Event Report

Event: Men2Men: Resilient, United, & Thriving - Film Screening: The Mask You Live In

Event Details:
Date: Friday, March 9, 2018
Time: 6:00pm - 8:30pm
Venue: First Church UCC, 1407 N. 2nd St., Phoenix AZ 85004
Total Attendees: 60
Feedback responses: 28

What are 3 words that describe your experience from this event?

Top Answers:
1. Informative/educational
2. Enlightening
3. Hopeful

- Shocked, interested, thankful
- Troubling, powerful, informative
- Being authentic, understanding brothers, truth in male patriarchy
- Informative, eye-opening, educational
Transformational, informative, enlightening
Important, respect, conversation
Truth, moving, hopeful
Informative, provocative, expectant
Informational, sad
Powerful, enlightening, compassionate
Enlightened, encouraged, hopeful
Informative, action, alarming
Of different men’s lives, need for change, hope
Informative, positive, reflection
Informative, knowledgeable, impactful
Inspired, enlighten, moved emotionally
Hopeful, grateful for the conversation, resonant
Awakening, clarity of what my son has gone through, way to think about solutions
Informative, enlightening and beneficial
Awesome
Awakening
Reflective, community, awareness
Lack of humanism
Very informative, information is sad but true

What new awareness did you gain or what is your takeaway from this experience?

Top answers:
1. Need to change the standard that men are not allowed to show emotion
2. Behaviors/cultural influences that shape masculinity
3. Statistics on the effects of this masculinity complex

- The influence that we have on children and that the media has on us as a society; to teach boys to communicate and to be able to show emotions
- We know enough to improve the safety of our own schools and community
- How to react to aggressiveness.
- Manhood has been redefined by media and many other factors that make up today’s culture. In turn, it has brought a rising rate in current social issues.
- The media I consume, and other influences that have me. Mainly, I have come to believe these influences make my effort to remove the mask harder and on many levels I am shamed and limited. I comply even when I’m trying not to.
• Our culture needs to change how we raise boys versus girls. We need to relearn love, empathy, and respect which are innate, and learned when we are young. We need to mentor boys and stop the violence and objectification of women.
• There is a lot of work to do.
• Influence on men and masculinity. We need to be conscious of how we speak with our children and the stereotypes we are creating.
• The amount of stats on the male side of the ledger that's negative. Especially suicide.
• Communication - tone level more bass with boys.
• Encourage households without fathers presence to ensure positive role models for the males.
• Need for action to listen more; need for men to redefine masculinity; need for society to engage as it impacts all of us and we all play a part.
• Messaging is so important for interacting with boys and girls. There is too much pressure put on boys not to have emotions.

Facts about masculinity
Statistics - boys discovering porn at the age of 12
I became more aware that a lot of us live in a bubble more, worry about ourselves, and brush off people who are really different from us.
I attended (in the mid-1970s) a national conference on men and masculinity. The conversation seems still in 2018 just to be starting.
That this issue is finally being addressed
What's behind the mask
You don't have to be tough or not show emotion to be a man.
I didn't know the stat that 90% of homicides are committed by men.
The importance of identifying dissociative behaviors, and the impact of those behaviors.
Nothing has changed in the last 30 years.

How might this event impact your life work?

Top Answers:
1. Change the way one interacts with boys/models problematic behaviors
2. Model the 7 principles of Humanity 101 -- compassion, empathy, forgiveness, integrity, kindness, respect, and self-reflection

• It will help me talk to my nephews and kids differently.
• I will increase time spent listening to boys and will step up when boys are bullied.
• Have more patience with hurt people.
In my day-to-day activity, I will encourage myself and others around me to be in touch with their emotions because it is human. Reminded me to be kinder, more compassionate, and more respectful. I will be more aware of how boys and men are “molded” by our culture and look for ways I can respond with love. Be more aware and sensitive to boys and their needs. Making me realize some of the impact these situations have on men whom I interact with daily (a largely male population of veterans). The masks that young people and even adults wear to hide hurt, fear, anger, etc. I will be more aware of opportunities with youth. I will be aware of the significant trauma inflicted on men and structure my influence to help decrease the negative effects of the trauma. Reach out more with kindness, open heart, listen and participate in groups. Continue to fight against the “norm” of society. Potential of awareness dealing with grandsons. Dealing with others who are inside my bubble. People who murder are not necessarily crazy, they are influenced by the people around them. Reassuring that I am “indulging” in a worthwhile life of thoughtful dialogue and behaviors. It would make life and work easier if I could find a mentor for my son being a single mom. I can teach him compassion, empathy, forgiveness, integrity, kindness, respect, and self-reflection, but he needs a male perspective. Tremendously. because of awareness or getting woke. Made me a better man. Gender dynamics and men's violence against women penetrate our world in more ways than we understand. Unpacking my own behaviors in order to connect with others. There’s a lot more that still needs to be done. My eyes are open to many of this information that I was not aware of.

Did the content of this event inspire you to change a behaviour or to take action towards change? If yes, please clarify.

**Top Answers:**

1. Allow males in life (including self) to be more expressive
2. Speak up after witnessing problematic behaviors
3. Continue the conversation

A big difference on how they treat a boy and a girl.
• Understand where my anger comes from and to find solutions.
• Yes, I have grown up knowing some emotions should be suppressed as a boy. I will be more expressive.
• Possibly mentor or teach young adolescents to be a positive influence.
• We need to speak up when toxic masculinity is acted out.
• To check my reaction to feminine and masculine personalities that I come in contact with.
• Will take it down a notch. Loudness doesn't always make people listen.
• Yes, I have had a vision for raising boys to be me. I have to allow them to grow and develop into the person they are growing to be.
• I always knew there was a negative impact on young men due to a father's absence, however, being aware that young ladies and men are in the same environment but the young ladies participation in violence and/or success is vastly different from the young men makes me see there is hope for change and improving the outcome for young men.
• Take action in being more consistent and challenging the aggressiveness of male power addiction.
• Open discussion
• Increase my knowledge of why people's behavior are the way they are. Provide more empathy and forgiveness.
• Yes. At my high school, and at all others, there should be more mandatory small group conversation (like in the movie) for everyone, not just those who seem ostracized.
• Persist!
• As a woman, we can only teach a male so much. One of my church members and I have been talking about starting a group home for troubled young men who need guidance so they can grow up to be strong young men. But we would need strong young men and older men who can be a father figure.
• No
• Ask for clarification: “what did you mean by that?” to gently challenge and encourage self-awareness.
• Absolutely conversation, empathy, compassion
• Nope, it's a lost cause.
• Yes. Listen more and allow the boys to express themselves by encouraging healthy conversation.

Other comments about this event.

• Loved the event. Is a very important subject and a culture we must change.
• Empowering
I really learned a lot. It's a privilege.
Great film and discussion.
Thank you; look forward to the next event.
The change I want to see, must first begin with me.
Great. Just wonderful.
It was very informative and we need more.
Awesome education
I was upset when I watched the movie and felt offended.
Maybe this information could be shared with our church family.

ASU student: 1
ASU staff: 0
Community: 25
Unspecified 2