A Bell That Tolls: A Conversation on Death and Dying

Event Details:

Date: Thursday, October 18, 2018
Time: 6:00PM-8:00PM
Venue: Sema Foundation, 325 N Austin Dr #4, Chandler, AZ 85226
Facilitator: Rev. Franklin Evans
Panelists: Angelica Lindsey
Commander Jeffrey Glover (Tempe Police Dept)
Gina Aden (Chandler Fire Dept - Crisis Response)
Keith Welch (Chandler Fire Dept - Crisis Response)
Rose Takuya-Johnson (Hospice of the Valley)

Total Attendees: 43
Feedback responses: 21

*Information about Phoenix Death Cafe: https://deathcafe.com/deathcafe/7330/

What are three words that describe your experience from this event?

3 most common words: **Insightful**, **enlightening**, **interesting**
- **Interesting**, enlightening, intellectual
- **Interesting**, informative from a professional point of view
- Polite, respectful, soft
- Peaceful, enlightening, appreciative
- Comfortable, happy, peaceful
- Anxious, grateful, enriched
- Enjoys speakers sense of humor, respectful, well rounded panel
- Support, options, coping
- **Interesting**, involved, open
- Open, safe, courageous
- **Enlightening**, inviting, productive
- **Enlightening**, informative, transformational
- Therapeutic, calming, educational
- Loved it very much
- **Interesting**, reassuring, enlightening
- **Insightful**
- Good set-up, informative, great subject
- Comfortable, informative, pleasant
- **Insightful**, genuine, brake
- **Insightful**, open, sharing
- Courteous, limited, soft

What new awareness did you gain or what is your take away from this experience?
- Even when people are gathered to talk about death they don’t really
- The professional angle
- How professionals handle being around death (teamwork, putting up a wall), death is avoided in our culture
- None, though that not the fault of the panel
- Death is experienced differently by everyone
- Fear and abandonment and probably uncertainty are the things people are hesitant to talk about
- Info about Muslim beliefs
- Loved the first response feedback
- I learned about other cultures death rituals/beliefs
- I came thinking that I had very little experience with death and dying but walked away realizing I do talk about it.
- I've been able to consider options for family members and how I can address my own wishes.
- Grief- Lamenting what happened in the past, Fear- what will happen in the future and more
- Learned how involved hospice is
- There are many options available around dying and people should be considering
- Need for health care directive
- None
- Death is casual and natural, we cannot stop it and it is ok to be afraid.

How might this event impact your life and work?
- Even when people are gathered to talk about death they don’t really.
- Hoping make it easier on family.
- How to communicate with people and family.
- I will be much more vocal about events to classmates.
- It makes me appreciate life even more than I already did.
- I get to know great individuals.
- Free to share with others in my life.
- Indeed!
- I am dealing with my 92-year old mom’s approaching death. I am part of a Crisis Response unit in the valley.
- Will use it on the CR unit.
- Helps me come to terms with death
- I think it has given me a level of confidence in continuing conversations about death and dying.
- I will begin putting into place firmer advanced directives that are registered with state and primary care to proceed with my wishes.
- I feel more comfortable talking about this topic.
- Reminder to talk to my son
- Great topic to have and force discussion.
- Not sure it will. Already pretty open to talking about death.
- Don’t think it will
- I can pass on this learning to others
- My employer, a major hospital organization, encourages advanced directives and this event has encouraged me.

**Other comments about this event:**
- I do appreciate the time taken but I think everyone was playing softball which hinders us from learning.
- Well presented, thank you!
- Maybe have funeral professionals and other related topic is discussed.
- Good panel- helpful experiences
- We should do more partnerships (Sema)
- Great speakers
- Impressive - thank you to all!
- Would have been nice to have clergy and medical professionals represented.
- Thank you for offering this!
- I really appreciate the panelists insight. I valued that most of the time was focused on conversation and less on didactic/education.
- This was a wonderful way to bring people together on a very applicable level.
- It would be nice to have these events start at 7 so people can come home from work and have dinner.
- Great topic to have and force discussion
- Just seemed to scratch the surface. Though you only had 2 hours so understandable.
- Wish it had been more intimate, smaller groups with more interaction.
- Very nice to talk about this with others.
- To complete a directive

**What other topics would you be interested in learning from us?**
- Social mobility, culture exchange
- Follow up counseling
- How to handle community suicide epidemic that was discussed by police and fire department.
- Death cafe and food waste
- Social Justice
- “Right”, “Human Value”, “Human Right Violation”
- Rising suicide rates among teens
- Mental health issues and care
- Animal rights, disabilities, dealing with natural disaster and other crises
- “Life” after death
- How to deal with anxiety and panic attacks

**Participant Feedback Demographics:**
ASU Student: 2
ASU Staff: 0
Community Member: 14
Student - Other: 4
Undeclared: 1