## **Tracy Schott BIO**

Tracy Schott is a Social Worker and Filmmaker, whose two disparate professions have collided to give her a unique perspective on a number of issues affecting women and girls, including domestic violence, sexual assault, intimate partner homicide, and media bias.

Tracy received her BS in Individual and Family Studies from Pennsylvania State University in 1979, and her MSW from the University of California – Berkeley's School of Social Welfare in 1985. She practiced for fifteen years as a child and family therapist, and as a counseling center administrator and adjunct faculty in Graduate Social Work at Marywood University.

After witnessing the power of television in shaping behavior and attitudes with her own children, Tracy decided to pursue her interest in creating social change through media. She obtained her MS in Telecommunications in 2000 from Kutztown University, where she created a children's television show (*Animal Rap*). After film school, Tracy went on to work for a commercial production company in Lancaster County.

In 2011, Tracy founded Schott Productions. As a business owner, she wears many hats beyond her roles as Producer, Director and Writer – including bookkeeping, public relations, marketing, and fundraising. She has produced, written and directed hundreds of projects including short films, television commercials, live events, a reality TV program and web content for her clients.

In 2015, Tracy completed the documentary film, *Finding Jenn's Voice*, which reveals the risks of homicide during pregnancy and examines the nature of abusive relationships. The award-winning film has been approved for continuing education credits by the National Association of Social Workers, the Pennsylvania State Police, and nursing associations. Since completing *Finding Jenn's Voice*, Tracy has become a sought-after speaker, and has presented to over 35 groups in North America. In 2014, Tracy was the recipient of the Voices for Change award from Safe Berks (formerly Berks Women in Crisis) for her efforts in bringing awareness to the risks of intimate partner homicide among pregnant women.

Tracy has been involved in community service spanning both her careers. She served on the boards of the Berks County Task Force on Child Sexual Abuse, Family Guidance, and Women's Counseling Service, where she was also the Interim Executive Director. She has volunteered with the Greater Reading Film Commission, Berks Arts Council, and has provided pro bono services to many non-profits in the region. Tracy has served as the Creative Director of ReadingFilmFEST since 2015, which brings dozens of filmmakers and hundreds of film lovers to the region. She currently serves on the board of the Reading Theater Project, and the Occupational Advisory Committee of Berks Career and Technology Center's Communication Media Technology program.

In addition to her commercial work, Tracy has several new projects in development including two documentary films: *Blackout Girl*, based on the best-selling book by Jennifer Storm on the impact of sexual trauma on addiction, and a film on the history of Reading and Berks County. Tracy is also co-writing a new television series, *Le Bon Chef*, a "dramedy" featuring a mature female chef.

Tracy is married to Veterinarian Dr. Boyd Wagner and has two adult sons, Bo and Ian. She lives on an historical Bern Township farm with an ever-changing cast of animals. Tracy enjoys travel, photography, cooking, yoga, Pilates and planning her next adventure!