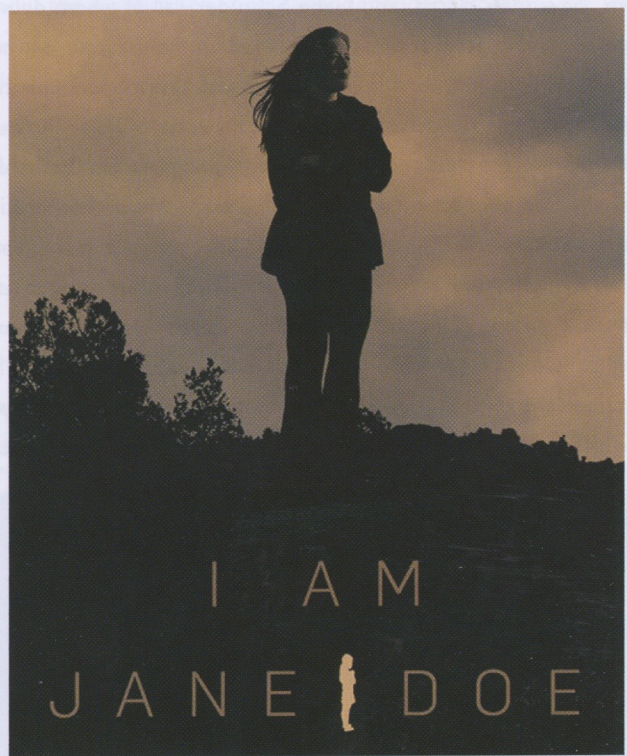


NEW VIEWS FILM LEADS TO MAJOR SEX-TRAFFICKING BILL

In partnership with Aspen Film, the Institute's NEW VIEWS Documentaries & Dialogue series presented the film *I Am Jane Doe* last summer. The documentary chronicles the epic battle that several American mothers have been waging on behalf of their middle-school daughters, all victims of sex trafficking on Backpage.com, the classified advertising website that for years was part of the *Village Voice*. The screening was followed by a moving conversation with a former sex-trafficked child victim and her mother along with director **Mary Mazzio** and the Markle Foundation's **Zoe Baird**. Since being featured in Aspen, the film has led to real changes in policy. "Aspen has been pivotal in so much that we do," says Mazzio, who notes that the screening led to key relationships that helped get the film even more attention. The Aspen NEW VIEWS documentary series also spurred a key op-ed—Mazzio calls it "scathing"—by *The New York Times*' **Nicholas Kristof** about Google's role in all of this: "Google-funded groups were supporting Backpage and its legal defense," Mazzio says. The film, along with the Kristof op-ed and tireless advocacy by Aspen leaders, played a significant role in leading to a Senate investigation and new legislation—vigorously opposed by the tech industry—to stop the online marketing of child sex trafficking in the United States. Then, in April, President Donald Trump signed into law a new measure that will make it easier for victims to hold websites accountable for knowingly facilitating sex trafficking. "Trafficking is probably worse today than at any time in our history," Trump said during a rare moment of

bipartisanship on Capitol Hill. The law is already having an impact on sites like Reddit, which has changed its policies on paid sex services, and Craigslist, which has shuttered its personal-ads section entirely. The film clearly has a profound effect on those who see it. When those people are Institute leaders, the effect also leads to action. aspeninstitute.org/series/new-views



INNOVATION, FAMILY-STYLE

The unemployment rate is lower than it has been for decades, and working parents are a key reason why. Almost half of all children today are raised in households in which each parent works full-time—about twice the 1968 rate. Families, then, must continue to thrive. In February, the Institute's Ascend program launched the Aspen Family Prosperity Innovation Community, composed of a group of talented leaders who will reimagine US policies to ensure that they do.

This initiative, supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, will develop strategies that strengthen employment options, economic security, and health and well-being. For example, the Innovation Community will focus on supports, such as paid family leave, childcare programs, lactation facilities, flexible work schedules, on-the-job training, and transportation vouchers. In addition to policy experts, parents will share their perspectives with the group. ascend.aspeninstitute.org