

Little Children

Starring

Kate Winslet

Jennifer Connelly

and

Patrick Wilson

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

National Publicity

John Smith/Ekta Farrar/Mike Rau

New Line Cinema - LA

(310) 967-6572

Clare Anne Conlon/Lina Plath/Nicole Kalish

New Line Cinema - NY

(212) 649-6131

International Publicity

Tracy Lorie/Maria Ortiz

New Line Cinema - LA

(310) 967-6633

Running time: 130 minutes

Little Children

Cast

KATE WINSLET.... Sarah Pierce
JENNIFER CONNELLY....Kathy Adamson
PATRICK WILSON....Brad Adamson
JACKIE EARLE HALEY....Ronnie J. McGorvey
NOAH EMMERICH....Larry Hedges
GREGG EDELMAN....Richard Pierce
PHYLLIS SOMERVILLE....May McGorvey
RAYMOND J. BARRY....Bullhorn Bob
JANE ADAMS.....Sheila
TY SIMPKINS....Aaron Adamson
SADIE GOLDSTEIN....Lucy Pierce

Filmmakers

Director	TODD FIELD
Screenplay	TODD FIELD & TOM PERROTTA
Based on the novel by	TOM PERROTTA
Producers	ALBERT BERGER & RON YERXA TODD FIELD
Executive Producers	PATRICK PALMER TOBY EMMERICH KENT ALTERMAN

Associate Producers	MICHELE WEISS LEON VITALI
Director of Photography	ANTONIO CALVACHE
Production Designer	DAVID GROPMAN
Film Editor	LEO TROMBETTA, A.C.E
Costume Designer	MELISSA ECONOMY
Music	THOMAS NEWMAN
Production Sound Mixer	EDWARD TISE
Casting	TODD THALER BELINDA MONTE STEGEMANN

In 2001, after completing *In The Bedroom*, I began to pursue the film rights for Richard Yates' novel *Revolutionary Road*. However, this was not possible due to complications involving the estate. But what had attracted me to Yates' book was the central theme of his two main characters; Frank & April Wheeler. They are not prepared to let go of the dreams, and unfulfilled promise of their own youth, and to focus that kind of attention on their offspring; their identities based strictly on how they rank in relation to other people. They judge hard, and in the end it comes back on them.

In 2003 I read the galleys for Tom Perrotta's new novel *Little Children*. I was excited by its similarity to *Revolutionary Road*. However, where as Yates's story leaves you emotionally gutted- the writer being an angry, and unforgiving God, *Little Children* was a satirical-melodrama, and Perrotta was not so quick to judge his characters. He painted them with empathy & humor; the mainframe of the book being the idea of MOTHER, with the thread of matriarchy running through every relationship in the story.

In early 2004 I met with Tom to discuss the possibility of adapting the novel. There were things for the film I would want to change. Primarily, knowing for certain what the sex offender, Ronnie, had, or hadn't done, that led to his incarceration. He should represent an almost fairytale-like archetype from the Brother's Grimm: The troll under the bridge, or Beowulf's *Grendel*. Serving as an alibi, and distraction for the other characters- a receptacle to rationalize their own fear & desire without the burden of self-examination.

The struggle for identity is what these characters battle from the start; it leads to a hunger they are unable to satiate- violence & fear hold sway. The shame of how they see themselves when the fingers start pointing. It was with this idea in mind, that Tom and I began our work together.

-Todd Field

Synopsis

Kate Winslet, Jennifer Connelly and Patrick Wilson star in LITTLE CHILDREN, the latest work from Oscar-nominated Writer/Director Todd Field. Based on the novel by Tom Perrotta, LITTLE CHILDREN centers on a handful of individuals whose lives intersect on the playgrounds, town pools and streets of their small community in surprising and potentially dangerous ways.

****NOTE: New Line respectfully requests that media please not reveal the film's ending.**