Hope

…I was developing a maturing recognition of the importance of hopefulness in creating justice…The kind of hope that creates a willingness to position oneself in a hopeless place and be a witness, that allows one to believe in a better future, even in the face of abusive power. That kind of hope makes one strong.

~Bryan Stevenson, Just Mercy
Educating High School Black Males From Within the #MeTooMovement

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I watched her walk away from me as she tried to recapture her secrets and tuck them back into their hiding place. I watched her put her mask back on and go back into the world like she was all alone and I couldn’t even bring myself to whisper…me too.

– Tarana Burke
Founder, The ‘me too.’ Movement
Abstract

• The education of Black male high school students is presently occurring in the context of the #MeToo Movement.

• Recent reports of inappropriate sexual conduct by high profile men, including Black men, has generated heightened awareness, confusion, anxiety, and ambivalence among Black males.

• When identity and interpersonal relationship skills are still relatively early in development, this apparent ambiguity potentially interferes with learning processes that can undermine educational equity for Black males.
Purpose

To assess the impact of *MY MASCULINITY HELPS* on Black male high school students in reducing rape myth acceptance and affirming active bystander attitudes and behaviors.
MY MASCULINITY HELPS

A FILM BY MARC A. GRIMMETT
DAVID HAMBRIDGE
**Method**

**Design**
- Quasi-experimental
- Mixed-methods
  - Item Analysis + Thematic Analysis
- Intervention
  - Film + Discussion
- Pilot study

**Participants**
- N=26
- High School Black Males
- 10-12\textsuperscript{th} graders
- 16 Different High Schools
Instruments

• Updated Illinois Rape Myth Acceptance Scale (UIRMA)

• 20 questions
  – 4 subscales
    • She asked for it
    • He didn’t mean to
    • It wasn’t really rape
    • She lied
  – Likert Scale (1-5)
    • 1=Strongly Agree
    • 5=Strongly Disagree

• Higher scores equals indicate greater rejection of rape myths.

UIRMA; Smith & Frieze, 2003
Instruments

- Intent to Help Friends Scale (ITHF-Brief)
- 9 questions
- Likert Scale (1-5)
  - 1=Very Unlikely
  - 2=Unlikely
  - 3=Undecided
  - 4=Likely
  - 5=Very Likely

ITHF-Brief; Banyard, Moynihan, & Cares, 2014
Findings: Rape Myth Acceptance

- If a girl/woman is raped while she is drunk, she is at least somewhat responsible for letting things get out of hand.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pretest</th>
<th>Posttest</th>
<th>t (25)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(M=3.3, SD=1.049)</td>
<td>(M=4.1, SD=1.017)</td>
<td>-3.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>p = .004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- When boys/men rape, it is usually because of their strong desire for sex.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pretest</th>
<th>Posttest</th>
<th>t (25)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(M=2.5, SD=1.106)</td>
<td>(M=4.2, SD=1.327)</td>
<td>-2.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>p = .015</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Findings: Rape Myth Acceptance

- Boys/men don’t usually intend to force sex on a girl/woman, but sometimes they get too sexually carried away.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pretest</th>
<th>Posttest</th>
<th>t (25) = -2.90</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(M=2.6, SD=.956)</td>
<td>(M=3.5, SD=1.240)</td>
<td>p = .008</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Rape happen when a guy’s sex drive goes out of control.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pretest</th>
<th>Posttest</th>
<th>t (25) = -2.82</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(M=2.6, SD=1.000)</td>
<td>(M=3.4, SD=1.416)</td>
<td>p = .009</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Findings: Rape Myth Acceptance

- If both people are drunk, it can’t be rape.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pretest</th>
<th>Posttest</th>
<th>t (25)</th>
<th>p</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(M=3.3, SD=1.295)</td>
<td>(M=4.2, SD=1.096)</td>
<td>-2.82</td>
<td>.021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- If a girl/woman doesn’t say “no” she can’t claim rape.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pretest</th>
<th>Posttest</th>
<th>t (25)</th>
<th>p</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(M=3.3, SD=1.237)</td>
<td>(M=4.1, SD=1.033)</td>
<td>-2.39</td>
<td>.025</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Findings: Rape Myth Acceptance

- A lot of times, girls/women who say they were raped often led the guy on and then had regrets.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pretest</th>
<th>Posttest</th>
<th>$t$ (25) = 3.757</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$(M=2.68, \ SD=.862)$</td>
<td>$(M=3.5, \ SD=.906)$</td>
<td>$p = .001$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Findings: Intent to Help Friends

- I approach someone I know if I thought they were in an abusive relationship and let them know I’m here to help.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pretest</th>
<th>Posttest</th>
<th>t (24)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(M=4.3, SD=.775)</td>
<td>(M=4.7, SD=.557)</td>
<td>-2.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>p = .03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- If some said they had an unwanted sexual experience, but don’t call it rape, I express concern and offer to help.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pretest</th>
<th>Posttest</th>
<th>t (24)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(M=4.1, SD=.997)</td>
<td>(M=4.7, SD=.557)</td>
<td>-3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>p = .006</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Findings: Intent to Help Friends

- I stop and check in on someone who looks intoxicated when they are being taken upstairs at a party.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pretest</th>
<th>Posttest</th>
<th>t (24) = -3.87</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(M=3.5, SD=1.189)</td>
<td>(M=4.5, SD=.714)</td>
<td>p = .001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Describe how MMH affected you.

• It opened my eyes to sexual assault. I never really felt as bad as I should about rape until now. [Empathy]

• It helped me think before I do things, and look out for others that might be going through something. [Empathy]

• It has made me rethink experiences and conversations that I have had with people that could have been hints to sexual assault. [Empathy]

• It brought to my attention the importance a male perspective and involvement is in a woman's life especially if they have been a victim of sexual assault. [Male Engagement]
Explain what you learned from MMH

• …rape victims don’t have it easy [Empathy]
• Most men actually want to intervene when those around them tell sexist or misogynistic jokes [Awareness]
• That if two people are drunk, it can still be rape [Awareness].
• …you should step up and take action when you hear a person talking about a woman in the wrong way!! [Male Engagement]
• …under no circumstances where consent is not given is anything [sexual] ok to do. [Awareness]
• …large amount of women who are sexually harassed [Awareness]
What will you do now that you have seen MMH?

- **Make sure others are safe** and make sure I'm not one of the reasons of this problem.
- **Try to help someone** out when they are going though tough times and needs someone they can trust and could talk to without feeling in danger or uncomfortable.
- **Respect women.**
- **Speak up when I see something wrong** and reach out to my friends.
- **Help others and carry myself better around females and how I talk about them.**
Contact

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View film at:
mymasculinityhelps.com

Resources:
RAINN
www.rainn.org
1-800-656-HOPE

me too.
metoomvmt.org