



***Rites of Passage: Mentoring the Future* Fact Sheet**

Warrior Films (<http://www.warriorfilms.org/>) is an Oakland-based nonprofit organization that bears witness to social realities, inspiring citizens worldwide to create needed social change through filmmaking and teaching. Frederick Marx, an Oscar and Emmy-nominated producer and director, founded Warrior Films in 2003. The nonprofit is currently spearheading a social movement supported by a documentary film – Rites of Passage (<http://www.warriorfilms.org/rites-of-passage/>) – that aims to support the world’s young people by helping them receive positive and healthy rites of passage and mentorship into adulthood. Below is more information about the organization’s new documentary film and how it will deliver a profound social impact throughout the world:

Rites of Passage Documentary Film (In Production):

- *Rites of Passage: Mentoring the Future* (working title) is a 90-minute feature length documentary that will do for rites of passage what *Inconvenient Truth* did for global warming – bring it out of the underground into the mainstream.
- The documentary film is slated for release in 2016.
- It will show how all major cultures and religions have had their own rites of passage throughout history and the price we pay now as a society by not initiating our teens.
- It will feature communities that are answering the call by co-creating their own functional rites of passage today.
- The film will also feature real families who’ve been struck by the horrors and crimes of youth, and how they’re repairing themselves and their neighborhoods.
- Finally, it will show teens who’ve been transformed by healthy rites of passage and how their metamorphosis has revolutionized their relations with family and friends, teachers and bosses – creating positive changes rippling through homes, schools, neighborhoods, workplaces, cities and farms around the world
- This film will create a launch pad for a movement that begins when the lights come up for communities’ to begin co-creating programs for their own youth.
- The goal of the movement is nothing less than to see that youth around the world are initiated and mentored into adulthood.



Here is the link to view the short film: <https://vimeo.com/121863921>

If we do not initiate the young they will burn down the village to feel the heat.

- African Proverb

How will the Film and Movement Impact Society?

The Problem

- An estimated \$500 billion is spent yearly on teen dysfunctions in the United States alone: drug and alcohol abuse, teen pregnancy and STDs, school dropouts and expulsions, gang and property crimes, traffic accidents, ADD, ADHD, depression and violence.
- Why do teens do this? It's because they're unconsciously pushing up against the confines of their own bodies, the rules of parents and society, and the capacity of their own minds and willpower to discover the true limits of their potential. They need to be initiated into adulthood.

The Solution – Rites of Passage: Mentoring the Future

- This game-changing film will not be dependent on traditional forms of commercial distribution to reach its audience and deliver a profound social impact.
- Rites of Passage organizations worldwide: public and private schools, youth development organizations like Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Boy Scouts, YMCAs, Boys & Girls Clubs and many more will become outreach partners.
- Currently, the [Rites of Passage short film](https://vimeo.com/121863921) is accessible to anyone at this address <https://vimeo.com/121863921>. Every outreach film screening is followed by a facilitated discussion motivating people to co-create rites of passage for their own young people in their community, transforming each audience into activated citizenry.
- Warrior Films has developed different Rites of Passage curricula for parents, teens, community groups, high schools, therapists, faith-based groups and more, all to advance this social movement. All are available for free!

Click here to view FAQs about the Rites of Passage social movement:

<http://www.warriorfilms.org/rites-of-passage-qa>