


- SUBSCRIBE**
- UPGRADE >>>
  - LOGIN >>>
  - HOME
  - FILM
  - TELEVISION
  - MUSIC/RADIO
  - WEB/NEW MEDIA
  - INTERNATIONAL
  - BUSINESS
  - MARKETING
  - HOME VIDEO
  - VIDEO GAMES
  - MEDIA
  - PEOPLE
  - PRODUCTION LISTINGS
  - CHARTS
  - AWARDS & FESTIVALS
  - THE CRAFTS



**Know Your Product...**

**REVIEWS**

Feb. 24, 2006

**A Life Without Pain**

By Marilyn Moss  
9 p.m, Feb 27  
Sundance Channel



As if the title weren't ironic enough, watching this documentary on children who were born with a rare congenital defect that renders them unable to feel pain is, at times, ironically almost too painful to see. Filmmaker Melody Gilbert, who directed the docu "Whole," a look at people who choose to become amputees, here focuses her lens on kids who are at risk and don't even know it. It's a substantial piece of work and well worth the discomfort it takes to view.

[SUBMIT A REVIEW >](#)  
[READ READER REVIEWS >](#)

Bottom line: Ironically almost too painful to see.

Gilbert follows several children, a 3-year-old in Minnesota, a 7-year-old from Norway and 10-year-old from Germany, and looks at the day-to-day struggles of these kids and their parents as the youngsters go about hurting themselves inadvertently simply by playing, being in the house and taking up the business of being a normal kid. When teething as infants, they may have chewed through their lips without knowing it hurt; now the possibilities for hurt get larger as the kids grow. But they also learn how to handle their rare condition, and we get to hope that they will overcome the dangers and, ironically, the psychic pain of their disorder.

The docu is an eye-opening experience at the very least, and Gilbert's intense look at the situation is compelling in every way.

[SAVE](#) | [EMAIL](#) | [PRINT](#) | [MOST POPULAR](#) | [RSS](#)  | [REPRINTS](#)   
[SUBSCRIBE TO THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER >](#)

Copyright 2005 The Hollywood Reporter

**FILM**

- ▶ Running Scared
- ▶ Candy
- ▶ Cowboy del Amor
- ▶ Mozart & the Whale
- ▶ Date Movie

**TV**

- ▶ Friends & Crocodiles
- ▶ Kappa Mikey
- ▶ A Life Without Pain
- ▶ Project Jay
- ▶ America Undercover: Dealing Dogs

**HOME VIDEO**

- ▶ Gunsmoke, Rat Patrol
- ▶ Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid
- ▶ Barbra Streisand: The Television Specials
- ▶ Sin City Recut
- ▶ Class of '05

**CONCERT**

- ▶ Aerosmith
- ▶ Nada Surf, Rogue Wave
- ▶ Alice Coltrane
- ▶ Martina McBride
- ▶ Betty Buckley

**THEATER**

- ▶ Dr. Dolittle
- ▶ The Glass Menagerie
- ▶ Barefoot in the Park
- ▶ Barnum
- ▶ Hitchcock Blonde

**BOOKS**

- ▶ Ladies or Gentlemen
- ▶ A Rock & Roll Fairy Tale
- ▶ On Michael Jackson
- ▶ Glorious Technicolor
- ▶ King Kong: Movie Icon

**SEARCH REVIEWS**

**INTERACTION**

- [CONTACT US](#)
- [E-MAIL EDITION](#)
- [MESSAGE BOARDS](#)
- [THR EAST](#)

**PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS**  
Click to read

**RESOURCES**

- INTERVIEWS
- PRODUCTS
- MEDIA ANALYST CORNER
- 2008 BLU-BOOK
- HOLLYWOOD HYPERLINK
- PR NEWSWIRE
- BUSINESS WIRE
- MARKET WIRE
- PRIMEZONE
- ARCHIVES