become a minister. Because he had that touch. He could talk to you, and if you were angry, by the time he finished talking to you, you were not angry with the person you were supposed to be angry with.

He always had a football, a baseball, dominoes, Chinese checkers, all the kinds of games that kids would enjoy, he had them in his car.

In '92 he got married, he went to Florida and he took a test to become a police officer. Everywhere he went, he left his mark.

They told me that Tony died of asthma. And my kids said, "Mommy, he did not have asthma." So then I got a lawyer, just to find out, for my peace of mind, for my family's peace of mind, to find out what really happened.

Susan Karten: I immediately recommended to the family that night, that we have an independent autopsy done. And the pathologist said that it was very clear to him that Anthony Baez was choked to death.

Alan LeBlanc There is not only hemorrhage, but hematoma, a significant pooling or collection of the blood in both of the sclera of Anthony's eyes.

The cause of death here is asphyxia, the interruption of this young man's ability to breathe by reason of a third person.

Susan: Then the Medical Examiner issued his own report, which confirmed our finding, saying it was a homicide.

Iris: When they laid Anthony in the funeral, everybody was kicking and punching walls, and my sister bought some paper and said, "Why don't you have the kids draw something?"

We started walking from here to the precinct, because I wanted to tell them that there was a murderer in there. We were about 20 to 25. By the time we walked from here to Grand Concourse, it was like a hundred.

Crowd: We want justice. We want justice.

Iris: I was never part of a movement. I was never a part of anything, except raising my kids, and my church activity and my job. Other than that, I don't remember raising my voice to nobody, contradicting anybody. I was force into it by Livoti, he made me become part of this movement, by him murdering my son.

Richie Perez: A friend of ours called us and told us Anthony Baez had been killed, and that there was going to be a rally around his death at the Bronx Courthouse. And we went. Iris Baez was there, with the members of her family.

Preacher (Spanish) We are here to memorialize the good conduct, the integrity, and the Christianity of Anthony Raymond Baez.

Richie: Having been involved in organizing in the community and working with families around police abuse, the Giuliani election in '94 was very significant in that he ran on a policy against Civilian Complaint Review Board, which we had been fighting for for decades, actually, for civilian oversight of the police department. We had just gotten an independent civilian review board established in New York by former Mayor Dinkins, and he ran on a platform opposing that.

TITLE: Police Demonstrate Against Civilian Complaint Review Board City Hall, 1992

Giuliani: The reason the morale of the police department of the City of New York is so low, is one reason and one reason alone: David Dinkins!

Richie: It seemed that messages were being given that the police were going to be given a pretty much free hand.

HEADLINE: Complaints Against Cops Up 37.4%

Richie: In the first year of the Giuliani Administration, we were getting calls from young people, and from their families, about stops and frisks, being taken into custody, being put in lineups, all kinds of illegal abuses.

Iris: Me and the lawyer put out an 800-number for anyone who had any information on Livoti, and even police officers called and told us that was a habit he had of choking people and they knew about it.

Richie: Livoti's record was such that he was put into what's called a "Forced Monitoring Program," meaning he was supposed to ride with a sergeant to watch his behavior. Now, that's highly unusual. That meant that he was a danger, if the police department recognized it.

Susan: Not only did Francis Livoti have 15 prior CCRB complaints against him, but there were recommendations by the highest captain of the 46<sup>th</sup> precinct to remove Francis Livoti from the 46<sup>th</sup>, But that recommendation was countermanded by the Chief of Patrol, Louis Anemone. And so this wasn't an aberrant situation. This was a situation where a cop was well-protected by his own at the highest levels of the New York City Police Department.

TITLE: Bronx Criminal Court  
October, 1995

Susan: There was a Grand Jury convened by the District Attorney, Robert Johnson, and there was a vote if Criminal Negligent Homicide, and we're told to come to the arraignment. Now the arraignment is where the charges are formally presented. So we all arrived at the Bronx Courthouse, and you must have had least 200 police officers sitting in there. Francis Livoti was brought in, it was the first time we saw him, and they announced the charges. And the judge said, "Manslaughter in the Second Degree." Iris looks at me, and I look at my co-counsel Alan, and I said, "I thought it was criminally-negligent homicide?" At which point everybody started buzzing around, "What happened? What's going on?"

Judge Scheindlin: An indictment was prepared. However, it mistakenly omitted the charge voted by the Grand Jury.

Susan: The District Attorney came over and said, “There was typographical error. And I said, “In a high-profile case like this , a mistake was made in the way the indictment was typed? What does this mean?” And she then went on to explain to me that Livoti could now move to dismiss this indictment, and that we would have to start all over again.

Iris: To me, it could have been simple. All the judge had to do was, “There’s a mistake in this paper, go fix it, this is not what the jury picked.” He preferred to just throw the whole thing out. I couldn’t accept that because I knew my son was murdered, the city coroner knew my son was murdered, my family knew my son was murdered.

Iris: I went on television a couple of times, asking for mothers who’d lost their sons to come and join me.

Iris (on TV, in Spanish)

All we’re asking for is justice, not only for my son, but for all the other, too.

Iris: I met other parents. They explained to me what “disobedient” means. That means that you lay yourself in the street and stop the traffic, to get attention. And what greater than the DA’s office!

TITLE: Sit-in at the Bronx District Attorney’ Office

Crowd: Livoti did the crime, let him do the time!

Robert Johnson: Your opinion means something to me.

Susan: Iris Baez and all the other mothers used civil disobedience to bring Robert Johnson out and finally for him to agree that there would be a re-indictment.

I remember all of us saying that “Maybe there will be justice in this case. As hard as it is to bring a cop to trial, we’re going to overcome that.”

TITLE: October, 1996  
Livoti’s Trial Begins

Nancy Borko: The people will prove that the defendant put his arm around the neck of Anthony Baez, choking him, keeping him there long enough to cause an asphyxiation to cause his death.

Susan: The sergeant and two other officers all testified that after Anthony was on the ground, that he then got up, and walked onto the street curb, and then collapsed.

Daisy Borea: I didn't think the deceased was breathing.

Susan: Officer Daisy Borea said no, when she got out of the car, Anthony was on the ground, and he never got up. And Judge Scheindlin said from the bench, "There has been a nest of perjury in this courtroom." And that was unheard of, for a judge make that kind of remark. So that afternoon, that was a Friday afternoon, on the summations, everybody kind of thought well, this was going the way of a conviction.

TITLE: October 7, 1996  
Livoti's verdict is delivered

Judge Scheindlin: Anthony Baez's death was tragic, unnecessary and avoidable. It is clear to this court that the defendant's conduct failed to rise to the level one would expect of a professional. His behavior did not serve to calm the waters of this rapidly-unfolding minor conflict. I do not find that the defendant is innocent. I do find, based on the quality of the evidence presented, that the people have failed to establish the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. The defendant is found not guilty.

Man outside: Why'd they let him off?

Girl: He's guilty!

Man: No justice, no fucking peace!

Susan: Iris Baez collapsed. Scheindlin ran off the bench. People were milling around stunned. Stunned!

Mother (in Spanish): As long as there's a mother, we'll continue to fight!

Susan: I believe that the case was set up in such a way that there not going to be a conviction. But I think, on reflection, what the verdict stood for was that people lost confidence in the whole system.

TITLE CARD: Officer Livoti was acquitted of all charges.

TITLE CARD: He declined to be interviewed for this film.

Iris: You want to take some coffee to Papi?

Linda: She told us she was going to take us in the car, and now she doesn't want to take us.

Iris: Oh Linda, please stop.

Little kid: You leaving?

Iris: Yes. Watch what you're eating, how you're eating. She wants to go to City Island, to eat a bowl of shrimps.

Linda: It wasn't to eat, it was to get out of here.

Iris: It is hard for everybody. We don't talk about it much. Because every time you talk about it, then come the questions. Why go to church? Why pray? Why ask God for anything because Tony did everything step by step, they say, and yet he was the one that was taken away.

You go out and you protest and you come home, you're still coming home, you're not staying out in the street, the people are not around you 24 hours. When you're upset, for that moment, you don't feel, you just want justice. It's after you go home, when everybody's gone, that reality hits.

Richie: The families at various times would request a meeting with the Mayor and/or the Police Commissioner. They wanted to talk to the people in charge about their loss and what had happened with the investigation. Invariably, those requests were ignored.

TITLE: Mayor's Town Meeting  
Clinton, New York City  
1996

Mayor Giuliani: I'm going to ask Herman Badillo ...

Voices in audience: They lost their children, let them speak.

Mayor Giuliani: Well, we're not going to conduct a meeting that way, Sir. Sorry. We're going to ...

Richie: Town Hall meetings are a good venue because they're supposed to take questions from the audience. But they knew who all the mothers were, they would have detectives and mayoral staff identify who we were, and none of us would be called upon.

Mayor Giuliani: You're not going to get to ask a question that way. Thank you. I enjoyed this meeting, it was very enjoyable, we covered a lot of issues, thank you very much.

TITLE CARD: Between 1994 and 1999, 107 civilian killing by police occurred in New York City under circumstances that community groups felt represented an overuse of force.

Iris: From '94 to '95 there are the Baez, the Rosario, the Carrasquillo. There are the Rodriguez, there are the Santos. Through the years we notice the people we talk to that can change, don't change nothing. Because here we have Diallo.

911 Operator #1: Police Operator 167 ...

Woman Caller: Yes, please, can I have a police car here real quick?

911 Operator #1: What is the address?

Woman Caller: 1146 Wheeler.

911 Operator #1: What is the emergency?

Woman Caller: The emergency is there's gunshots being fired like crazy.

911 Operator #2: Operator 1634, where is the emergency?

Man Caller: I just heard somebody unload a clip. It sounded like a 9mm.

911 Operator #3: How many shots did you hear?

Woman Caller: Maybe like 20.

Man Caller: The reason I'm calling is because I don't know if anybody got hit by it or nothing ...

911 Operator #2: Do you want to leave your last name, Sir?

Man Caller: No, just a concerned citizen.

TITLE: Amadou Diallo  
1976-1999

TITLE: Guinea, West Africa

Kadiatou Diallo: I was getting ready to go to work. A phone call from my sister, she says that one of our cousins called from New York, and they were looking for my brother. I knew it was like 2am in New York, and I told her, "If someone called from New York at this time and it's not Amadou, it's about him."

It took the whole day before we knew it was the police. Even how it happened, I knew it two hours before I boarded the flight, they told me about how many bullets were fired and how many police people were involved in the shooting.

TITLE: New York City

Kadiatou: I learned that my son was killed in the vestibule of his apartment by four police officers, and that they shot at him 41 times.

Amadou! Amadou!

Amadou was my eldest son. He was born in Liberia. He had the opportunity of knowing many countries before he came to America. When Amadou told me that he wanted to come to America, I asked him why he wanted to go so far away. And he said, "Mom, I want to go to realize my dream, to become a man." And I was so proud that I just blessed him.

I remember the first time he spoke to his sister in Africa. He was cooking, and my daughter was so surprised. She said, "Amadou, you are making food?" He says, "Yes, this is America. I do my laundry, I clean my house, and I do my cooking before I go to work." We were told in Africa that men cannot cook, women have to do it for them. So here it's different, and Amadou was adjusting.

I was thinking how come this thing can happen to somebody, in his own vestibule, in his own house where he lives? You have no arm, you are not involved in any crime. My son went out after speaking to his roommate, a few minutes later on he's coming back in his house, and the officers were driving their car passing by. What happened?

Tony Gair: What happened on February 4 of 1999 was that Amadou Diallo was standing inside the vestibule of his building on 1157 Wheeler Avenue, minding his own business, when four white police officers, members of the New York City Police Department's Street Crimes Unit, drove by the decided to toss him, and ended up killing him.

Their mandate was to get handguns off the street, and they would approach people with something much less than probable cause in an effort to do that. And they would, in the vernacular, “Slam and Jam” them, they would slam them against the wall and jam them up.

Clif Hollensworth: The Street Crimes Unit work in plain clothes. Therefore, if they make stops late at night, they don’t truly want people to know they are police officers. They ride around in unmarked cars. They stop people on the street, throw them against a wall, look to see if they have any guns, or drugs or knives. It’s a way of treasure hunting, if you want to call it that.

Richie: Remember, this is was a get-tough Mayor, he was going to clean up the town, there was a new Sheriff in town. They increased stops and frisks, and their policy was, you stop and frisk everyone and you’ll find someone. Entire communities were designated as drug-prone criminal areas, to facilitate police stopping everyone inside that community. In the first year of the Giuliani administration, the number of juvenile arrests rose by 98,000.

Kadiatou: I learned that things were happening here, in the neighborhood, especially in the poor neighborhood. Young males were targeted by the NYPD for no reason other than where they live and the color of their skin. But the officers denied they stopped Amadou to look for guns. They said they stopped him because he looked like the description of a wanted rapist.

TITLE: Testimony of Sean Carroll, first officer to open fire on Amadou Diallo.

Sean Carroll: We’re heading down Wheeler Avenue and I notice an individual looking up and down the block. I said, “Well, he definitely resembles the description of the rapist, there’s no doubt about it.” Officer McMellon and I exited the vehicle and we start walking towards the individual.

Clif: If you’re in fear that this may be the rapist or the robber or the burglar, you’re going to put it out over your radio. “Listen, we’re stopping one person at 1157 Wheeler Avenue, he’s wearing black hoody, dungarees, Timberlands, and he’s acting suspicious.” You’re going to put it out over the air. It was never done.

Sean Carroll: I’m saying, ”Police, show me your hands.” The individual turned, looked at us, and he starts removing a black object from his right

side. Believing that he had just pulled and was about to fire a gun at my partner, I fired my weapon. When I removed the object from his hand, which I believed to be a gun, I grabbed it and it felt soft, and I seen it was a wallet.

Tony: They might have panicked, these four officers, when they shot him. But they didn't panic when they got out of that car. And there was no reason for them to get out of the car – there was no 911 call, there was no reports of suspicious people in the neighborhood. They had a sketch of a rapist, but that rapist I don't think had raped for about nine months. There was no justification, no reasonable grounds for them to get out of that car except for one thing: maybe he'll have a gun, we'll get credit if we get it, if he doesn't so what? He's just a black kid in the Bronx, who cares if we abuse his rights and trample on his rights? He has no recourse. And the fact is, he doesn't.

Kadiatou: The only reason the four officers approached my son, Amadou, that night is because he's Black, the color of his skin. Had Amadou been white, the officers would have never stopped him. That I know for sure.

Woman on Street: I have a son about the same age. It's very horrible. It's sad.

Women on street: I've been in New York 53 years, and I've kept up with politics and things that have been going on. It's outrageous, it's discouraging, disgusting, that Black people have to go on through all that they have, dear.

Kadiatou: I remember I went to the rally in Harlem. Women were grabbing me and crying and kissing me and saying, "Every night, when my child goes out, I will not sleep until they come home." And I promised them that I would not go away, I'll be here and help to bring change in the system.

Kadiatou: Hi, I'm Kadiatou Diallo, Amadou's mother. I just came back from Guinea today to support what we are doing together since my son was murdered.

Kadiatou: At the beginning, I was trying to be strong. I was able to meet with other mothers. I remember I met with Mrs. Baez, I will never forget the image that I saw. She has here, on her chest, a big framed photo of her son, and they told me he was killed also by the NYPD.

TITLE CARD: February, 1999

1200 people arrested for civil disobedience

- Announcer: The outrage and anger over the police shooting of Amadou Diallo just seems to keep building and building.
- Richie: We saw the movement growing, we saw people's anger growing. It forced media coverage, it forced politicians to start to deal with some of this stuff. The need for independent prosecutors, the need for civilian oversight of police departments, these issues began to move to the center of political discussion in the city. They were no longer marginal issues.
- TITLE CARD: March 22, 1999  
Police Commissioner Howard Safir  
testifies before the City Council
- Councilwoman: We feel that people, citizens, are being harassed and children are being brought up to be afraid of the police, basically because of the Street Crimes Unit.
- Safir: Is there a question here?
- Councilwoman: I am asking if you cannot find a different way of keeping the crime statistics low, without threatening people's civil liberties?
- Safir: Was that, "When did I stop beating my wife?"
- News Anchor: Tonight, fresh off his weekend trip out West, the Mayor was dishing pasta at a Republican function in Midtown. And when asked if he was feeling the pressure he said:
- Mayor Giuliani: No, I'm not concerned about it.
- Crowd: Who's streets? Our streets!
- Iris: We're showing the power that we have. We're not a minority, we're the majority.
- Robert Johnson: In the early morning hours of February 4<sup>th</sup>, 19 of 41 bullets fired at Amadou Diallo ripped into his body as he stood blameless, unarmed and defenseless in the vestibule of his building. Today, after a seven-week investigation, I'm announcing that a Bronx grand jury has charged defendants Kenneth Boss, Sean Carroll, Edward McMellon and Richard Murphy in a three-count indictment of intentional and reckless murder of Mr. Diallo by pistol shots.

Kadiatou: At the beginning, I wasn't sure whether the indictment would come. But when they were indicted, I was sure that the trial would be rewarding, that we would get a conviction.

Crowd: Amen, justice for Diallo, Amen ...

TITLE: Albany, New York  
February 3, 2000

Kadiatou: But the trial was sent to Albany. After the change of venue, I really lost hope, because I learned that Albany is a very different culture in terms of experiences with the police than those who live in the Bronx.

Tony Gair: I mean, this never happened in New York, where you change venue before you even try and pick a jury. Usually the attempt is made to at least try and select a jury, and when you get to the point where, "Well, everybody's made up their mind, these police are guilty, we can tell by questioning them," then the application is made to change venue, and it's either granted at that point or not granted. Not at that point, when it was granted in this case.

Kadiatou; The jury have no experience like those who live in the Bronx, they will never understand. This was a sign to acquit the officers.

TITLE: February 25, 2000  
The Diallo verdict is delivered

Judge: What was your verdict, in reference to the charge of murder in the second degree, under the first count on the indictment?

Jury spokesperson: Not guilty.

TITLE: Midtown Manhattan,  
Hours after Diallo verdict

TV Announcer: It's an extraordinary evening in New York after what happened in that courtroom in Albany.

TV Announcer: All four officers were found not guilty on all charges in the shooting death of Amadou Diallo.

Kadiatou: I have been betrayed by the criminal justice system because I believe, to me, as a mother, a child is a child, a soul is a soul, if someone has been executed like Amadou was, it should be

accountability. If you do not reprimand an act like this, I don't know what kind of message your are sending out there.

Clif: When the verdict came down, I was at one police plaza, and I cried. Because I work for the same department that this is happening to our children and to my community with. It's difficult for me to serve the department, which I love, and also serve my community, which I truly love. I left me with, "Do I quit now or do I keep fighting? Do I fight to make change from within, or do I give up and become part of the statistics of people who've decided that this police department has won.

TITLE CARD: The officers involved in the Diallo shooting declined to be interviewed for this film.

TITLE CARD: On August 30, 1999, six months after Amadou's death, Gary "Gidone" Busch was shot 12 times by police in Brooklyn.

TV announcer: Right now, a live picture of hundreds of Jews taking to the streets of Brooklyn, after a Hasidic man wielding a hammer is shot and killed by police.

TV announcer" Police say the man used the hammer to hit an officer in the arm. Eyewitnesses say that's not what they saw.

TV witness: They were ten feet away from him when they shot him. They were all standing off in a group about ten feet away.

Interviewer: You never actually saw him hit an officer with a hammer?

TV witness: I did not.

Doris Busch Boskey: I was watching the ten o'clock news, and they announced that there was a Gideon Bosch that was killed in Borough Park in a hail of bullets. I must have screamed on the top of my lungs, and my husband came running in. He didn't know what happened to me. I started to scream, "I think Gary's been shot, I think my son's been killed, I think he's dead." I called the precinct and I was hysterical crying, and I begged them, "Please tell me." And they wouldn't tell my anything. They said, "We don't know."

Doris: Gary was the youngest of the three boys. Actually we used to call them "the three G's" because we had Glenn, Greg and Gary. So that's what they were, three G's.

This is when he graduated college, Emory, before he became Hasidic. He left medical school, he got into Mt. Sinai and he was there for about, the end of his second year he found out about this igeanephropathy, he had a kidney problem. He went off to Israel with a backpack, and he thought that would be one stop and he would continue. But he began to speak Hebrew fluently, he became more and more religious, and he went to the Dean and said to her, "I'm not coming back, I want to continue to study Torah, I want to stay in Israel, I don't want to go back to medical school. I want to find another way.

Gary (home video) I miss you all terribly much, what can I say? I'm looking forward to you coming here. I miss everybody, and I want to be around everybody, but I have to do this first.

TITLE: Gary "Gidone" Busch  
1967-1999

Doris: I guess maybe in 1994, '95, he began to have problems, more depressions and things like that. But there was never any violence, I mean, he was very gentle, if anything he would become more withdrawn.

Doris: What happened on August 30 is that the police were called because of a disturbance of loud music. I believe they may have seen Gary holding,, when he was meditating, this little small religious hammer. Gary came to the door, and as he stood in the doorway down in the stairwell, one of the officers sprayed him directly in the eyes and face with pepper spray. Pepper spray causes temporary blindness, severe burning pain, and difficulty breathing, and it also affects your entire equilibrium. He tried desperately to get up the steps and away from them, and he got past them, and he must have been about 18 feet from the stairwell, screaming in pain.

Rafael Eisenberg: When I came down the street they were holding their nightsticks in their hands. And as I approached the scene, I saw them put their nightsticks back in their belts and put their hands on their revolvers.. This is the drawing that I did, the day after. He was not attacking them. He was not attacking them, he was not coming at them, he was standing at a reasonable distance, holding a hammer over his head. A moment after that he was dead. He was executed.

Doris: When my son Glenn went to identify the body, they began to question him. "Tell us about your brother and then we'll let you see the body." And he said, "I want to know what happened to

my brother, I want to see him now.” And they said, “No, you give us something and we’ll give you something.”

Rafael: Right after the shooting, one of the police turned around and asked for witnesses. And as I began to explain to him what I saw, I said very briefly what I saw, and I guess I made it sound like, “And then you just shot him” or something like that. So he crossed out my name and then he walked away from me. And I yelled after him, “Hey, what are you doing? You don’t want my testimony because you don’t like it?” And he just ignored me.

Doris: I didn’t see any of the television or hear any the radio or anything for three weeks. Then my husband began to cut out articles and then I went through them and started to make notes and just print everything out on the computer so that I could organize the conflicting stories. Gary had no gun, he had no knife, he wasn’t a criminal, did didn’t have a criminal record.

Doris: When my son Glenn went to identify the body, they began to question him, “Tell us about your brother and then we’ll let you see the body.” He said, “ I want to know what happened to my brother, I want to see him now.” And they said, “No, you give us something and we’ll give you something.”

They went out there looking for something in his background. He had no gun, he had no knife, he wasn’t a criminal, he didn’t have a criminal record. They had to find something, and so they capitalized on the fact that he had emotional problems, that he had been hospitalized. And that’s when they figured they could create this image of a violent, deranged person.

TITLE: Police Commissioner Howard Safir,  
Morning after Busch shooting

Safir: This is clearly a situation in which the police officer was being attacked with a very dangerous instrument, while on the ground, and responded in the only way that he could, which was basically to protect his life.

Doris: The mayor and the police commissioner got together with the rabbis, the press, they met with all of these people the very next morning at 8:30, without an investigation, and repeated the story that my son was killed while attacking an officer with a claw hammer.

- Giuliani: My message is to support the police and give them the benefit of the doubt. How often have they been there for the Borough Park community, how often have they put their lives at risk to protect the Borough Park community?
- Doris: One of the things the rabbis did was they immediately put out posters all over the neighborhood, saying that they should cooperate with the police, that they shouldn't demonstrate. And so those who wanted to demonstrate were kept back from doing just that.
- Unfortunately I've had to start emptying. This is the stuff that I'm trying to put into bags to ... you know ... decide what to do with all this stuff. And in here, I didn't know really what to do. In here, all the tutsi (??), all of them. I don't know what you're supposed to do when someone dies.
- And then I see an article in the New York Times in October that said it is now believed that none of the officers was ever hit with a claw hammer.
- Dov Hikind: We were lied to by a police commissioner who lied not only to us but to all the people of the City of New York when he said that Gidone was holding something in his hand and attacking a police officer and that's when he was shot. It was an absolute lie. They admitted that later on, weeks and weeks later. But no one knows where the lie came from. Was it part of a cover-up?
- Doris: If you start on the very first page of the patrol guide, you will see something that is, to me, one of the most important things that you ever deal with in cases of people, especially people who have emotional problems, this is not a criminal. "The duty of all members of the service is to preserve human life. The safety of all persons involved is paramount in cases involving emotional disturbed persons. If he's not immediately dangerous, the person should be contained until assistance arrives." They had to just leave him along in his apartment.
- Iris: Good afternoon, Baez. I can't do it on a Saturday. Right, from 9 to 12. And then you have all of these that are not in the calendar. This is to go to Albany and sit on a panel. They want to pass a bill after the Diallo shooting, and they have different things that they want to implement. And this is the Citywide Coalition to Stop Giuliani. And the list goes on. This is the mail that came yesterday.

They make these meeting, I say I think I have to be there because it's a different community, and I haven't spoken around that community.

Doris: Iris Baez called me when my son was first killed. I didn't even know who she was, except that I knew the case because I had remembered reading about it. She said she hopes I have strength and that God should be with me, and she gave me her number to call, which was wonderful. I had also gone to the Diallo trial when they were selecting the jury up in Albany. I wanted to be there because I wanted to lend my support, and I met Mrs. Diallo and we became connected.

I think there's a certain feeling that we all share, because our sons didn't die because of an illness, they didn't die because they were hit by a car, there was no accident, our sons were killed by the police, and that's a far different thing than losing your son any other way. I guess it's made me more aware of what really happens out there. Things that, you know, when you live out here, I'm away from the city, and it's a quiet life and you don't have that out here. And I think what it's done is it's made me aware of a system that's flawed.

I've learned a lot. It put me in touch with officials that I would have never been involved with, and people that probably never would have been in touch with. It's funny because I could never talk before. I was very quiet.

TITLE: National Action Network  
Harlem

Doris: Good afternoon, I wanted to thank you for inviting me. You're probably wondering, "What is this white Jewish mother doing here, and how did I ever get involved in this?"

Something has to be done to change this, because innocent people that are killed this way, there's got to be some justice and accountability.

There was a grand jury convened within a period of seven days, while I was still sitting shiva. This particular district attorney has never indicted a police officer who had fired his weapon in the line of duty, ever. So of course they did not indict. It just goes on. We need independent investigators, not internal affairs. We need independent prosecutors. Everybody has to be independent of any

influence from the police department, the mayor, politics, politicians. This is my story and I'll continue to fight ...

TITLE: The officers involved in the Busch shooting declined to be interviewed for this film.

TITLE: High School for Legal Studies  
Brooklyn

Teacher: Class, students, we all know Mrs. Diallo, Mrs. Baez, our principal for a day.

Kadiatou: It's nice to be here.

This is about you also, it's about the future generation. After the verdict, we have two other people already that have been killed by the police. So what can we do about this? I would want to know from all of you, and I need you to take it seriously.

I know at the end of the day, I can stand up and say that I did something. I know that all these years that I've spent here will not be in vain. I will not regret why I did that, because I believe in it, I will go forward.

TITLE: National March Against Police Brutality  
Washington DC, 1999

Ron Daniels: Family members and victims of police brutality from across the country have journeyed to Washington, DC. We are committed to using this historic day to crystallize a movement, to march in the streets, to march on ballot boxes, to march on courtrooms, to compel this nation to take seriously the need for police reform and policies which are conducive to living in prosperous and safe communities.

Kadiatou: Our heart has been broken for the rest of our lives. But we want to be among those who want to make change.

Richie: There are arguments made that other cities have reduced crime, such as San Diego, at a level greater than New York, without instituting the same kind of policies. They instituted a different kind of policies. I would say those things are worth studying, and seeing what are the best practices?

Clif: If I was an officer in a patrol car, and Anthony Baez and his buddy was playing football and it hit my patrol car, I would have gotten out of the patrol car too. I would have gotten out of the patrol car

and I would have yelled at him, “Yo, over here.” He would have thrown the football to me, and I would have throw the football back, that’s community policing.

Kadiatou: We do not reject the police from coming and policing the neighborhood. But I think to know the neighborhood, and to know the people, who they are, is one way to go.

Iris: We have to let our officials get involved. Because they’re just sitting back and letting things happen, and not doing nothing. And yet we vote these people into office. They’ll say “I’m sorry” and they’ll pat you on the back, but we don’t need a pat on the back. We want residency, we want an independent prosecutor to deal with these police cases, because the police cannot police itself.

Doris: The Black, Puerto Rican and Hispanic Caucus invited all of the families to come up to Albany. They were trying to get legislation passed called “The Diallo Package.” We talked about having the officers live in the communities, learn more languages of people in the communities that they were to work in.

Iris: When you see these new cops coming up, you have to be part of their training. You have to find out how come that police officer got to the point where he could murder your son. How he got his training, where did it fail, so you can change it.

Al Sharpton: Mrs. Baez, Mrs. Rosario, the family of Gideon Busch, all joining with the Diallo family today.

Iris: We have to examine our hearts and our minds, and say, “What can I do now? Starting today, when I get up in the morning, what am going to do to help stop police brutality?” Look behind you and look at all the people here, if we all get together and we all demand changes, there will be changes.

Doris: You can’t let this go, because if it happened to my son, it could happen to anybody’s son. If there’s no accountability, it’s going to happen again.

Kadiatou: I do not want my son to die in vain. I’m his voice. I must speak out, because I don’t want what happened to Amadou to happen to another family again.

TITLE CARD: Iris Baez petitioned the Justice Department and Officer Livoti was sentenced to seven years in prison for violating Anthony's civil rights.

TITLE CARD: Kadiatou Diallo and Doris Busch Boskey tried for over four years to get the Justice Department to bring civil rights charges against the officers involved in their son's deaths, but the department declined to do so.

TITLE CARD: The Baez and Diallo families' civil cases against the City were settled out of court. Doris Busch Boskey lost her civil case. Several jurors, including the foreman, had connections to police and motion was filed to set aside the verdict. The decision is still pending.

TITLE CARD: In 2002, newly-elected Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly disbanded the Street Crimes Unit.

TITLE CARD: In two civilian killings that have occurred under the new administration, the Mayor and Commissioner issued public apologies, but neither officer was indicted.

TITLE CARD: Iris Baez, Kadiatou Diallo and Doris Busch Boskey continue to speak out for police accountability and reform.

END OF SHOW