

#JusticeforBreonnaTaylor

# HOW CAN RESHAPING OUR WORK WITH MEN BECOME THE CURE?

Quentin Walcott  
Co-Executive Director, CONNECT  
qwalcott@connectnyc.org  
connectnyc.org  
@quentinwalcott | @connect\_nyc



National Sexual Assault Conference  
BOLD MOVES  
By CALCASA  
September 4, 2020

POLL #1: YOUR WORK WITH MEN?

- A. My work is with men
- B. I'm thinking about working with men
- C. I'm curious about the topic

#JusticeforBreonnaTaylor

Q&A #1: WHERE ARE YOU RIGHT NOW?

What part of the country are you joining this call from?

## THE EXAMPLE OF CONNECT'S WORK WITH MEN AS THE CURE: MEN'S ROUNDTABLES

As a strategy and reaction to COVID-19 and the NYS Pause. CONNECT's Monthly **NYC Men's Roundtable** becomes the **Virtual Men's Roundtable**, meeting 2 times each week since 3/22/20, meeting over 40 times since.



Additionally, CONNECT has provided another series of roundtables and groups for men, male identified and GNC folks that work on the **frontlines to prevent gun violence, targeted systemic racialized violence by the police in communities of color and to distribute PPE.**

Our work with **Spanish-speaking men** who are undocumented and documented has increased under the threats of Deportation and their roles as “essential” frontline workers.

#JusticeforBreonnaTaylor

## WHY ARE WE DOING THIS WORKSHOP?



### I Just Wanna Live

Sung by @keedronbryant – 12 y/o

Written by his mom-- Johneeta Bryant-- after the murder of #GeorgeFloyd by Police Officers: #DerekChauvin #AlexanderKueng #ThomasLane #TouThao

## Q&A #2: HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

- **How are you feeling approximately 6 months into the COVID-19 Pandemic?**
- **Give us a few words that describe your emotions today, this week, etc?**
- Has your life changed? How has your work changed? If so in what way(s)?
- How has the moment impacted your spirit?

## POLL #2: HOW DIFFICULT IS IT FOR MEN TO TALK ABOUT THEIR FEELINGS?

(These are the questions that we ask the men, to begin each roundtable.)

Our principle is vulnerability is a strength and is helpful and is a clearing the leads to healing, critical focus.

- A. Extremely difficult, or not at all
- B. It's a struggle
- C. Very easy

#JusticeforBreonnaTaylor

Q & A #3: HOW ARE THE MEN'S  
ROUNDTABLE PARTICIPANTS FEELING?

## Q & A #3: HOW ARE THE MEN'S ROUNDTABLE PARTICIPANTS FEELING?

- **Anxiety**
- Frustration
- Fear
- Hopeless
- **A lack of control**
- Unprepared/prepared
- Overwhelmed
- **Hopeful**

## TAKE 3 DEEP BREATHS

- Sitting or standing, ground your feet shoulder width apart, connecting your toes like roots to the sacred ground beneath you. You are a tree. Only if you feel comfortable, close your eyes
- If you are able to, Stretch and shake your legs and arms, like a tree standing strong and resilient, as a cool summer breeze flows through the branches and leaves of a baobab tree or your favorite tree.
- Think for a moment, where does you mind, body, and soul need an healing, medicinal, refreshing and restorative breath? Imagine a sweeping wind clearing away the dust and unearthing a new fresh fertile layer and/or fills in the holes making you whole and well.

## #JusticeforBreonnaTaylor

Take 3 breaths, breathe in all that is positive, and breathe out all that is negative, toxic and not useful. Take a deep breath and hold it, guide it to that place in your mind that is needing to be lifted, cleared and closed, and then when you breathe out, breathe out all the toxins and negative thoughts that only hold you back, that weights you down.

Take another breathe, again guiding that fresh breath of air through your veins like a cleansing, & medicinal rain drop that splashes fresh water on the parts of your body that need healing, a jolt of energy, or needs to settle, to slow you down, ground you further with the earth, extending your toes deeper the soil. Again breathing out all the toxins and away from your body; breathe away all that that harms you, and leaving only that splash of water that restores and repairs your body.

With this last breath, breathe a blanket of oxygen right to the part of your soul that needs soothing. This breath is like the chlorophyll generated from the SUN, that transforms trees and plants and allows it to create anything that they are lacking that prohibits it and provides what is needed to grow and flourish. Let this last breath be the the thing that allows your soul to sing and be in harmony with your mind body and soul.

This is the breathe that transforms the air around you allowing all of us to breathe, to be healthy, well and whole. You are a tree.—qhn

#JusticeforBreonnaTaylor

## QUESTION 4: WHO IS BURDENED BY THIS MOMENT?

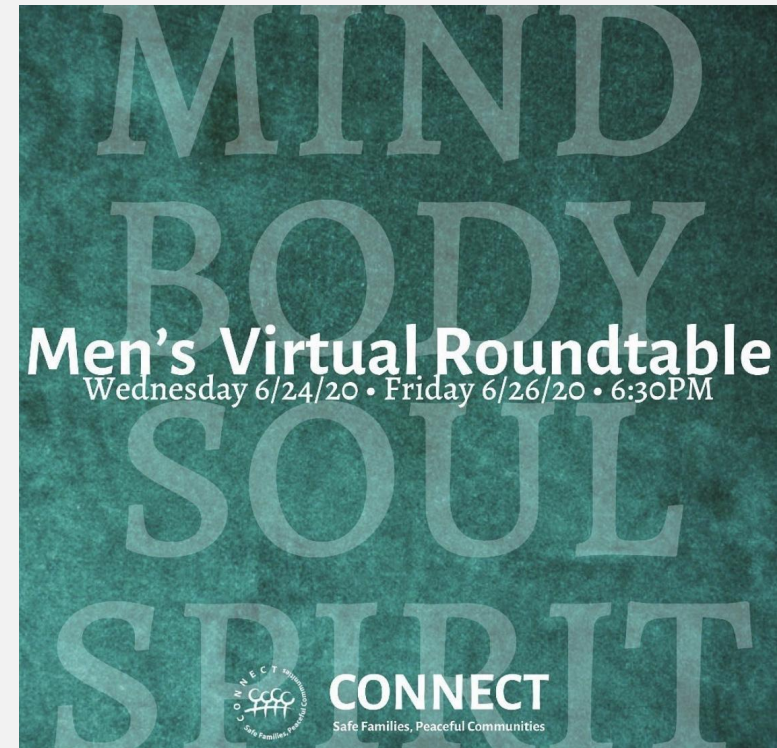
What is, or is the potential harm done in this moment?

## QUESTION #5: THE REIMAGINING

- Now for a moment what will life will be like on other side of COVID-19?
- Are we in the new normal? vs.
- are we returning to the status quo? Vs.
- **A reimagining of who we are as individuals, relationships, families and leadership?**

#JusticeforBreonnaTaylor

## CONNECT MEN'S ROUNDTABLES



#JusticeforBreonnaTaylor

# CONNECT MEN

## VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE



### #ICANTBREATHE, Again!

Wednesday, June 3 & Friday, June 5, 2020

6:30 p.m. on Zoom

Join 1 of our 2 Weekly Roundtables



Dai Sugano/The Mercury News/East Bay Times

What is it going to take to stop using the same hashtags?  
How do we live?

Brothers, it's okay not to feel okay right now! We are living within two pandemics: systemic violence and COVID-19.

Let's build on how we feel, breathe, heal and LIVE!

RSVP to Quentin Walcott at  
[qwalcott@connectnyc.org](mailto:qwalcott@connectnyc.org)  
for Zoom meeting info

# CONNECT MEN

## VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLES



### #ICANTBREATHE, Again!

Friday, May 29, 2020

6:30 p.m. on Zoom



What is it going to take to stop using the same hashtags?  
How do we live?

Brothers, it's okay not to feel okay right now! We are living within two pandemics: systemic violence and COVID-19.

Let's build on how we feel, breathe, heal and LIVE!

RSVP to Quentin Walcott at  
[qwalcott@connectnyc.org](mailto:qwalcott@connectnyc.org)  
for Zoom meeting info

#JusticeforBreonnaTaylor

## CONNECT MEN VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE



### Maintaining Peace in a Time of Crisis

Thursday, March 26, 2020  
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. on Zoom



RSVP  
to Quentin Walcott at  
[qwalcott@connectnyc.org](mailto:qwalcott@connectnyc.org)  
for Zoom meeting info

## CONNECT MEN VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLES



### Manhood & Fatherhood during COVID-19 Crisis

*Join us for 1 of our 2 roundtables:  
Wednesday April 1 & Friday, April 3, 2020  
6:30 p.m. on Zoom*



Has living in the times of the  
COVID-19 crisis changed what  
manhood and fatherhood is?  
Should it? In what ways has it?

RSVP  
to Quentin Walcott at  
[qwalcott@connectnyc.org](mailto:qwalcott@connectnyc.org)  
for Zoom meeting info

#JusticeforBreonnaTaylor

# CONNECT MEN

## VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLES



### Finding Hope in the Age of COVID-19

Join us for 1 of our 2 roundtables:  
Wednesday, May 13 & Friday, May 15, 2020  
6:30 p.m. on Zoom



COVID-19 is impacting our public and private health, as well as worsening everyday issues we're already experiencing. It's fine to feel the way you are now—anxious, fearful, not in control, and more. It's also okay to be hopeful. Let's explore how to find hope in this moment.

RSVP to Quentin Walcott at  
[qwalcott@connectnyc.org](mailto:qwalcott@connectnyc.org)  
for Zoom meeting info

# CONNECT MEN

## VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLES



### Is This Moment We're in a Rite of Passage?

Join us for 1 of our 2 roundtables:  
Wednesday, May 20 & Friday, May 22, 2020  
6:30 p.m. on Zoom



What will we face on the other side of this? We need to react to the current situation, be proactive, and determine how we move forward.

Let's start planning now to redefine ourselves and our communities, because what we had before this time has led us to this point.

RSVP to Quentin Walcott at  
[qwalcott@connectnyc.org](mailto:qwalcott@connectnyc.org)  
for Zoom meeting info

# CONNECT MEN

## VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE



**Fatherhood, Manhood & Masculinity  
Under COVID-19 & Systemic Racism**

*Wednesday, June 10 & Friday, June 12, 2020*

*6:30 p.m. on Zoom*

*Join 1 of our 2 Weekly Roundtables*



What are the examples and  
conversations we have with our  
youth in this moment?

RSVP to Quentin Walcott at  
[connectmen@connectnyc.org](mailto:connectmen@connectnyc.org)  
for Zoom meeting info

# Men's Roundtable

Fridays in August • 6:30PM • Zoom

## THE VENT



What are the issues most  
concerning you right now,  
and about the future?



**CONNECT**

Safe Families, Peaceful Communities

#JusticeforBreonnaTaylor

# CONNECT MEN

## VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLES

### Disproportionate COVID-19 Effect on People of Color and Black Men

Join us for 1 of our 2 roundtables:  
Wednesday, April 15 & Friday, April 17, 2020  
6:30 p.m. on Zoom



The face of COVID-19 in the U.S is People of Color, and Black Men are especially vulnerable. Health disparities & structural racism are the Virus. How do we become the Cure?

RSVP to Quentin Walcott at [qwalcott@connectnyc.org](mailto:qwalcott@connectnyc.org) for Zoom meeting info

# CONNECT MEN

## VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLES

### Men's Health During COVID-19 Crisis

Join us for 1 of our 2 roundtables:  
Wednesday, April 8 & Friday, April 10, 2020  
6:30 p.m. on Zoom



How has the COVID-19 crisis affected your health? Are you taking care of your health? Why or why not? If so, in what ways?

RSVP to Quentin Walcott at [qwalcott@connectnyc.org](mailto:qwalcott@connectnyc.org) for Zoom meeting info

TESTIMONY FROM THE BROTHERS  
THEMSELVES:

“...led another amazing virtual men’s round table for Black men to express our feelings as we experience this global pandemic. Not our thoughts. Our FEELINGS. There’s a big difference and “Q” successfully frames these conversations in a way that we have to confront what’s going on inside emotionally, not intellectually. This is the path toward healthy manhood and I’m grateful...Great to be in the same virtual “room” with my brothers **Kevin Powell** and **Juan Ramos** among the other powerful brothers who brought their authenticity to the space. “

*--Byron Hurt, Anti-violence activist & Filmmaker @byronhurt*

#JusticeforBreonnaTaylor

## POWERFUL TESTIMONY FROM, BYRON HURT ON THE ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

**“...It is helpful to all of us, and I can say for myself that I benefit from listening to other Black men who are at various stages of emotional development, and who are battling a variety of personal issues that they want to overcome. Black men, if you can hear me, we have to release our emotions, otherwise we will do harm to ourselves and to other people in our lives. I have so much love for us Black men, Black women, and our Black LGBTQ siblings as well, and I want better for us collectively, as a people.** I wish that we could finally put aside all petty social and political differences to form like Vultron and come together to defeat Donald Trump this November, because ultimately, his administration is causing harm to both genders of our race, as well as non binary members of our community, albeit in very different ways. I hate, with a passion, to see us being mistreated, demeaned, despised, and harmed in any way by this evil power structure that means us no good. Let's come together as Black men and Black women over the next 81 days and lean into this election to reduce the harm being done to our communities.” **Love** y'all. Peace

#JusticeforBreonnaTaylor

## POWERFUL TESTIMONY FROM, BYRON HURT ON THE ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

“I got teary-eyed several times tonight during a men's roundtable discussion...via Zoom. Brothers were on the call really expressing their feelings about this current social and political climate, and were really thoughtful in their comments. The vast majority of brothers talked about the need for us to stand in support of Kamala Harris during the last leg of this election, and also talked about the need for us to stand up for Black women in general, **and stop with the misogynoir that we engage in, publicly and privately. Sistahs, I want you to know that there are Black men out here who are interrogating misogynoir, and challenging other brothers to stop attacking Black and Brown women, especially when so many Black and Brown women are risking their lives, and freedom, on the front lines advocating on behalf of Black men, in addition to Black women...**”

#JusticeforBreonnaTaylor

MEN'S ROUNDTABLE PARTICIPANT  
--EMANOEL CERESS, OF RECIFE, BRASIL



## QUESTION: WHAT IS THE WORK TO BE DONE?

- And what work is needed to be different on the otherside of this moment?
- **What will it take to reach this reimagining, a liberation of sorts?**
- What will this place look, feel and smell like?
- What I think is important: Justice, accountability and prevention

## PARENTHOOD IS THE NEW FATHERHOOD: A REIMAGINING?



A lot of young men, particularly young black men hit me up being like

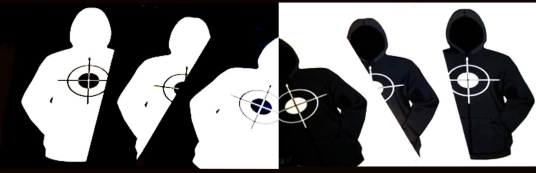
## THOUGHTS ON COVID-19

During 2020, COVID-19 has challenged everyone and everything, Everywhere.

**CONNECT NYC MEN'S ROUNDTABLE**  
(for Men who work with Men & Boys)

Join us for the 1st of a 2 part series...

**TARGETING YOUNG MEN & BOYS:**  
Life & Death in NYC Streets



Who do our **YOUNG MEN** turn to when they are **TARGETS** of: police brutality...stop and frisk... zero tolerance policies...the cradle to prison pipeline?  
Are young women and girls targeted too?  
Have adult **MEN** failed our youth? How do we **reconnect** to our youth?  
How do **MEN** change the stories & paths of youth?

**Thurs, 3.28.2013 @ 6:30pm**  
CONNECT--> 127 W 127th St, Rm 432  
(btwn Malcolm X & Adam Clayton Powell Blvds)  
Harlem, NY 10027  
(2,3 trains to 125th St)

WARNING: DISCUSSION MAY BE VIDEOTAPE!

INFO/RSVP Req'd: [qwalcott@connectnyc.org](mailto:qwalcott@connectnyc.org) or @quentinwalcott

**CONNECT NYC MEN'S ROUNDTABLE**  
(for Men who work with Men & Boys)

In honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the many people committed to living nonviolent lives, at this month's Men's Roundtable we pose the question,

**"Is NONVIOLENCE the answer to Male Violence in our communities?"**

What would nonviolence look like in our communities, families and intimate relationships?  
How do we move from a culture of violence to nonviolence?

**Thurs. Jan. 31, 2013 @ 6:30p-8:30p**

**CONNECT**  
127 W 127th St, Rm 432  
b/t Malcolm X & Adam Clayton Powell Blvds  
Harlem, NY 10027  
All trains/buses to 125th St (2,3 trains closest)  
for info/rsvp: [qwalcott@connectnyc.org](mailto:qwalcott@connectnyc.org)

A 2013 NYC Peace Week Event

**04.26.2012 THURSDAY @ CONNECT**

FACILITATED BY  
QUENTIN WALCOTT  
6.30 PM / FREE  
3 W 29TH ST/FL9  
MANHATTAN.NYC



healthy refreshments


**RSVP REQUIRED**  
212.683.0015/X225  
[qwalcott@connectnyc.org](mailto:qwalcott@connectnyc.org)  
[connectnyc.org](http://connectnyc.org)

**NYC MEN'S ROUNDTABLE**  
FOR MEN WHO WORK WITH MEN & BOYS

**MEN'S HEALTH & WELLNESS**  
**PART II - SOLUTIONS**  
**VICARIOUS TRAUMA & COMPASSION FATIGUE:**  
the effect of work with Men & Boys and what YOU can do to be well and work effectively.

**CONNECT NYC MEN'S ROUNDTABLE**  
(for Men who work with Men & Boys)

Join us for **PART II** of  
**TARGETING YOUNG MEN & BOYS:**  
Changing the paths of our youth...Men reconnecting, restoring, re-shaping our collective narratives...removing the targets off our backs.



**Thurs, 4.25.2013 @ 6:30pm**  
CONNECT--> 127 W 127th St, Rm 432  
(btwn Malcolm X & Adam Clayton Powell Blvds)  
Harlem, NY 10027  
(2,3 trains to 125th St)

WARNING: DISCUSSION MAY BE VIDEOTAPE!

INFO/RSVP Req'd: [qwalcott@connectnyc.org](mailto:qwalcott@connectnyc.org) or @quentinwalcott

# NYC MEN'S ROUNDTABLE

[www.connectnyc.org](http://www.connectnyc.org) | @CONNECT\_NYC



**SAVE THE DATE | JUNE 13, 2013 | 12PM  
4TH ANNUAL FATHER'S DAY PLEDGE  
CITY HALL STEPS | NEW YORK CITY**

# CALLING ON 10,000 FATHERS & MEN

**TO TAKE THE PLEDGE TO END VIOLENCE  
IN OUR HOMES AND COMMUNITIES!**

**JOIN US AND TAKE THE PLEDGE! LET'S WORK TO END AND PREVENT  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE  
COMMUNITY VIOLENCE**

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND**



**Raising  
Great  
Men**

**St. Nick's Alliance**  
where spirituality meets



**DADis  
aVERB**

Please contact QUENTIN WALCOTT: [qwalcott@connectnyc.org](mailto:qwalcott@connectnyc.org) for more info or to inquire about co-sponsorship



ANNUAL FATHER'S DAY PLEDGE  
10,000 FATHER'S & MEN  
55 CITIES  
3 COUNTRIES



SIGN THE VIRTUAL FATHER'S DAY PLEDGE AGAINST  
VIOLENCE  
AT [FATHERSDAYPELDGE.ORG](http://FATHERSDAYPELDGE.ORG)

## WHAT IS ACCOUNTABILITY W/ COMPASSION?

A commitment to:

- Recognizing how power and privilege affects individual behavior, daily interactions, and societal norms and structures
- Taking responsibility to challenge harmful societal patterns and internalized attitudes in order to bring about social change
- Honoring the experiences and realities of those in less powerful groups

Accountability requires **self-awareness** and a commitment to **individual action**

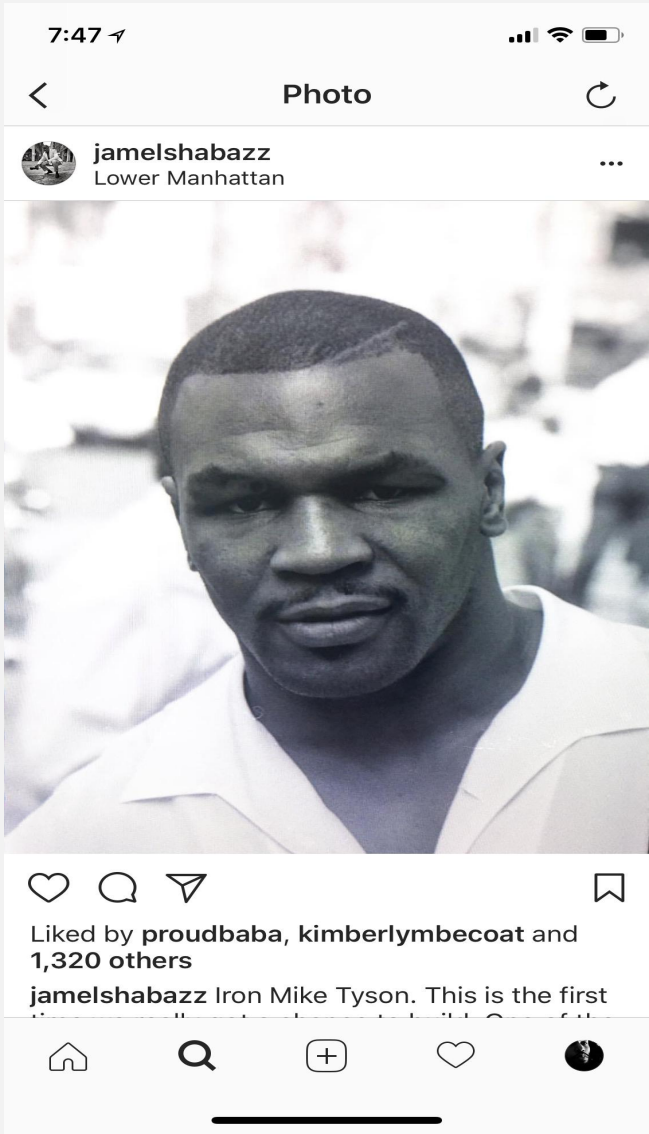
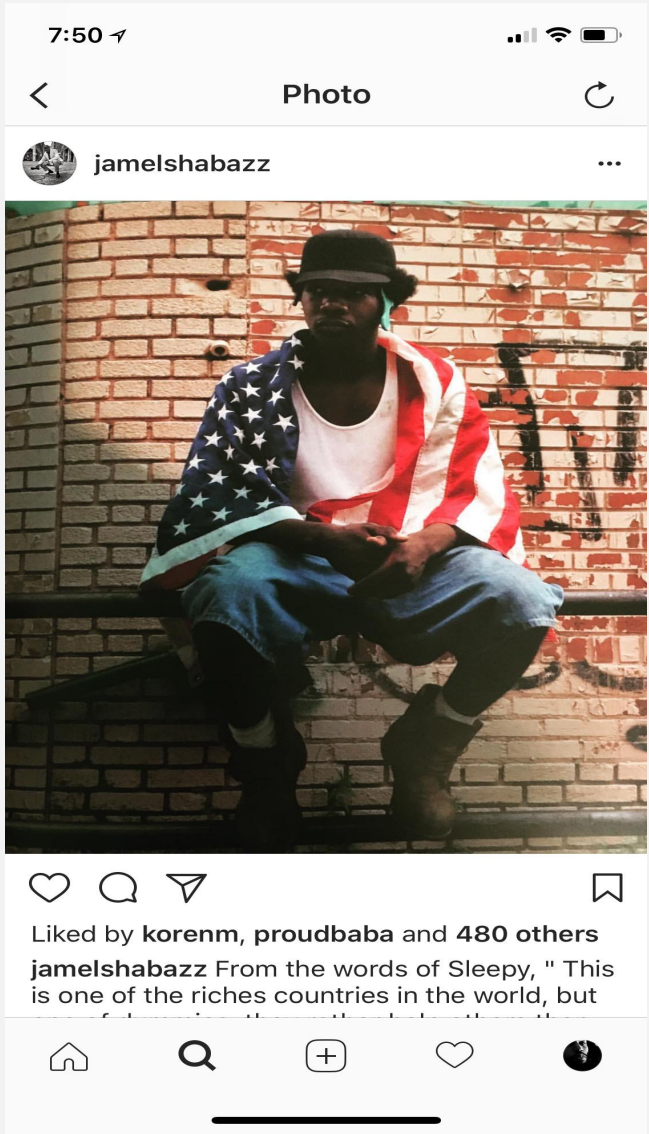
# MASCULINITY

Masculinity (manhood or manliness) is a set of attributes, behaviors, and roles associated with boys and men. As a social construct, it is distinct from the definition of the male biological sex.<sup>[1][2]</sup> Standards of manliness or masculinity vary across different cultures and historical periods.<sup>[3]</sup> Both males and females can exhibit masculine traits and behavior.<sup>[4]</sup>

## WEARING MASKS

Masculinity is an attitude, a mask that is displayed. Mainstream society dictates the consequences for not displaying stereotypical forms of masculinity

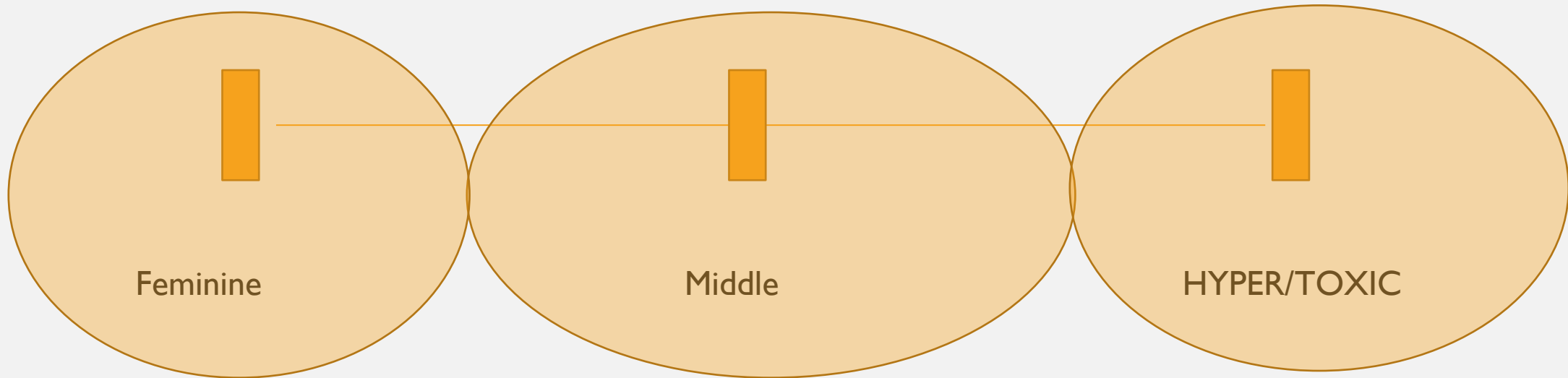
Traits traditionally viewed as masculine in Western society include courage, independence, violence,<sup>[5]</sup> and assertiveness.<sup>[6][7][8]</sup> Machismo is a form of masculinity that emphasizes masculinity and power and is often associated with a disregard for consequences and responsibility.<sup>[9]</sup>





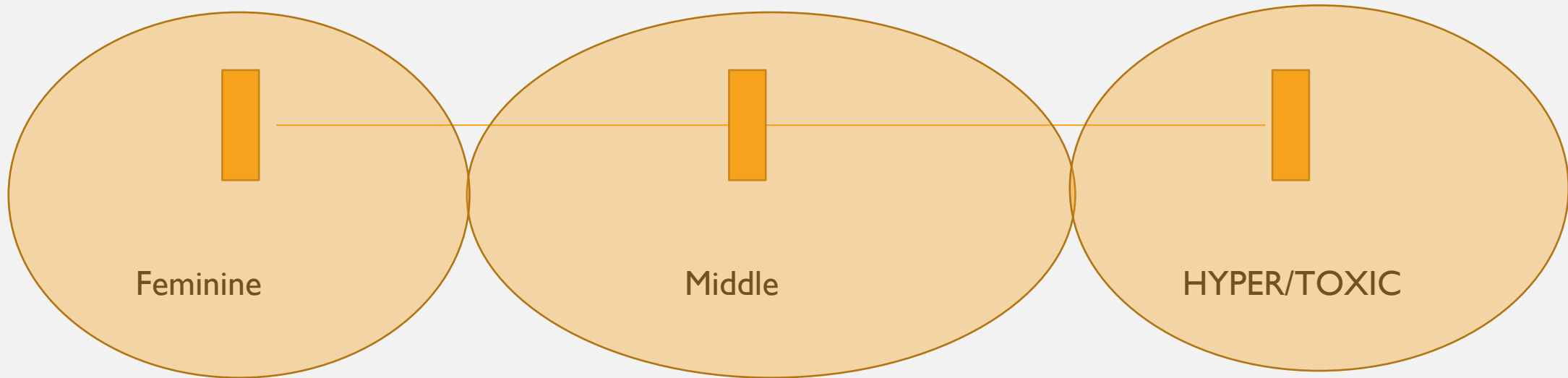


## SCALE: RANGE OF MASCULINITY



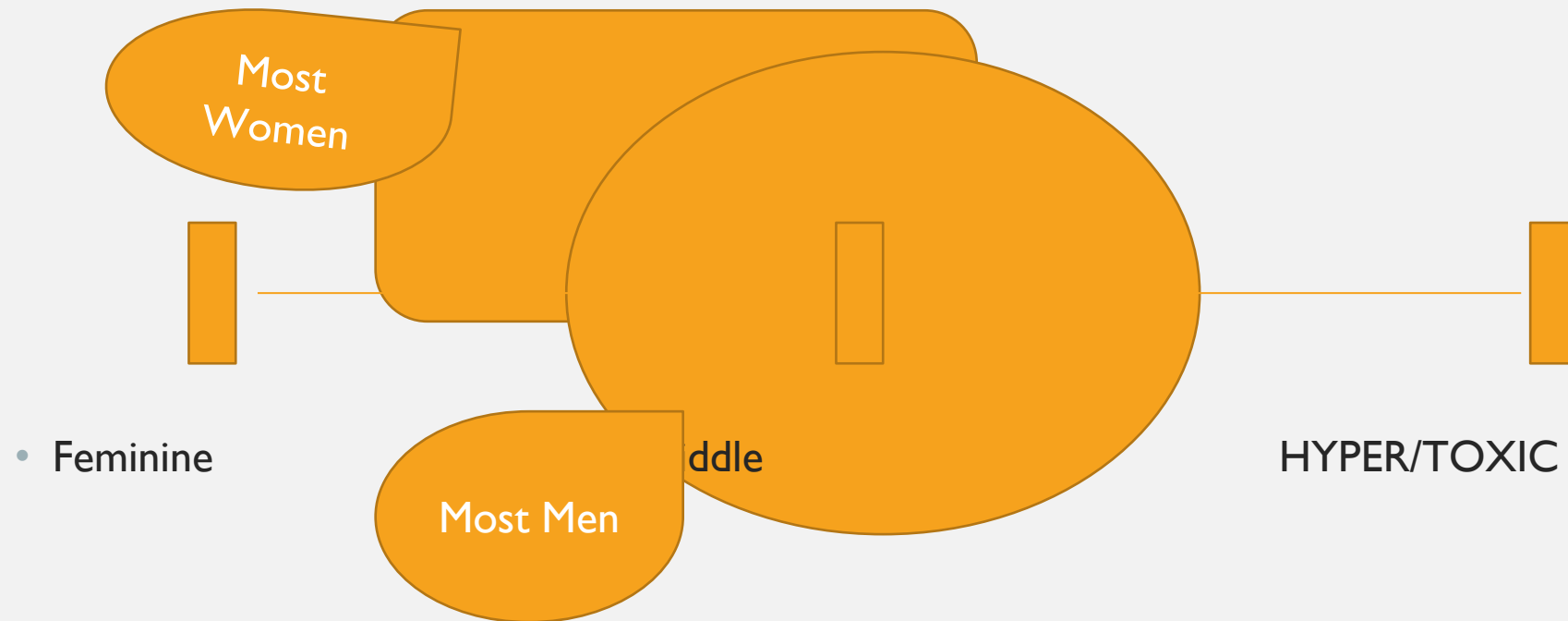
Poll #: Where do you see yourself on this scale?

## SCALE: RANGE OF MASCULINITY

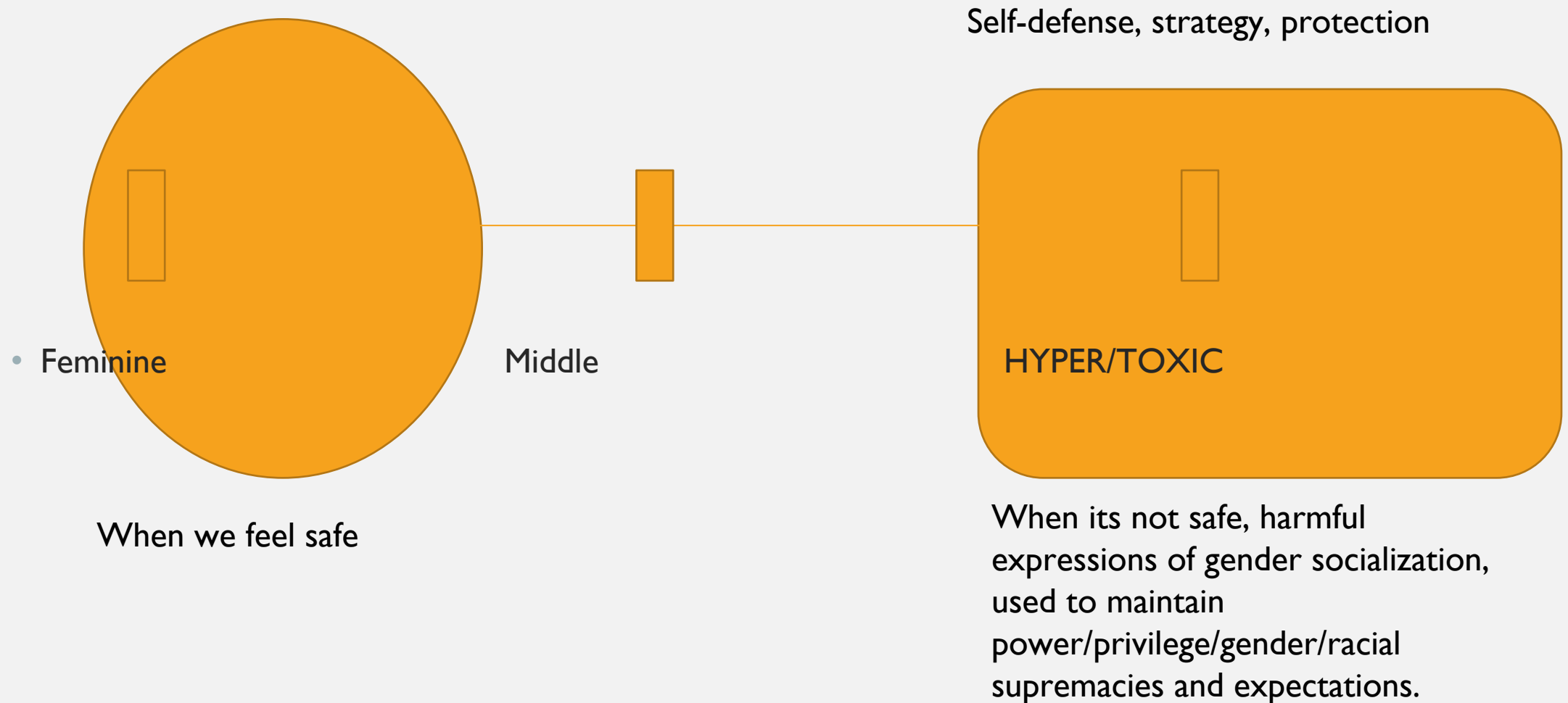


Poll #: Where do people see you on this scale?

## SCALE: RANGE OF MASCULINITY(MASCULINITIES)



## SCALE: RANGE OF MASCULINITY(MASCULINITIES)



## MASCULINITY MASKS:

- Black Masculinity different than White masculinity?
- What are the pros and cons, and to what cost to you and others?
  - Where are the places where masculinity clashes with other forms of masculinity (people)?
  - Hyper/violent/toxic
    - Financial, power, race, class, sexual orientation
- How does it show up?
  - How do you see yourself?
  - How do others see you (how much is that your masculinity)?
  - Examples of range of masculinity in your life/community
  - When was there an example of when you didn't live up to a certain standard of masculinity?

# COLLUSION

- Don't collude with abusive thinking and behavior!
- What are the ways that we collude with the status quo-- Masculinities (gender roles/socialization attitudes and belief systems) that contribute to violence?
- What happens when we do?
- Once we do we lose...your credibility becomes challenged (and you will be tested)
- Without a strong analysis of power, privilege, and safety concerns, male engagement activities run the risk of **inadvertently recreating/reinforce the very dynamics they seek to transform**

- CONNECT is dedicated to preventing interpersonal violence and promoting gender justice. By building partnerships with individuals and communities, we strive to help change the beliefs, behaviors and institutions that perpetuate violence. Through legal empowerment, grassroots mobilization and transformative education, we seek to create safe families and peaceful communities.

## CONNECT'S MISSION

[www.connectnyc.org](http://www.connectnyc.org) @CONNECT\_NYC

- **CONNECT's work with men serves a dual purpose.**
  - Firstly, CONNECT has created a strategy to keep women and children safe by doing prevention and intervention work with abusive men, bystanders and male youth.
  - Secondly, CONNECT is helping men recognize and transform their attitudes and belief systems that manifest in abusive behavior.

**CONNECT'S WORK WITH MEN**

- **CONNECT *Men*:**
  - Men play a pivotal role in eliminating family and gender violence, particularly when men commit 85 - 90% of the reported cases of domestic violence. A vital element of CONNECT's work is developing strategies that hold abusive men accountable for the abusive attitudes and behavior.
  - CONNECT has built a solid foundation of successful men's programming designed to transform male abusers and silent bystanders into allies and activists to end male violence against women, children and other men.

**TRANSFORMING MEN FROM:  
BYSTANDERS TO ALLIES TO ACTIVISTS**

- ## CONNECTMen

*Our goal is to develop a team of men who ally with women, reach out to other men and children in their respective communities, and develop prevention and early responses to male and gender violence.*

- CONNECT provides technical assistance and capacity building for organizations to develop programs for men, fathers and youth:
  - Community based institutions and organizations
    - Faith based (CONNECT Faith)
    - Colleges, High Schools, Middle Schools
    - Human service organizations
      - Child welfare
      - Head starts
      - Father Involvement/engagement
  - Workplaces & unions
  - Grassroots organizations
  - Social Justice Organizations
  - Veterans
  - Reentry
  - Youth Programs

**MEETING MEN & BOYS WHERE THEY  
ARE...**

- **CONNECT*Men***

Male Anti-Violence Initiatives:

- Monthly Men's Roundtable
- Hombres Dialogando (Men Dialoging)
  - Peer Education for Spanish Speaking Men and Fathers
- Manhood Development for Young Males
- Understanding Men Who Batter & Abuse - course
- Working with abusive Fathers, Men & Young Men- course
- Community Modeled Batters Programs/Restorative Justice/Alternative to Incarceration
- Men & Women as Allies

**CONNECTMEN: *INITIATIVES***

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

#JusticeforBreonnaTaylor

THANK YOU!  
--Q

HOW CAN  
RESHAPING OUR  
WORK WITH MEN  
BECOME THE CURE?

Quentin Walcott  
Co-Executive Director, CONNECT  
qwalcott@connectnyc.org  
connectnyc.org  
@quentinwalcott | @connect\_nyc



National Sexual Assault Conference  
BOLD MOVES  
By CALCASA  
September 4, 2020