

# ARTWords&LIFE

## The Question:

“Why must today’s artists be socially responsible?”

## The Answer – From Kindred The Family Soul

“Because we all share this world together, and it’s up to each one of us to make it a better place. And that goes for everyone, not just artists. Sometimes it’s easy to think that what you do as an individual doesn’t matter and has no real impact, but nothing could be further from the truth. What you do affects everyone; energy goes out and it comes back.

“So we all must work to make our community better, stronger and safer. Artists must use their music and message to inspire folk to tap into their own strength and greatness, because that way we all benefit. The title of our latest CD is *In This Life Together*, but that’s really the message for all of us. We are responsible for each other.”



Kindred The Family Soul

Kindred The Family Soul is on Hidden Beach Recordings; the group’s CD, *In This Life Together*, is in stores now. Please visit [www.hiddenbeach.com](http://www.hiddenbeach.com) for more information.



In the film *3 Girls I know*, Maggie, Ari and Tishaun, three ethnically-diverse teenagers from Montana, San Francisco and Baltimore, find their lives

abruptly altered by the impact of sexual decisions. How each girl subsequently deals with the consequences offers an up-close-and-personal look at teenage life, including peer pressure, parents, relationships, sexuality, pregnancy and HIV/AIDS.

Ledge Editor Freddie Allen took a moment to talk to director Paula Mozen about her insightful documentary.

Why did you choose to deal with teen pregnancy and HIV/AIDS with this project?

Both teen pregnancy and HIV/AIDS come from the same behaviors: not practicing “safer sex.” As Maggie mentioned, her motivation to do peer education on HIV/AIDS

transmission was that she was concerned about her own child, Riley, who fortunately tested negative.

I was interested in getting together an ethnically-socially-and geographically-diverse group of young women. I had the suspicion that even though the context for their lives might be different, dealing with the issues of self-esteem in young women and how it affects their decision-making would be universal.

What’s next for you in terms of new projects or new issues?

I am working on an experimental narrative based on an Isak Dinesen short story, and researching other social issues and the cultural milieu that is the context/backdrop for the situation. I am interested in people and their stories. I am also open to working with agencies that want to develop useful documentaries for their programs.

To order *3 Girls I know*, visit [www.3girlsiknow.com](http://www.3girlsiknow.com).

