

**DON'T MESS WITH
JULIE WHITFIELD**



SYNOPSIS

We all need to find our joy...regardless of the body count.

DON'T MESS WITH JULIE WHITFIELD is a dark comedy about the brutal, violent and at times downright psychotic minds of elementary school soccer moms.

Julie Whitfield **ALWAYS** runs the Oak Tree Elementary School Fall Fantasy Fundraiser. So when new parent Rachel attempts a coup, it leads to a knock-down bloody battle that only one woman can survive.

A NOTE FROM THE WRITER/DIRECTOR:

“Why do people say “grow some balls”? Balls are weak and sensitive. If you wanna be tough, grow a vagina. Those things can take a pounding.”

- Betty White

I love this quote. It hangs above the desk I write at to serve as a constant reminder to me of my ambition as a writer and director, which is to make kick-ass action comedies starring kick-ass women.

Don't Mess With Julie Whitfield is my first film and as such I really wanted it to define this ambition. Hence it's a violent dark comedy starring two of the most kick-ass women I know, Casey Wilson and Mary Elizabeth Ellis, as a pair of hyper competitive soccer moms whose need to fill the void of their previous lives leads to bloodshed.

The short was inspired by my own experiences in the cut-throat world of parenting and the day to day pressure that many moms feel to be beyond perfect. It struck me one day as I looked around a Mommy and Me group more steeped in fear and loathing than any episode of Fargo, that under the weight of all this pressure we're all ticking time-bombs of frustration and rage ready to blow. With this film I wanted to hold a carnival mirror up to this idea and ask - what if someone did?

Amy Barham.

CASEY WILSON

as Julie Whitfield

Casey Wilson was a series regular on the sitcoms *Marry Me* and *Happy Endings*. She was twice nominated for a Critics' Choice Award for her performance on the latter show, and *Variety* has called her one of the "Top10 Comics to Watch."

Most recently Wilson was cast in the lead role of the ABC pilot *Hail Mary*. Her other recent credits include Tig Notaro's *One Mississippi* on Amazon, (pilot episode directed by Nicole Holofcener), and the upcoming films *The Disaster Artist* directed by James Franco for New Line, *Why Him?* directed by John Hamburg for Twentieth Century Fox, and *The Meddler* with Rose Byrne and Susan Sarandon, which will be released by Sony Pictures Classics. She will also soon appear in episodes of ABC's *Fresh Off the Boat* and *Grey's Anatomy*.

Wilson was a featured player on *Saturday Night Live* for two seasons and has guest starred on HBO's *Bored to Death* and *How I Met Your Mother* on CBS. Wilson also stars in the *Hotwives* series, a Hulu original comedy, taking place in a different city each season. The second season, *Hotwives of Las Vegas*, premiered in August 2015.

Her past film credits include David Fincher's *Gone Girl*, Christopher Guest's *For Your Consideration*, Nora Ephron's *Julie and Julia*, and Kyle Alvarez's indie feature *C.O.G.* which is based on a short story by David Sedaris.

Wilson hails from Alexandria, VA, and is a graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, the Stella Adler Studio of Acting. After graduation she co-wrote and performed (along with best gal pal June Raphael) the two-woman sketch comedy show, "Rode Hard and Put Away Wet" at the Upright Citizens Brigade Theatre in New York and Los Angeles. The show ran for eleven months, was an official selection of HBO's U.S. Comedy Arts Festival in Aspen, and was listed as a Critic's Pick in TimeOut NY.

Wilson and Raphael's comedy partnership branched out into the film world. They co-wrote *Bride Wars* starring Anne Hathaway and Kate Hudson. They played the leads in *Assbackwards*, an indie female road trip comedy, which they also wrote together. The film was directed by Chris Nelson and premiered at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival.



MARY ELIZABETH ELLIS

as Rachel Schneider



Mary Elizabeth Ellis began her love for acting as a child in the local theatre of Laurel, Mississippi. After high school years full of theatre and drama competitions, that love drove her to attend Meadows School of the Arts at Southern Methodist University. Upon graduation, L.A. was calling. Ellis continued studying acting as well as improvisation at the infamous Upright Citizen's Brigade Theater.

Recently, Ellis was on the FOX single-camera legal comedy *The Grinder* opposite Rob Lowe and Fred Savage. She is also known for her hysterical recurring role as “The Waitress” on FXX’s hit show *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia*, which she began working on in its infant stage in their apartment seven years ago. She has starred as “Amy” in the NBC single-camera comedy *Perfect Couples* and recurred on Fox’s *New Girl* opposite Zooey Deschanel and Jake Johnson, playing the character of “Caroline”, “Nick’s” ex-girlfriend, with whom he tries to rekindle a relationship. Ellis also recurred on the ABC comedy *Happy Endings*. Catch her in the upcoming NETFLIX series *Santa Clarita Diet* with Drew Barrymore and Timothy Olyphant.

On the feature front, you can see her in ‘*Masterminds*’, in which she stars opposite Kristen Wiig, Zach Galifianakis, and Owen Wilson. Ellis plays Owen Wilson’s scene stealing wife “Michelle.” She also starred opposite Eliza Coupe, Demetri Martin and Kyle Bornheimer in the indie ‘*The Last Time You Had Fun*’ which premiered at the Los Angeles International Film Festival. She co-wrote and starred in the independent film, ‘*A Quiet Little Marriage*’, which won The Grand Jury Prize at Slamdance Film Festival.

In addition to acting and writing, Ellis loves drawing, working with at-risk youth, mom-ing, and organizing craftersnoons with the ladies. She currently resides in Los Angeles with her husband, son and dog.

ALSO FEATURING:

UPS GUY

LIZ CLARK

MEDITATION APP VOICE

RADIO DJ

ALLY WADE

JAYA PATEL

HOT TUB GUY

TRASH CAN GIRL

Brian Sacca

Jennifer Zaborowski

Elizabeth Laime

Jorma Taccone

Amanda Maclachlan

Priyanka Mattoo

Christopher Douglas Reed

Amber Hodgkiss



AMY BARHAM: DIRECTOR/WRITER

Amy graduated from Southampton University in her native England with a degree in English and Film Studies and spent the next decade working as a producer and development executive in the UK before moving to Los Angeles in 2011 to pursue her dream of becoming a screenwriter and director.

Since coming to Los Angeles Amy has worked as part of the creative development team on Mission Impossible 5, Sherlock Holmes 3 and The Other F Word for The Nice Volcano Company as well as having several of her own film and television projects in active development in both the US and UK.

She is currently writing her first feature script, "Dirty Business."

In 2015 Amy made her directorial debut, writing and directing a music video for the song, "What Love Can Do," by singer songwriter, Eleni Mandell.

Don't Mess With Julie Whitfield is Amy's first short film as a writer and director.





PRIYANKA MATTOO: PRODUCER

Priyanka is a comedy producer and writer in Los Angeles. She was formerly an agent at UTA, Endeavor, and WME, and Jack Black's partner at their production company, Electric Dynamite.

She has a degree in Italian from the University of Michigan. She should also have a degree in Medieval and Renaissance Studies, but her dissertation on Literary Depictions of the Devil Leading up to The Inferno is not going to write itself. Priyanka also holds a Law Degree from Michigan. She allegedly reads more than anyone in existence.

Priyanka lived in India, England, Saudi Arabia, New York, Michigan, and Italy, before landing in Venice (California), where she lives with her husband and toddler.



DOUGLAS E. PORTER: DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Douglas E. Porter is an LA based cinematographer. After graduating with a degree in Film from Emerson College Doug got his start working for Beyonce on her Mrs. Carter world tour documenting what it's like to be on the road. Similar work for Vice followed, with Doug shooting acts such as Imagine Dragons, Motley Crew, Zedd and Zach Brown Band on the road.

Doug then moved into music videos, working with artists such as Lola Coca, Sub Focus, Sultan and The Child of Love, and commercials where he has shot for H&M and Saks Fifth Ave among others.

Doug continues to work in production, recently moving into short films in addition to his documentary, commercial and music video work.



MANDY BROWN: EDITOR

Mandy Brown has been editing commercials, documentary, music videos, and short films for over ten years. Her most notable works include music videos for internationally successful artists such as Nicki Minaj, David Guetta, Leann Rimes, and Jennifer Hudson. In the commercial world, she has cut spots for high end brands Nike, Motorola, and Hershey's, among others. Mandy's documentary work include a feature on the international soccer phenomenon, Ronaldo.

Her work has been honored with MTV Video Music Award nominations and screened at numerous festivals, including Cannes and SxSW. In 2014, Mandy was the winner of a Best Editing award at the Big Easy International Film Festival for her work on "The Lord of Catan," directed by Stu Paul.

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Mandy graduated with a BA degree in Film & Digital Media from UC Santa Cruz. She currently works at Sunset Edit in Los Angeles.



JONATHAN SANFORD: COMPOSER

Jonathan Sanford was born in Baltimore, Maryland and started piano lessons at Unseld's School at the age of six. He moved on to violin before deciding on the saxophone at age nine. Jonathan went on to study classical saxophone, under the tutelage of Dr. Frederick Hemke at Northwestern University, where he was also a member of the 1996 Big Ten Championship Football Team. While in school, he wrote an original musical as well as an experimental musical adaptation of Alice in Wonderland. He was a member of Chicago funk mainstay acts, Sweet Sweet Candy and Fly Williams, as a saxophonist and rapper, releasing albums with both bands. On the coattails of an appearance on General Hospital, Sanford made the move to Los Angeles, where he currently resides. He continued playing saxophones in local acts until he made the switch to electronic music and composition, writing and performing with the eclectic Mr. Tiny's Electric Toy Band. Jonathan was a founding member of the new music group Collide, along with Third Coast Percussion member David Skidmore and concert pianist Jade Simmons. The group served as artist in residence at Georgia Tech, worked with a musical performing robot at Yale, and debuted a work from Princeton professor Dmitri Tymoczko.

In addition to his work with bands, Jonathan has shared the stage with legendary artists, Max Roach, Eddie Palmieri, Danilo Perez, and Bobby McFerrin. Sanford's new joy is composing and producing music for film and advertisements, as well as producing records with independent pop artists.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

TITLE	DON'T MESS WITH JULIE WHITFIELD
DURATION	9 Minutes 14 Seconds
ORIGINATION	Alexa
RATIO	2.35 (SCOPE)
SHOOTING FORMAT	2K
SOUND	5.1 Surround
LANGUAGE	English
YEAR	2016



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