

"My Hippies"
A Documentary Film Treatment
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A proposal is about categorizing a lot of detailed information about the making of a project whereas a treatment is more about concentrating on how the audience will experience the film on the screen.

This is done in a treatment by making the story clear and appealing by not overwriting (like in a proposal, proposals contain a lot more information than a treatment should). It is important to stay away from writing too much research, you have to focus on telling the story well.

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A quick/ brief description of the documentary story to gain viewers interest.

OVERVIEW

My Hippies explores the hippie revolution from the personal perspective of a hippie kid who's mother, step father, aunt and uncle all met on San Francisco's Haight Street in 1969. Now, living in the same city and facing old age together, they share their art, films, unreleased music, and thoughts about their wild trip.

This short outline of the structure the documentary will clearly state your idea and how you plan to structure the doc.

OUTLINE

1. Beginning: Who where these people before the dropped out? What world did they grow up in?
2. Middle: What did they do during the hippie times?
3. End: Looking back, what thoughts do they have about the times and about dropping back in?

The logline is created to allow the reader to visualise what is in your mind.

LOGLINE

The hippies grew up during WWII and the Cold War. As young adults they experienced the Korean war, the civil rights fight and Vietnam. Their America was war torn, conservative and in a lot of ways, rife with fear.

Then in the late 1960s thousands of them spontaneously dropped out of that America and somehow found each other in places like San Francisco. Fear became fun, nuclear mushroom clouds became mushroom trips, work became welfare, and repression became revolution. But by the mid-1970s the

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energy was fading and they started to drop back in. Or did they?

Who were the hippies? Was it all peace and love? Did their ideology survive? What was it like on Haight Street in

1969? Or on a commune deep in the redwoods? Did they change anything? Did they learn anything?

My Hippies explores the hippie revolution from the personal perspective of a hippie kid whose mother, step father, aunt and uncle all met on San Francisco's Haight Street in 1969. Still close friends and living in the same town, they share their experiences, pictures, 8mm films, unreleased psychedelic rock music, and thoughts about their wild trip as they face retirement and old age.

This is about showing the historical/researched side of the documentary.

SCOPE OF FILM

1. Show four different examples of who dropped out during the hippie revolution.
2. Illustrate the difference between country and city hippies and the difference in the party in the city and the more back to the earth life of the country hippies.
3. Find out their thoughts, concerns, lessons learned, and stories as they face retirement.

This section shows the reader you have good organization and professional skills.

LENGTH, DISTRIBUTION AND MEDIA

1. Target length: 47 minute target length on DVD
2. Distribution: Santa Fe and Slamdance film festivals with CD of music. Compressed Web version and Music with URL.
3. Video: MiniDV, 8mm telecine to MiniDV, digital shots of stills. Edited in FinalCut Pro.
4. Music: Re-mastered unreleased rock album as 42 Bit AIFFs.
5. Script: Final Draft AV.
6. Treatment: Word.

PRODUCTION ELEMENTS

4. All elements will come from the four subjects themselves, their pictures, films, and memorabilia from the time.

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5. No stock footage will be used (famous musicians, poets, writers, stars, large gatherings, and classic stock footage of hippie chicks dancing high.)

1. Interviews: 4 hours.

2. 8MM film: clips from the time, 45-minute movie by Cove.

3. Psychedelic Rock: 1967 unreleased album by NGC 4594, a band managed by Cove and known by subjects. Released 45, songs of which are on two psychedelic compilations in the 1990s. Re-mastered from 7" reels to digital files that make one CD.

4. Stills: 400-+ from the time including yearbooks, and psychedelic texture from fliers and posters kept by the subjects.

This is a good way to briefly create a plan of what is needed when in production and post-production stages. This is another way the reader can tell you and a professional and organized company.

SUBJECTS

Name	Currently	Hippie Involvement
Molly (Formerly Judy Gordon)	65, Public school special ed. teacher. Mother of Caleb, Married to Jack, older sister of Maya.	Haight Street and Rivendale commune resident. At Altemont and first rainbow gathering. Moved to Maine for alternative school for Caleb after 1973.
Jack	64, painter, communist. Brain liaison causes slow talk. Married to Molly after being married to Alexis America during hippie time.	Coventry Lake, CT. and Haight Street resident. Got together with Molly in Maine after knowing her on Haight Street. Carpenter, teacher.
Maya (Formerly Jane Gordon)	60, small business owner, younger sister to Molly. Married to and with Cove since the hippie time.	Haight Street, Rivenale Commune, Mexico, and Berkeley resident. Cafe worker, clothes seller.
Cove (formerly Donato Coviello)	62, artist, small businessman, writer. Married to Maya.	Coventry Lake, CT, NYC, Haight Street and Berkeley. Draft dodger. Performer, and marbling artiStreet

END OF TREATMENT.

The brief character description allows us to know what part they play in the documentary. This also allows reader to familiarise themselves with the people and get an idea of why the production company has decided to use this specific person (Readers find out reasons behind the chosen subjects by reading the 'involvement' section of the subject table) .