

# FLAME

## ALESHA DIXON: WHO'S YOUR DADDY?

You may know her as a singer, you may know her as a dancer, you may have seen her in the press, but Strictly Come Dancing's latest addition to the judging panel, ALESHA DIXON, has taken a completely different journey for a brand new BBC Three documentary – ALESHA DIXON: Who's Your Daddy? In this one-off 60-minute special from the award-winning producers of BBC ONE's Heir Hunters, ALESHA investigates the impact that absent fathers have on their children.

An ever more common situation in the UK – and one especially close to ALESHA's heart, having only been four years old when her parents split up – around 100,000 babies a year in Britain will grow up without fathers in their lives<sup>1</sup> and about 50,000 are issued with a birth certificate without their father's name on it<sup>2</sup>. Luckily for the next generation things are about to change, as from this autumn dads will have to put their name on a birth certificate by law<sup>3</sup>.

The film shows how ALESHA helps one young girl (23-year-old Amy from Wakefield) track down the father she has relentlessly been searching for over the last eight years following his departure from her life when she was only three weeks old. With the support of a professional people finder, emotions run high when Amy is faced with the prospect of being reunited with her long lost dad. Has she made the right decision to look for him?

This highly emotional and revealing documentary also takes ALESHA to a North London Comprehensive where she meets a group of teenagers. In a recent UK survey of secondary school kids<sup>4</sup>, nearly a quarter of those from single parent families don't see their dads at all. Whilst there, she explores the different dynamics that arise within their individual family situations.

Another issue ALESHA highlights is the worrying possibility of siblings forming sexual relationships without realising they are actually related (Genetic Sexual Attraction).

Talking to the kids and the mothers, ALESHA also talks to the dads, taking a trip to the north-east to meet what the press labelled as Britain's Worst Dad, Sunderland's infamous Keith 'The Sunderland Shagger', who has fathered eight children with eight different women. Having no involvement with any of them, ALESHA wants to know how he can justify his unremorseful behaviour.

As well as going back to her home turf of Hertfordshire to meet up with old school friends to talk about their experiences, ALESHA also discusses her personal feelings throughout this deeply moving film.

*ends*

**ALESHA DIXON: Who's Your Daddy? will transmit on BBC THREE, 17<sup>th</sup> November at 9.00pm**

For more information please contact Lucy Plosker or Dan Lloyd at Avalon on 020 7598 7222 / [lucyp@avalonuk.com](mailto:lucyp@avalonuk.com), [danl@avalonuk.com](mailto:danl@avalonuk.com)

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## END NOTES

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<sup>1</sup> *Based on Labour Force Survey data*

<sup>2</sup> *DWP report*

<sup>3</sup> *Welfare Reform Bill*

<sup>4</sup> *Survey commissioned by single parent charitable organisation, Catch 22*

## FLAME TV

Flame TV is one of the UK's leading independent producers, making factual and day-time programming. Established in November 1999 by Roger Bolton and Barbara Altounyan, its aim was to create popular formats in challenging new subject areas.

Flame's diverse output includes political current affairs shows and factual entertainment formats, shows include; Heir Hunters, Saints and Scroungers, Talk to the Prime Minister, Don't Get Done Get Dom, Jordan Gets Even, Churchill's Girl, and Race Hate Debate. Flame TV's clients include BBC, Channel 4, Channel 5, ITV, Discovery and many others.

## OTHER SHOW CREDITS

The series is produced and directed by CHRISTINA NUTTER. Executive Producers are BARBARA ALTOUNYAN for Flame TV and FIONA CAMPBELL for the BBC.