

Men Are Talking

“How Do American Men Feel About American Women?”

Evaluation Results 1991

On all numerical scales 1 is the poorest rating; 10 is the best.

Overall, how satisfied were you with this evening's event?

average response: 7.85

average response from men: 8.06

average response from women: 7.80

What did you like most?

- F: the most personal stories and the re-iteration by women that wasn't judgmental
- F: feelings being shared openly
- M: some interesting things said
- M: open dialogue
- M: listening to the men speakers and realizing how much we had in common
- M: format. unique.
- F: hearing the different topics about how men feel about women
- F: men were focused. little hostility; I thought there would be more. I was moved and encouraged by men sharing hopes and fears.
- F: the men who spoke were quite eloquent and did not indulge in hostile behavior (which at times may have been appropriate!)
- F: many conversations
- F: I feel the men really said things that were on their minds
- F: hearing the stories
- F: listening to men be willing to be vulnerable
- M: men got a chance to deal with themselves. I think that it is very important that women are encouraged to come
- F: I liked hearing men's honest thoughts and feelings, whether "good" or "bad" about women
- F: that both men and women were talking and both were listening
- M: the exchange of ideas
- F: most of all I liked the men talking about how they felt about the women of today. Their emotions and expression were great.
- F: the diversity of people present
- F: structured format
- M: the format was good; the people were good

What did you dislike most?

- M: nothing
- M: should have started the speakers earlier
- F: people who didn't stick to topic; women who advised and instructed instead of merely reflecting
- F: one of the men's hurt about his mom and not being able to release his pain; he has a natural frown on his face from so much hurt

- M: I didn't strongly dislike anything, but not enough interaction with each other
- (?): no time for other than the main program
- F: having to get to a mike, too intimidating for us shy folks; the overgeneralized nature of the topic
- F: not much
- M: I would have liked to have seen a large crowd
- F: that some people were passing judgments
- M: I disliked the fact that this was only the first meeting; men should have had something like this long ago
- F: moderator
- F: I felt a lot of anger and hurt and problems that may need to be presented in another arena
- F: the "preachy" sort of stories ("shoulds") and replies and that \$5 was charged, especially since it wasn't mentioned in the Chronicle article; it's rather a lot to me
- F: not enough African-American male attendance
- M: some fairly dead time

How helpful were the "Hors d'oeuvres for Thought"?

average response: 7.93

average response from men: 8.25

average response from women: 7.86

How helpful were "Mr. Manners' Principles of Etiquette"?

average response: 7.60

average response from men: 7.57

average response from women: 7.65

Was it helpful to you that we established the principle that no one should argue or criticize and that just listening would not signify acceptance of what was being said?

average response: 8.34

average response from men: 8.69

average response from women: 8.14

What would you have changed about this event?

- F: perhaps more "calls" from the moderator about the judgmental/preachy talks by men and women
- F: I would give some time to allowing the audience to answer/respond spontaneously; more interactions between the sexes
- F: more people and more time (so people get comfortable enough to eventually open up)
- M: more exercises to get people to open up may have been more helpful
- F: nothing
- M: Mr. Manners' Principles of Etiquette may have prevented some interesting interchanges; larger turnout might have helped
- F: not a thing
- F: seating arrangements
- F: more participation, more current topic concerning male and female relationships

- F: cut off the “brick” part sooner
- M: the seating was distancing; a semicircle would be better
- F: nothing
- F: I would have arranged the room in a more intimate setting (circle? casual?)
- F: nothing much; arrange chairs in circle so we’re not looking at one another’s backs
- M: I would have allowed the women to speak

What was most interesting or noteworthy about this event?

- M: format
- F: the sharing and conversation between men and women
- F: the whole concept; great that the mayor showed up
- F: men talking! also the naked honesty and pain being expressed
- F: learning how men feel
- M: 50/50 black/white mix
- F: my own personal reactions, not shared
- M: women seemed to enjoy it as much as men
- F: the number of men who shared
- F: the various responses of the men; their obvious need to share their feelings/thoughts; the problem as I see it is the lack of communication between the sexes; if this forum is to help, we need to promote the exchange
- F: how hurt and angry some men are and some of the underlying reasons
- F: how verbal, how emotive many men can be (and how good the retelling and elaborations by women were)
- F: it gave me an opportunity to hear a man’s point of view on women and express his feelings
- M: meeting and hearing different people

How would you rate the convenience and availability of parking for this building?

average response: 9.00

Asked only of the men who spoke on the topic “How do American Men Feel About American Women in 1991?”: How well did the woman who spoke after you re-state what you had said?

average response: 8.20