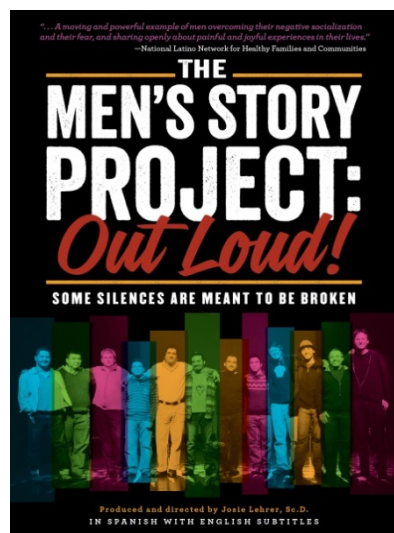


The Men's Story Project: Out Loud!

Spanish with English subtitles. 107 min. 2013. Produced and directed by Josie Lehrer, Sc.D.



FILM TESTIMONIALS:

"Through the powerful art of storytelling, this incredibly moving film examines our societal beliefs about masculinity with rare authenticity and candor... This is the type of spark we need to catalyze a movement. I would love to see this project replicated in every city and town across the world—from New Delhi to Steubenville. Shifting social norms surrounding masculinity is crucial to breaking the cycle of violence." **-Esta Soler, President, Futures Without Violence**

"I laughed and I cried. The men in this film draw us into a deeply emotional experience, simply by sharing the raw stories of their lives...stories about poverty, violence and addiction, child abuse, sexuality and prejudice. But most importantly, they are all stories of the search for love – to love and to be loved. One after another, these men demonstrate a vulnerability we do not usually associate with adult men. The simple poetic honesty of their words, and the beauty of their emotional expressions challenge us to open our minds and our hearts to experiences of men and boys that we have learned to ignore and deny. Through the Men's Story Project, Jocelyn Lehrer offers us a unique window into the complexities of masculinity and its painful impacts on boys and men, girls and women. Her introduction on this film is a brilliant example of a woman

being an ally for the healing and liberation of men. In both process and content, this film helps us all recover our humanness. Witnessing these men telling their stories, we join them in the process of transformation." **-Steven Botkin, Ed.D., Executive Director, Men's Resources International**

"I have worked with men for more than 20 years, and am well aware of the need that we all have to tell our stories. I also know that there are very few spaces where we can do it safely and authentically. *Historias de Hombres* provides a moving and powerful example of men overcoming their negative socialization and their fear, and sharing openly about painful and joyful experiences in their lives. It is an inspiring model on how to conduct difficult conversations and start the journey of healing that we all need to undertake to create a better world." **-Juan Carlos Areán, Director, National Latino Network for Healthy Families and Communities**

"The Men's Story Project brings together very different men, all struggling with the similar challenge of overcoming harmful constructions of masculinity...In doing so, these courageous men explore experiences that are connected to men's socialization, including drug abuse, poor health seeking behavior, identity through sexual activity, machismo, delinquency, violence, and homophobia. In the end, each man shares his path of overcoming these challenges. They do so with humor, grace, vulnerability, pain, and honesty. These compelling men help us understand that we can overcome rigid societal gender norms. In doing so, they also remind us of what it means to be human, to know oneself, to be connected to others, to love, and be loved. **-Andrew Levack, Director, U.S. Programs, EngenderHealth**

"One of the many things I like about the Men's Story Project is that it challenges us, as men, to explore our own masculinity in new and sometimes uncomfortable ways. This is the type of project that we, as men, need in order to expand our definitions of masculinity and deepen our connections to the people in our lives." **-Emiliano C. Díaz de Leon, Men's Engagement Specialist, Texas Association against Sexual Assault**

"...Rarely has anyone the courage to produce such an important and heartfelt film with the participation of a live audience. Each narrative, from each of the men, was compelling and different, yet they came together like threads of wonder, beauty, sensitivity, doubts and strengths woven to form a cohesive and beautiful whole. Here, men tell their stories in a fashion so candid that it renders them compelling, and ultimately we can all relate to the issues they address, such as social justice, violence, health and mental health problems, and gender and sexual identity. This film is inspirational and can be used by teachers and students tackling these pressing issues or warming up for dialogues on the meaning of masculinity. The men in this film are all Latino, from Chile; they speak from a cultural perspective unique to their country of origin. Nonetheless, the struggles they narrate and solutions they found have universal appeal. As a professor of Social Work, I will certainly use this film in several classes and recommend that others do the same."

-Rogério Pinto, Associate Professor, Columbia University School of Social Work

"...A tremendous learning experience... It encourages us to recognize the struggles of so many... for justice, equality, freedom. It encourages us all – members of a social body – to realize that each of us has much to do, say, or contribute in these struggles which are sometimes invisibilized... For those of us who work in the teaching of human rights, the film makes a great contribution about how we can teach from life and not just from books. Without question, this is a terrific work which should be spread widely." **-Ximena Gauche, J.D., Professor of Human Rights, University of Concepcion, Chile**