

"The  
world has  
abandoned  
me"



“这个世界  
不要俺了”

In January 2022, a short video of a woman chained up in a doorless shack in Feng County, Xuzhou, Jiangsu Province, came to light. She encountered inhuman abuses, being abducted and sold several times, suffering from mental illness and having eight children caused shock across the internet. Numerous netizens and media people took it upon themselves to track down the truth or travelled to the area to show solidarity.

"We are not bystanders, we are mere survivors." Many came forward to tell the stories of mothers, daughters, sisters and classmates who were abducted or disappeared altogether. Social media was filled with outrage, and the debate about human trafficking, women's rights, sexual assault, domestic violence, and the protection of the mentally ill in China is gaining momentum.

The Chinese government urgently sealed off the village, blocking online speech and arresting those who showed solidarity. The governments of Feng County, Xuzhou City and Jiangsu Province issued five contradictory information notices, sounding the alarm of the collapse of official credibility.

However, several months have passed, who is the "chained woman"? Why did she end up in this situation? Is she now free? These questions remain unanswered.