

Men – Why Bother?

The Boston Globe ran an article entitled, “Missing Men” which peaked interest greatly. It began by reviewing the historical account of government efforts focused on the “deserving poor” – the most vulnerable ... the disabled, the elderly, widows and children . . . and how this relates to “missing men.”

Care Net has sought to do just that - for more than two decades – we’ve reached out to our “modern day” cultural orphans and widows, often impoverished as well. But our hearts also beat stronger every day for the men in the unplanned pregnancy equation, and for young men confused by what our culture and media defines as “a real man.”

The Globe article goes on to point out having a poor parent (of either gender) is hard on children, yet having an uninvolved, and often incarcerated, parent is worse. Add to the mix economic/job difficulties, unplanned pregnancy, broken relationships ...and a banner that has been waved high in the faces of men that diminishes their value in the decision-making process – and you have a recipe for disaster.

In the consulting room we often hear (and studies have shown) how men can strongly influence a woman’s decision regarding abortion. Two of the most common reasons women choose abortion are directly related: “husband/boyfriend pressure” and “husband/boyfriend unsupportive.” If he virtually remains silent or worse yet - ignores her, it is often perceived as a powerful negative message. She may be thinking that he’s communicating, “It’s your problem” – when her partner’s view of the situation could be quite different. Or take, “I’ll support you in whatever you decide.” It can be perceived by the woman as “he wants me to have an abortion” ...when in actuality he may be saying what he only believes is “right” - reflecting the mantra so frequently purported - “it’s a woman’s choice ... it’s her body. I have no say.”

While our ministry has always strived to be “father friendly” and welcoming of partners, we are gearing up to go way beyond that. It’s not news to any that the high cost of fatherlessness in our culture today is profoundly affecting the children. By serving men we are seeking to promote responsible fatherhood which calls men to act like the true definition of men - becoming humble servants, courageous providers and caregivers.

If Godly men will lead the way at our Center (Care Net provides training for male consultants), an opportunity lies within our walls to touch the lives of men in crisis – those who may never darken the doors of the local church! Your volunteer time can change and save lives both now and for generations to come. Spiritual transformation lies at the heart of all we do and who we are as a ministry ... will you join us?