



By expert accounts, child sexual abuse is a silent epidemic throughout the world, creating social havoc. It can be prevented and it can be treated with a conscious and sustained effort. Stop the Silence provides that effort.

ORIGINAL PRESS RELEASE FOR RTC

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**"STOP THE SILENCE ANNOUNCES MAJOR EU EVENT:
10,000 MILE/ 16,000KM "ROAD TO CHANGE:
WALK TO STOP THE SILENCE"**

***20 month event began in London May 31st 2013:
Raising Awareness and Catalyzing Change to Prevent Epidemic of Child Sexual Abuse
Impacting More than 100,000,000 people across Europe***

Matthew McVarish, Scottish actor, playwright, and musician, and **European Ambassador for the organization Stop the Silence: Stop Child Sexual Abuse, Inc.** (www.stopthesilence.org) is walking 10,000 miles and visiting 32 capital cities in the European Union (EU) as part of the program **Road to Change: Walk to Stop the Silence** (<http://roadtochange.eu>).

The purpose of the program is to raise awareness about and catalyze action on child sexual abuse (CSA), build solidarity and partnerships between organizations and communities, support survivors, and influence social and political change by meeting with high level politicians, university departments, survivors, agencies, celebrities, and the media. A number of British Embassies have supported the project and, where possible, the British Ambassadors have walked short distances with Matthew to show their support for the Road to Change. Road to Change has attracted major media coverage with local, national and international TV, radio and print media, and has reached millions across northern Europe with the message that we all need to help Stop the Silence. The press has been translated into numerous languages. Some journalists have remarked that Matthew is the first male survivor they have interviewed who admits he was sexually abused in his childhood.

Mr. McVarish is conducting screenings of the hailed film 'To Kill A Kelpie,' an Edward M. Smith Production developed from the original play by Mr. McVarish and presented by Stop the Silence and the Moira Anderson Foundation. The screenings are followed by educational programming developed by Stop the Silence. Screenings are scheduled on an on-going basis.

The Road to Change began in London on May 31st, 2013 and ends in Edinburgh February 2015 over approximately 20 months. It will pass through the capital cities of 29 European Union member states, including the four nations of the United Kingdom as well as Geneva, Switzerland. The Road to Change benefits the programs and services of Stop the Silence in partnership with the Moira Anderson Foundation (MAF) in Scotland, various other organization, and is supported by Stop the Silence, MAF, Matthew himself, and other groups and individuals. **Donations continue to be sought: Go to www.roadtochange.eu.**