

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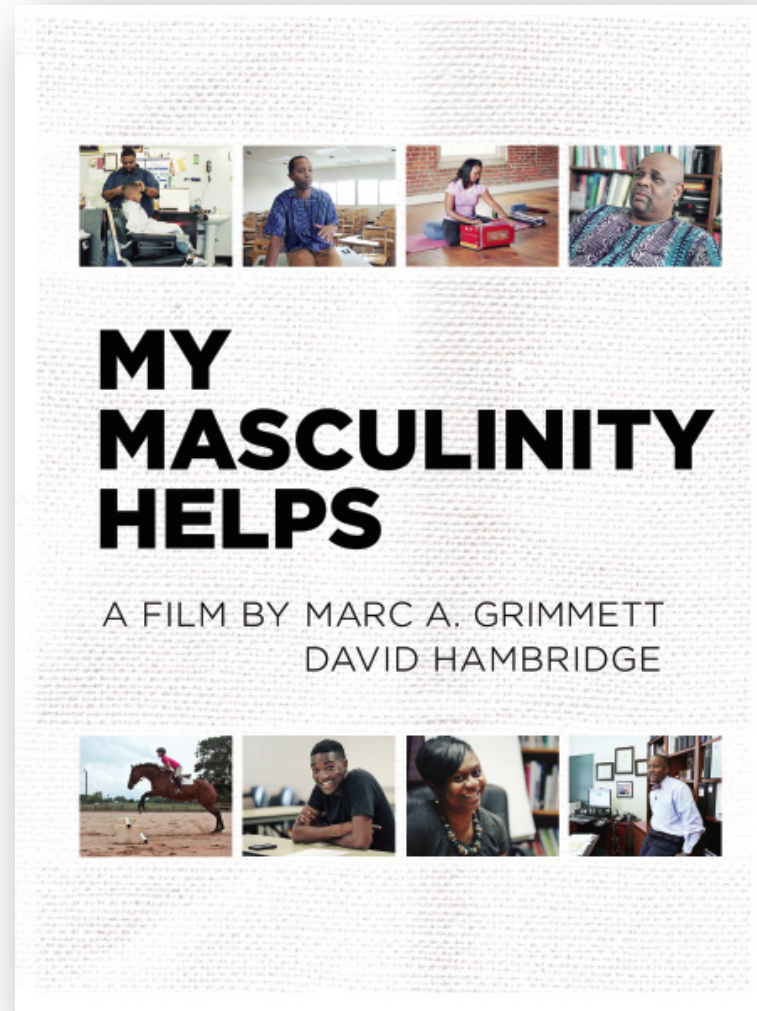
I watched her walk away from me as she tried to recapture her secrets and tuck them back into their hiding place. I watched her put her mask back on and go back into the world like she was all alone and I couldn't even bring myself to whisper...me too.

– Tarana Burke  
Founder, The 'me too.' Movement

**me too.**

## 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



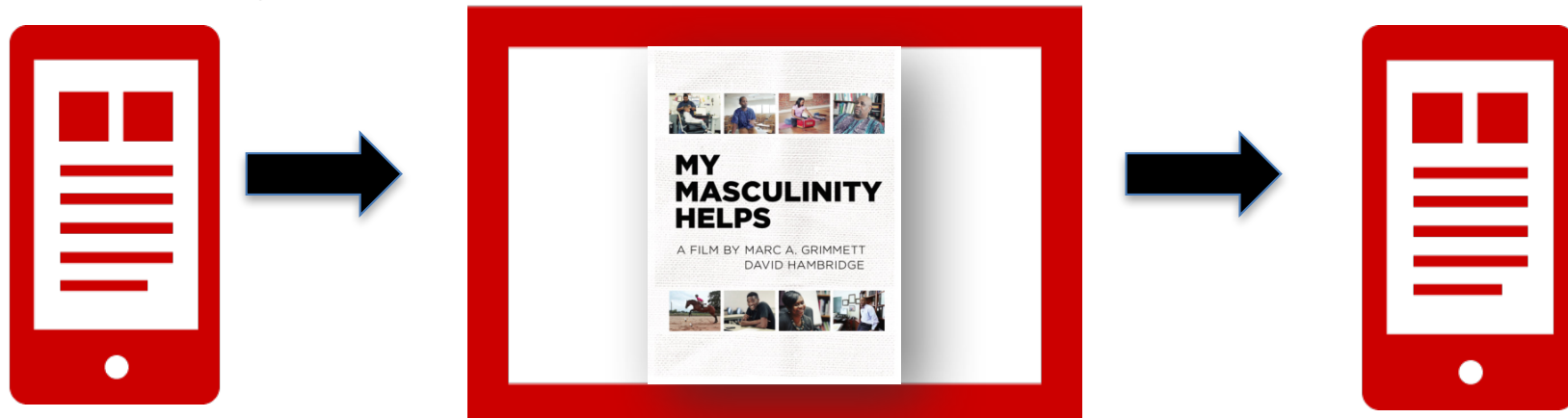
# Method

## Design

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

## Participants

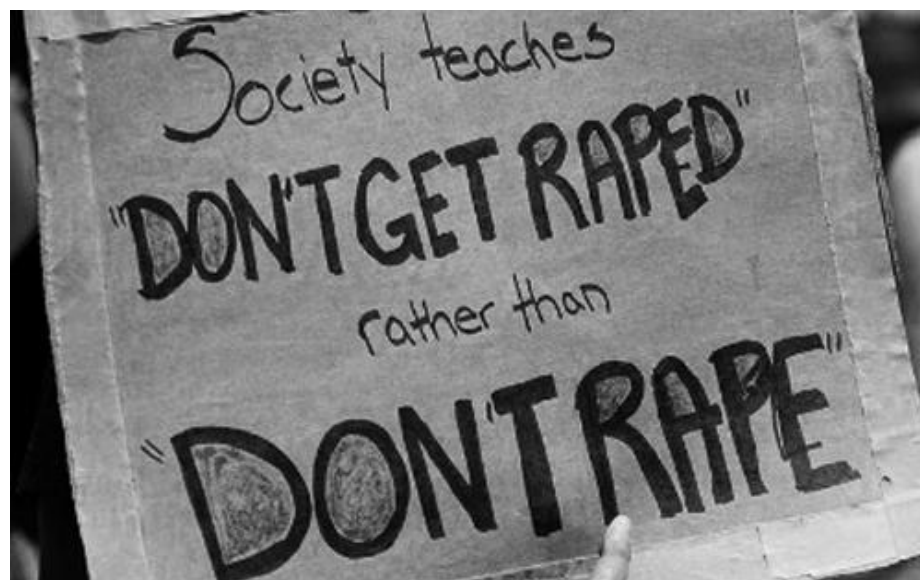
- N=26
- High School Black Males
- 10-12<sup>th</sup> graders
- 16 Different High Schools





# 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.**





# 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



## 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.

Pretest (M=3.3, SD=1.049)	Posttest (M=4.1, SD=1.017)	$t(25) = -3.14$ $p = .004$
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- When boys/men rape, it is usually because of their strong desire for sex.

Pretest (M=2.5, SD=1.106)	Posttest (M=4.2, SD=1.327)	$t(25) = -2.61$ $p = .015$
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## 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.

Pretest (M=2.6, SD=.956)	Posttest (M=3.5, SD=1.240)	$t(25) = -2.90$ $p = .008$
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- Rape happen when a guy's sex drive goes out of control.

Pretest (M=2.6, SD=1.000)	Posttest (M=3.4, SD=1.416)	$t(25) = -2.82$ $p = .009$
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## Findings: Rape Myth Acceptance

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

Pretest (M=3.3, SD=1.295)	Posttest (M=4.2, SD=1.096)	$t(25) = -2.82$ $p = .021$
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- If a girl/woman doesn't say "no" she can't claim rape.

Pretest (M=3.3, SD=1.237)	Posttest (M=4.1, SD=1.033)	$t(25) = -2.39$ $p = .025$
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## Findings: Rape Myth Acceptance

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

Pretest (M=2.68, SD=.862)	Posttest (M=3.5, SD=.906)	$t(25) = 3.757$ $p = .001$
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## 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.

Pretest (M=4.3, SD=.775)	Posttest (M=4.7, SD=.557)	$t(24) = -2.32$ $p = .03$
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- If some said they had an unwanted sexual experience, but don't call it rape, I express concern and offer to help.

Pretest (M=4.1, SD=.997)	Posttest (M=4.7, SD=.557)	$t(24) = -3.00$ $p = .006$
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## Findings: Intent to Help Friends

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

Pretest (M=3.5, SD=1.189)	Posttest (M=4.5, SD=.714)	$t(24) = -3.87$ $p = .001$
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## **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 through 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](http://mymasculinityhelps.com)**

**Resources:**

**RAINN**

[www.rainn.org](http://www.rainn.org)

1-800-656-HOPE

**me too.**

[metoomvmt.org](http://metoomvmt.org)



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