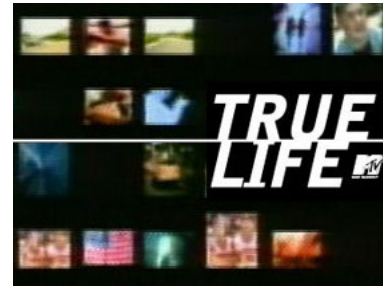


# MTV's True Life: I Can't Have Sex



**Detailed information about True Life, our process, and the participants we are looking for.**

## **This Episode:**

This hour-long documentary will chronicle the lives of three young people who currently cannot have sex. It will follow them through their daily routines as they cope with their personal situation. We will show the challenges they face dealing with friends, lovers, doctors, parents, etc. In this episode, we hope to help de-mystify the issues that lead to the inability to have sex.

## **About True Life and Our Goals:**

True Life is a documentary series that's been running on MTV for 10 years. Each episode of "True Life" is about a different topic. Most of the topics have some social or personal importance, like this one. Some of them are more frivolous aspects of youth culture, like episodes about gamers or cheerleaders. All episodes aim to tell deeply personal stories. There is no host, reporter or narrator. The young people will tell their own stories in their own voices.

Our goal, as with all episodes of True Life, is to put young people across the country in our subjects' shoes. We hope that, by portraying the most intimate moments of our subjects' lives, we will help young people understand complex personal and social issues.

## **Who We're Looking For:**

We're looking for young people who appear to be between the ages of 16 and 28 who are currently unable to engage in sexual activity.

We have *no preference* for race, socio-economic status, religious beliefs, etc. We're simply looking for young people who are interested in participating in a documentary that will follow them as they live their lives. We're especially looking for people who are honest, open and articulate about their feelings.

We never pay anyone to participate in "True Life." People often participate because they want to show the world what it's like to be in their situation and to create empathy for others in their situation. It can also be very empowering to tell one's story to a large audience.

## **How We Make "True Life" & How We'll Shoot This Episode**

Once we've determined whom we're going to follow, we begin filming them at moments and events that are important to their story. We don't film them all the time and everywhere – we'll try to select dates that are significant in their lives and film those. We try to be as unobtrusive as possible by filming with only a two-person crew and a small digital video camera. Our goal is for people to forget we're even there. Once we start rolling, we try not to influence our subject in any way – we simply try to capture their real lives as they're living them. We typically film between 25 and 35 hours of each person we're following. We'll get those hours two or three days at a time over the course of three to four months. We always allow our subjects to stop filming if they become uncomfortable or if there's a problem. We edit the stories ourselves, with input from three executives at MTV. We have total creative control over the process, and the executives never ask us to include anything that isn't thoroughly fact-checked and true.

## **Punched in the Head Productions**

We are a small independent production company that's been contracted by MTV to produce certain episodes of "True Life." We're usually asked to produce the more "weighty" episodes, like "I'm Home from Iraq," "I Have Autism" and "I Have Schizophrenia." Many of our previous episodes are online at [truelife.mtv.com](http://truelife.mtv.com) in the "Videos" section of the site.

### **How You Can Get Involved:**

If you're interested in participating or just want to find out more about the show, please feel free to contact us at the address below. We would be happy to answer any and all questions or concerns you might have.

And if you know any young people who might be interested in this documentary, or are part of an organization that works with people with sexual dysfunction, let us know. Please pass along this information and our one-page flier and spread the word about this important documentary!

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