

Waking in Oak Creek

A community rocked by hate unites to forge new bonds and restore hope

As the Sikh community in Oak Creek, Wisconsin prepares for Sunday prayers, a deadly hate attack shatters their lives, but not their resilience. After six worshippers are killed by a white supremacist, the local community finds inspiration in the Sikh tradition of forgiveness and faith. A police lieutenant, shot 15 times in the attack, joins the mayor and police chief as they forge new bonds with the Sikh community. Young temple members emerge as leaders in the quest to end violence. In the year following the attack, thousands gather for community events to honor the victims and seek connection.

Produced by Not In Our Town / The Working Group (33 minutes)

In the wake of hate, how can a community find strength in connecting across differences? Screen this film in your town to surface local issues, build bridges between different groups, and inspire community action to prevent hate and bias.

Waking in Oak Creek demonstrates:

- The power of community-wide action
- The leading role of survivors and victims' families
- How to strengthen civic life by building connections across communities
- The urgency of effective hate crime reporting protocols
- The importance of recognizing the threat and signs of hate groups

Resources include:

- Community Discussion Guide
- Educator Lesson Plan
- Guide for Law Enforcement
- Press and outreach materials
- Audience Survey







For assistance, please contact:

info@NIOT.org



niot.org/wakinginoakcreek











Plan a Not In Our Town film screening to spark conversation and action in your community!

For community events

- Invite residents, city leaders, community organizations, youth and faith groups.
- Engage communities at risk of being targeted by hate.
- Raise awareness about local hate and bias reporting protocols.
- Plan follow-up action to prevent hate.

For schools

- Plan a screening for your class, school assembly, parent or student group.
- Let students take the lead to plan follow-up activities.
- Incorporate films into training workshops on addressing bias and cultivating belonging.

Let us know how NIOT can help your community:

info@NIOT.org

Subscribe to the NIOT E-News:

niot.org/subscribe

Support our work: NIOT.org/donate

Find us at:













Not In Our Town is a movement to stop hate, racism, bias and bullying, and build safe, inclusive communities for all. **NIOT.org** features free films, guides and action kits for communities, schools and law enforcement.

