Hosting A Movie Awareness Event

# “ReMoved” and “Remember My Story”

Download licenses are not needed for a church audience

Event Duration: Approximately 1 hour. This event can take place during a normal small group meeting time,

as an evening event with dessert, or after church at a luncheon.

Content: A low-threshold event, invite people to view this movie short, “ReMoved” (13 minutes ), followed by

the sequel, “Remember My Story” (23 minutes). The “ReMoved” shorts follow the emotional journey of a nineyear

old girl who is taken from her abusive birth home and placed into the tumultuous foster care system.

Venue: May be held at your church or a host home.

How: Have an emcee host the event, introducing the first film, then in between, the emcee can connect the

first with the second.

Close the event with a panel of 3-4 people sharing a short testimony of their experience with foster care. This

panel could include foster parents, possibly a foster child, a former foster child, a CASA volunteer...

Or, choose to close with discussion questions, which can be utilized in small groups or in a large group

discussion. Assign table leaders to facilitate discussion if you decide to utilize small group discussion.

The emcee may conclude with sharing briefly on volunteer opportunities, an upcoming Foster Care Info

Session, and roles available on your Advocate Team.

Technical Requirements: A laptop and projector with audio capability.

Be sure to have volunteers fill out a LTP Volunteer Response Card for follow-up. Point participants to

the next planned Volunteer Orientation. (This will have already been planned for 2-6 weeks after the Movie

Awareness Event.)

“ReMoved” Discussion Questions

1. Do you think you could be as calm as the foster mom in the face of such anger and misbehavior?

2. Do you know what it is called when Zoe recalls a bad memory and has a negative reaction to the new dress

she’s given?

This is called a ”trigger.” Share and discuss how foster children often have unpredictable triggers and these

moments of seeming overreaction must be carefully handled with grace.

3. Which person in the film can you most relate to?

4. What impacted you most about this story?

“Remember My Story” Discussion Questions

1. How might a volunteer have possibly made a difference in the outcome of Zoe’s mom - not having her

rights terminated?

If someone had come alongside the birth mother, they may have been able to mentor the birth mother in

healthy parenting skills and help her understand what the court needed from her in order to be deemed a “fit”

parent. (This is a possibility IF the birth mother is open to assistance – mention that some are not!)

Another possibility for helping would be if a Care Community had come around the foster family and one or

two volunteers really helped to mentor Zoe. This would have given Zoe a stronger sense of belonging and

possibly relieved some pressure between Zoe and the foster mom.

2. What did you think of the mom’s response when Zoe lashed out at her?

She didn’t react or take it personally (or at least didn’t show it to Zoe). She took her time and asked a lot of

questions instead of lecturing her or telling Zoe what was “wrong with her.” She didn’t dismiss her or give up

on her, even though Zoe seemed to be rejecting her.

3. Do you think this is a realistic portrayal of foster care? Are children from the same family separated from

their siblings, experience their parent’s rights terminated, and adopted each at different times?

Unfortunately, this does often happen! Sibling groups are hurtfully split up, children’s rights are often not

terminated at the same time, allowing one child to be adopted separately from the other(s). You may share

that we try to find families that will accept sibling groups so that children can stay together during their stay in

foster care.

“A Modern Day Orphan”

This DVD may be ordered through “Focus on the Family” for $5.

Event Duration: Approximately 60 minutes long. This event can take place during a normal small group time,

as an evening event with dessert, or after church at a luncheon event.

Content: This documentary is only appropriate for viewers 14 years and older. Very detailed and painful

accounts of foster children’s trauma are discussed at length. This film explores the viewpoints of DHS

(Department of Human Services), adoptive parents, and children who have been adopted from foster care.

Venue: May be held at your church or a host home.

How: Have an emcee host the event, introduce the film and explain the title. In general, we do not call foster

children “orphans.” However, the title makes a point that children in foster care whose parents have had their

rights terminated are truly “orphans,” waiting to be adopted. These foster children truly are without the shelter

and protection of parents, albeit temporarily.

You may close the event with discussion questions, which can be utilized in small groups or in a large group

discussion. Assign table leaders to facilitate discussion if you decide to utilize small group discussion. The

emcee may conclude with sharing briefly about volunteer opportunities, an upcoming Foster Care Info Session

and roles available on your Advocate Team.

Technical Requirements: A laptop with DVD capability and projector with audio capability. Or an AV system

with DVD and audio.

Be sure to have volunteers fill out a LTP Volunteer Response Card for follow-up. Point participants to the

next planned Volunteer Orientation or Info Session. (These will have already been planned for 2-6 weeks after

the Movie Awareness Event.)

“Modern Day Orphan” Discussion Questions

1. What is implied in the statement by the DFCS worker that “government isn’t family?”

2. Do you think it’s a common occurrence that older siblings parent younger siblings?

Yes, this is quite common. Once children are in care, efforts are made to allow the child “caregiver” to be age

appropriately a child again.

3. How did it make you feel when the foster child who was riding in the police car said she just wanted to say

good-bye to her mom?

4. What do you think about the adoptive mom who said that she could handle heartache because of the

horrific heartache her child had experienced?

“The Dropbox”

Available at Amazon.com or “Focus On The Family”– license to show must be purchased

Please note this movie is mostly subtitled and harder for young children to follow. Also, for a large

audience, “big screen” showing is essential so that all viewers can read the subtitles.

Event Duration: The film is 77 minutes long, plan for a duration of up to 2 hours.

Hosting A Movie Awareness Event continued

Content: This documentary tells the true story of South Korean pastor Lee Jong-rak and his heroic efforts to

protect and embrace abandoned children. It is a story about the forgotten, the disabled, the discarded, and a

man and his wife who give everything to help them thrive.

Venue: Can be held at your church or a host home.

How: Secure an emcee for the event who will welcome everyone and introduce the film. Announce that

attendees may write any questions they have on index cards to be submitted to a panel discussion following

the film. At the close of the film have a panel of 3-5 people sharing short testimonies of their adoption or

fostering experiences. This panel could include any of the following: foster parents, foster child, a former foster

child, adoptive child, adoptive parents, and/or a volunteer. The emcee concludes with sharing briefly about

volunteer opportunities, an upcoming Foster Care Info Session and roles available on your Advocate Team.

Be sure to have attendees fill out a LTP Volunteer Response Card for follow up. Point people to your next

planned Volunteer Orientation (This will have already been planned for 2-6 weeks after the Movie Awareness

Event.)

Technical Requirements: The capability to project the DVD onto an appropriately sized (large) TV or screen.

AV system will need audio capability as well.

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