

MKP-2014-justtalk

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Dr. Robert Moore: I cherish this opportunity to speak to you for just a very few minutes. You know the key important thing for us to think about as men in the International Men's Movement, as individuals, as men who are concerned about all the growing darkness in the world.

I can say that there was one time that was a lot darker than where we are right now, it was in August of 1942 at the time right before the tide turned against the axis powers in 1942. The forces of hate and domination were riding roughshod in 1942. This was the time of Guadalcanal, this was the time of the Battle of Midway. And so it was a huge darkness and some other time I'll tell you more of what we should think about about that.

But, our time is dark too. I gave a series of three lectures down in San Antonio just recently and first lecture was entitled The Flood. And the flood of anxiety and grandiosity that's permeating the world and issuing in incredibly aggressive hate in the world incredible cruelty in the world. So this is a darkening time, anyone that looks around even in a shallow way will see how much the darkening has been.

For years and years I've been trying from time to time brief the Mankind Project leadership about how I think we should think, see the work of the MKP in the context of the healing of – the challenge of the healing of the world in trying to stand firm for the good, the true, and the beautiful. Once more the – you can think the flood of Noah, that's why I took that name for that lecture. So, just – I talked about the way this flood manifest now of grandiosity and anxiety that's making all of us crazy.

The second lecture I did, you know, some of you are familiar with the work I've done on the structure of the psyche and the male – the way the male personality is structured differently from the female. And why the male structure gives us a way to understand the darkness of the ways in which men have abused their powers throughout history. And, so I talked about the dynamics of that. I won't get into that today, I asked Chris [Perprising] to bring our most recent catalogue of all of my work to make it available to you should you be interested in pursuing and learning something about it, but I'm not here to lecture on psychoanalysis and psychology today.

And, in the third lecture, my title was The Fellowship of the Golden Dragon. And by that, I meant that there is actually a fellowship that

already exist in this world and it is those people who have opened up internally their hearts to the great heart to the big love that's at the heart of the universe and that is the foundation of the universe. And each man here is sitting dwelling already in the power and radiance of that great heart.

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And so I was saying it's not – we need to understand that we are not disconnected from the great heart – the universe, it's the most deep real thing that is in us. And so, our task is really to just sort of come to or to wake up and to open our eyes.

One of my favorite country rock bands in Chicago used to be asleep at the wheel and I think we all think about being asleep at the wheel because there is a lot of powerful forces in the outer world and in your inner world that want to keep us all asleep, so that we don't see the truth so that we can't open up to the abundance that is given to us as our birthright.

So, I love to go into that much more deeply, but what I wanted to do was something very specific and very limited today. Some of you know that I have been so graced and privileged in my life to have been involved in the beginning days of the International Men's Movement. I just wanted to tell you a couple of stories about that and why that leads me here today and what leads me to be passionate about the importance of the work you all do and that we try to do together in this wonderful brotherhood.

I'll set the scene, it was August of 1987. Some of you may have known something about the new age idea of the Harmonic Convergence that was constellated they said in August 1987. I knew nothing about that, I was a self-satisfied full professor teaching Psychology and Spirituality. It has been my dream to do that, I had a thriving private practice of psychotherapy and psychoanalysis. And so, I asked Margaret to go with -- go on a tour of Asia to bum around Asia with me to sort of celebrate and enjoy.

We've toured many countries. Increasingly as I toured, I was troubled by the things that you observe if you travel to the cities of the world. But the point that came like a flash of lightning into my brain was one morning in what was then known as Bombay and our taxi driver that was driving Margaret and me around to show us the sites we want to investigate in in Bombay, he turned down this one street and it was crowded by men,

women, and children standing on all corners as far as you could see, thousands of men, women, and children.

The cab driver turned around to us and he said, “There are thousands of men, women, children here and you can have any of them to do with as you want.” I thought I had misheard, my hearing is a little bad as many of you my friends know. And I said, “Excuse me. I didn’t understand what you said.” And then he repeated it, “You can have any of these men, women, and children to do with whatever you please with.”

And, this was a huge trauma to my denial and my self-satisfaction. It was like you had taken a white hot poker and poke it right in here because I was able to actually see, you know I’d lecture on evil – the dynamics of evil for years and I become kind of an expert on the academic study of the evil. But, this, this was my first time when my eyes opened up and I could see the radical power of evil and how much it is fueled by uninitiated men. Men who involved themselves in the business of helping [Moluk] eat the children of the world, sexual slavery for children.

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So that was the moment when my interest in male psychology changed from being a part of my research as a young man psychoanalyst trying to understand more about the deep archetypal structure of the psyche. Just prior to that, I had discovered I’ve made the discovery which was decoding the deep structures of the self – the archetypal deep structures and why that shows us the differences between men and women in the path to integration. And I just was feeling good about my what I consider to be a scientific discovery.

But at that moment in Bombay, I saw the size of male narcissism and violence in the world. And it almost practically psychotic from August 17th to October 17th. On October 17th, I was driving up Lakeshore Drive and going on my way to a faculty meeting and what was going through my mind was I can’t believe I’m going to this, they won’t talk about anything real and what does this have to do with what I’ve just seen in Bombay.

And so, I said to God at that time on Lakeshore Drive, “I don’t have any idea what I might be able to do to impact the situation, but if you will show me something that I could do I will make every effort to engage this issue of the abuse of the male power.” And I’ll tell you the longer version of that sometime, but the short version is that synchronistically, Robert Bly had gotten hold of my first lectures on the male archetypes and he started using them, if you ever saw that video, A Gathering of Men an interview by Bill Moyers of Robert Bly. That’s when Bly actually

introduced my work on masculine psychology to the world and invited me at that point, this is 19... -- this is in 1988 and 89, this was before the King Warrior Magician Lover book was published.

And I was in fear and trembling about going to that first men's conference. But I had a dream right before that I didn't know where I was going to go and my father came to me in the dream and he said, "It will be all right. Why don't you go." I've never been to men's conference before and I was not sure about being with a bunch of men in the woods. [Laughter]

So anyway, turns out that the universe or the Buddha or God or something arrange synchronistically for all these connections and since then since late 1980's and early '90's, I have been passionately involved in trying to articulate a vision for healing men bringing them to their optimum self-realization so that they might be channels for good and healing in the world. That they might be channels for a showing the world that men can in fact combine power and love because it has been taught by a lot of people that a man can't be both powerful and loving. And so, I started trying to lift that up back then and so for years I've been trying to do that.

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Now, let's cut to my encounter with the – my first encounter with the MKP. I always had been an admirer of what the MKP was doing and had not done a weekend yet. But I always had these guts since that the MKP was the paradigmatic model for what needed to happen in this world that unlike any other men's organization, it is radically inclusive in terms of who can become a part and become a leader [largely] in this.

So red and yellow, black and white, gay and straight, this body has sought to put out the invitation to the banquet for men all over the world now. And, I just want to say to you from my heart, I decided I spoke to the leadership of the MKP in 1995, I told them, as far as I'm concerned I'm not looking for another men's organization. I'm not looking for another brotherhood that has the same promise or as much promise as this brotherhood and that I was going to – I was just going to put it out there. I think you guys are the men that the world has been looking for to model what it means to be a man in the face of this deluge of horror.

And, I just wanted to comment just reiterate that, I never felt that as strongly as I feel today about that. I'm going to be 72 in August, I have a lot of sadness about how ineffective I have been in my leadership of men in the world to see what is possible if we men really work together with

fierceness and stood with both feet into our commitment to this work. But I check in with much hope and anticipation for what you men and we, all of us men in this brotherhood can evoke in the world together.

You know, [Charlie Young] believe that the key hope there is for the world was that for enough number of people to do the work they need to do to open up to the transpersonal realities to the spiritual realities to a higher level of energy to be portals for that energy. [Young] believe you didn't have to have all the people, he believe you didn't have to have 50% of the people, you didn't have to have, you know, think like [Solalinski], I don't know whether you knew [Solalinski], the organizer. [Solalinski] thought all you need is a very small percent of radically fiercely committed people to turn things upside down and I think he was right about that.

And so, what's the importance of this work that we do together and we seek to nurture as we can as long as we can? It is to set the goal of we could even use a little mystical term. How many men, Glenn do we have around the world so far as [initiates]?

Glenn:

Almost 50,000 men.

Okay. Well, then all these spiritual traditions they say 144,000 is the number of the elect that have to be working together in order to initiate a new age.

So, I think we ought to just say, okay, 144,000 as soon as we can find those men and reach out to them because the actual scientific, I don't have time to talk about it today, but there's a lot of hard science reasons now to know that influence at a distance is not only possible, it happens all the time.

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We're all connected in a great energy field in the world. The fact that we're connected is not in question scientifically. The question spiritually is -- I wanted to show you this little book that I ran on to synchronistically just about a week or so ago. It's called Heart without Measure. It's about the great work as the great esoteric teacher Gurdjieff taught.

So as I look at that book, I thought I got to bring my brothers' attention to this little book because it's simple and straightforward, it is readable and it lifts up the fierceness, the capacity encouraged to move against our spiritual laziness and understand that we will always have to fight our temptation to spiritual and psychological laziness that's built in. We just need to get used to it and we need to take a word out of the lexicon of

the great philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche who says that in order to live, really live, live joyfully live strongly is to get both of your feet into the big yes to life in the world and your leadership.

Both feet with fierceness into your life, your joy, your leadership, no matter what – no matter what the world is throwing at us personally and institutionally, Nietzsche says don't give that more power than it actually has, go straight at it and cut through it with your clarity and your courage.

I think it's possible that this MKP can be then guard of people who get that fierce. Now, you and I know we've had a little problem with getting a full masculine erection, a full spiritual erection. I'm talking about the spiritual and psychological erection that is a symbol, a symbol of male strength of loving male power.

And I believe it's possible for the MKP in the years – in the decade ahead, I'm having a heart procedure on Wednesday morning early at 7:00 o'clock, I appreciate your sending me some of your angels from your tribes. I intend to stay alive so I can partner with you 'till I'm 90 something. Should that not happen though, I am wanting to just offer you a truth from my heart. I believe it is possible for the MKP to lead in a much more fierce and effective way with coming out of a big [love].

And so, let me just meditate a moment because I'm going to bring this to a close now and invite you as we have time today to interact a little bit. If, you know, if I were to ask you – let me just do this and then I'll stop. Raise your hand if you think the MKP global is serving at 100% percent of its potential. 75% of its potential. 50% of its potential. 25% of its potential. 10% of its potential.

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You know they used to call us the new warrior network. I got attacked a lot for saying good things about the archetype of the warrior in the early days of the men's movement. But the truth is, you know, in some ways our outfit has been the new lover network. We've really in a wonderful way concentrated on opening the hearts of men and challenging love into the world.

But if we're going to achieve 144,000 men in the next decade, we're going to have both feet into it and be fierce strewn some of our really noble warrior juice. A warrior juice grounded in strengthened by the heart. You have my pledge that in so far as it's possible, in this next decade, I'm going to do what I can to be actually much more present

than I've ever been in my life through my first 70 years. And to work together with you in seeing if we can deploy more of our actual potential.

And so, this is the truth that I wanted to speak to you today that a global men's movement, there's nothing more important than the work it does because until the hearts of men are opened and until that helps them wake up their morals seriousness. If that doesn't happen, the narcissism and violence and cruelty and the war against children is going to continue to get worse.

In 1995, I had summarized that I had believed that things were going to get worse of the decline of male initiation in the world. Unfortunately, I was right and things were much worse today than they were in 1995. And, but I have no despair whatsoever, I have confidence in all of you and your leadership and I have a dream that we could stand and deliver as men, so what would I like to see I would just like to see us become whole, powerful, and loving men. If we do that the rest will follow. So that's my truth for the day.

[Applause]

Male speaker: **[0:28:29][Inaudible]**

Dr. Robert Moore: Well, let me say. I'd love to have to take time sometime before too long to actually get together with folks who want to talk about that and get into it in depth. I didn't try to do that today and I won't try to do that. But, there's a lot of people in this outfit that has spent a lot of time studying different spiritual traditions and they bring that – they bring that wisdom to the group and that's one of the things I think is really great about this brotherhood.

We have folks contributing from huge numbers of different spiritual tribes and that's what it should be. And, but that is a complex topic, I want to just say I meant to lift up on what I've done with my little book. Now, here it is.

I'm going to lift up this little book because it came to me synchronistically. This is the one Heart without Measure and it's about the great esoteric teacher Gurdjieff who tried to bring together insights from a lot of different traditions.

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But what I love about this book, this is a book that talks about Gurdjieff's main disciple that he imparted his knowledge to. Her name – it's a woman, so I'm honoring a woman teacher about our work. Her name was

Jean Salzmann, she was French. And in this little book, it's a bunch of notes this young man took as he sought his own authenticity in the seminars and it's simple, it's straightforward and it really addresses Michael [Guymon's] question there.

It lays out in a straightforward way in such a profound way, I was very touched by it. And it says very clearly, mankind has incredibly special role and that is that the earth from their point of view, the earth is not going to make it and be healed of the level of spiritual energies that are being poured into it all the time are of a very low very primitive very archaic nature, dark energies of abuse and domination.

And so, she says that the role of human beings is very clear. Men have to open up their role as portals to higher energies to come pouring into the world bring the energies of love, bring the energies of authenticity, bring the energies of commitment. And if you look if you just read to this, it's easy read, but it lifts up, I thought, my God, this is for our brotherhood because it talks about how much temptation there is to just not take your steps seriously enough in the work and to kind of spin off into a psychological and spiritual laziness.

And, this young man is so honest about his struggle for authenticity that I think it would inspire you if you took a look at this. Why do we need Heart without Measure, so I just want to lift that up. And I'm happy, you know, I intend to live a long time and I have got loads of stuff to talk to you about if anybody is interested so...

Male speaker: We're going to let you bang on for a few more minutes right now, so it's your turn again. So if you want to take a few more minutes.

Dr. Robert Moore: Well, I've been blessed and speaking this spiritual issue, Michael [Guymon] knows that I have been blessed recently. You know when I was 70, my energy was so low, I just thought it was all ageing. I thought, "Well, that's it. That's it for Robert Moore, it's all downhill from here."

But, I'm very thankful that in the last six months, a year, I've been able to access more energies through a lot of spiritual witnesses. I've had a lot of – there are a lot of guys in this outfit that have brought witnesses – witnessed to me and have offered me and transmitted to me some of their spiritual insights and it's been very healing to me and has made me more fierce and made me more [complete] more [complete] than I think, made me more calm and more peaceful.

And I just want to lift up all these men many in this room who have really been a portal to me of the energies I need -- I've been needing to be more fierce and especially more loving.

So, I'm happy to, you know, I ask Chris [Perprising] to bring catalogs of all my lectures that are available. I haven't renounced any of those teachings, I still believe it all and there are thousands of hours of teaching around these topics in there, if you wish to study that stuff. But we need to think -- see there's always been this huge tension in the men's movement from the very beginning.

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The men's movement actually started with the work of Bly as a poet -- Robert Bly seeking to open up men's hearts to their grief and their pain through poetry. And I thought that's wonderful, I certainly have always needed that and need it more now. And I would like sometime soon to many of you don't know anything about the origins of the men's movement, I would like to share with you more stories about how the men's movement got started.

And, one of the things that I would just share is in the early days there were a lot of conflict about whether they even ought to be a movement. And the idea, well, we just want to -- we want to be together open our hearts and read poetry, tell mythic stories, Michael [Mede] and others. And I started out very early saying, you know we need to be a serious movement. You know the women created a serious movement on the behalf of women and we need to admire that and face up to how much less competent and effective we've been about that.

And I was lifting up, well, you need to be more of a warrior, you got to have an open heart, but if all you have is an open heart, you're going to live in a swamp because the pain goes all the way down to the turtle at the bottom of the universe. You're not going to get rid of the pain by catharsis. It's an important thing, but there's got to be more integration in the personality so that -- here, I'll give you the shorthand version.

There is a holy grail, there is a chalice which if you know anything about the Catholic tradition about the chalice and the Eucharist. There's a psycho-spiritual reality that is symbolized by the Holy Grail or by the chalice, the cup of the Eucharist. And it is about a cup that has to be formed inside your soul, it's about the inner temple and if that inner temple of yours is not built strongly, but balancing the forces in your personality into a kind of force field that can hold archetypal energy or what I called dragon energy.

If your cup is cracked, you will start to power up with energy and then you'll fragment and you'll go back and do more catharsis. And then, if your cup is not – if you don't fix the cup, you will get that God juice in you and you'll power up, but then you'll fragment and all the God juice will flow down your pants legs and you'll be standing in it or you'll act it out with violence or you'll act it out with dangerous sexual acting out or you'll act it out with rage attacks and it's all wasted God energy.

So, it is the most important temple is the one that actually has to be constructed in your soul, so that you open to this great higher energies pouring into you that are enormously powerful and the world is hungry for them. But it will – that energy will make you psychotic if you don't have enough people supporting you to create a vessel, that chassis inside you. If you work on constructing that chassis one brick at a time or one piece of metal at a time so that then you can actually hold more God energy in your personality and then you can actually be a portal to channel that higher level of vibrations and energy into the suffering world. That's what the little book, Heart without Measure talks about.

I've studied -- compared spiritual traditions for fifty years, they all witness to the truth of that. And so, Michael says, "What about the spiritual thing?" This organization made some decisions decades ago that it wanted to see itself as a sacred order of men who would try to organize enough to bring mature men into leadership in the world.

And I am grateful for the things that have been achieved, it's miraculous what has been achieved as Glenn is often reminding us. It's miraculous what's been achieved.

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But, as John Kennedy said, "We can do better." "We can do better." So I don't know how long you have, if you have I'd like to open it up. In fact, one of the things I love for us to do sometime is to have an open meeting where people can stand and speak their questions.

Male speaker:

You have about ten more minutes.

S:

Okay. And so, what we used to do in the early days in the men's movement at these Bly conferences, Michael [Mede] and Bly, Hillman, and I, we would – we spent a lot of time just in open room like this full of men and I was touched by what you said about the grieving in the room with those men. I've sat there with two hundred men sitting there and weeping together for a long, long time to open up to their grief.

I think we ought to have some grief days where we actually honor and host the grief in a loving way. We ought to do that that reconnects us to

the early days. So there's a lot that I would love to do in offering a way to connect yourself with the founding days of the men's work and use that as a context for seeing the big picture about where we can go.

So, let me...

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