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WOMEN'S TRANSITIONAL LIVING CENTER PRESENTS SCREENING AND DISCUSSION OF SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL'S "THE MASK YOU LIVE IN"

Film explores notions of masculinity that are instilled in American boys

FULLERTON, California, March XX, 2020 – Nonprofit Women's Transitional Living Center, Inc. (WTLC) invites the public to a complimentary screening of "The Mask You Live In," a powerful 2015 Sundance Film Festival entry that explores how our culture's narrow definition of masculinity is harming our boys, men and society at large and unveils what we can do about it.

"Is our society failing our boys? That's the essential question explored in this powerful film about how notions of masculinity are instilled in American boys," said WTLC's Chief Executive Officer Mark Lee said. "We encourage everyone to see this informative film and participate in the discussion."

The film and discussion will take place from 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM on Thursday, April 23, 2020 at the Frida Cinema located at 305 East 4th Street #100 in Santa Ana.

To register, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-mask-you-live-in-film-viewing-discussion-tickets-97631246687>

Writer-director-producer Jennifer Siebel Newsom draws on research showing that compared to girls, boys in the U.S. are more likely to be diagnosed with a behavior disorder, prescribed stimulant medications, fail out of school, binge drink, commit a violent crime or take their own lives. Part of that can be attributed to the incessant drumming into their minds damaging ideas about masculinity.

"The Mask You Live In" follows boys and young men as they struggle to stay true to themselves while negotiating America's limited definition of masculinity. Pressured by the media, their peer groups and even the adults in their lives, the protagonists confront messages encouraging them to disconnect from their emotions, devalue authentic friendships, objectify women and resolve conflicts through violence. These gender stereotypes interconnect with race, class and circumstance, creating a maze of identity issues boys and young men must navigate to become "real" men.

Experts in neuroscience, psychology, sociology, sports, education and media also weigh in, offering empirical evidence of the "boy crisis" and tactics to combat it. The film ultimately illustrates how we, as a society, can raise a healthier generation of boys and young men.

About Women's Transitional Living Center, Inc. (WTLC)

WTLC is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping individuals and families escape the depths of domestic violence and exploitation by providing the tools and resources to build self-esteem and empower people for independent living. If you or someone you know is experiencing abuse, contact our 24-hour bilingual helpline at (877) 531-5522 or love@wtlc.org. For more information about WTLC, visit www.wtlc.org