



Spotlight Values – A Look At What Makes Us Shine
Presentation of the Spotlight Values Report to the United Nations
Friday, December 9, 2011, United Nations Church Center, New York

On Friday December 9th, 2011 the Spotlight Values team gathered at the United Nations Church Center in New York City to present the Spotlight Values World Report to officials from the United Nations. The official report included statistics from more than 30 countries involved with the project and presented the various ways the initiative met the United Nations millennium goals. It also revealed the heart of the project and the light the project shined on the goodness and leadership potential of youth worldwide.



The presentation blended inspiring videos of a year of Spotlight Values activities, personal stories by teens, young adults and facilitators from abroad, as well as results and findings from the report. Also highlighted at the event was a detailed explanation of the three steps of Explore, Express, and Exchange which define the Spotlight Values process.



At the event we also showcased several activities, stories and artistic creations created by the youth and young adults from countries such as Trinidad, Rwanda, Columbia, Brazil, India, and Malaysia.



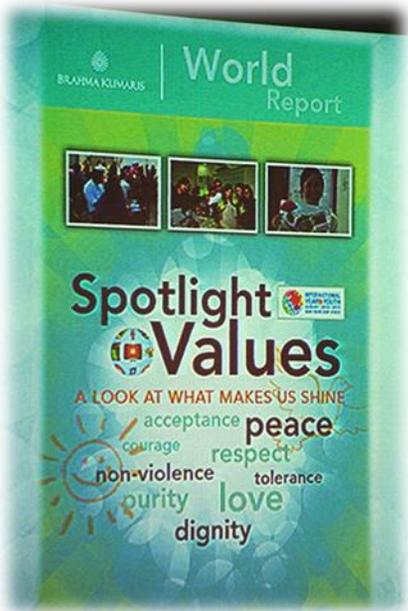
Aaron, a Spotlight Values facilitator from Trinidad, shared a powerful story of how they used the Spotlight Values process to serve 200 young male prisoners in Trinidad. The facilitators provided a chance for them to be seen and heard in a way that they had not been used to. Instead of lecturing the youth prisoners on what to think about the values, the facilitators encouraged them to find their own voice and express the values creatively through raps, poetry, and artwork. Another personal story highlighted was from Emmy Arsonval, a young gentleman from Rwanda, who shared a story of how Spotlight Values healed some of the wounds left from his experience with the genocide in his country.



A speed painting from Alexandre Porto, a young adult from Brazil, revealed the creative side of the project and was an example of how youth can express the values through the arts. Sunaina, a 17 year old from the USA, eloquently shared how honored she was to be part of such a special project. Though she once felt like the only teen that thought about things like values, she discovered a sense of belonging at the Om Express events and found an environment where it was easy to move into meaningful and deep conversations.



Nalishha, a BK United Nations Youth representative then highlighted the findings of the Spotlight Values world report; the methodology, statistics of countries and youth served, community outreach, successes, lessons learned and the future trajectory of the project. [Click here](#) to access the full report. To conclude the presentation, the Spotlight Values team presented the report to Elizabeth Niland, the Associate Social Affairs Officer for the Focal Point on Youth. She commended the project and said that by far, it was the prettiest report she had ever received! Upon acceptance, she shared that the United Nations International Year of Youth was a stellar success that gave rise to 900 youth events and initiatives.



Shashank, a BK youth representative to the United Nations, brought to light the spiritual side of the project and spoke about how Spotlight Values emerged quality youth leaders who were

inspired to seed positive actions in the world by first shifting their awareness and vision of themselves and others. The day then closed on an electric note as Sister Gayatri shared her vision of this generation as the new leaders of the world and invited all United Nations officials to invoke the presence of youth in each department and division.



Above all, it was the heart, the liveliness, the sincerity and the pure desire of the BK youth to serve that lit up each word spoken that day. This was the magic that touched everyone in the room and that will illuminate future trails of world service with BK youth at the United Nations.

