

PRESS RELEASE

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Teens Share The Aftermath of Chris Brown's Fall on Today's Youth

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Contact: MoriEl Randolph
Teens Express
Phone: 301 877-0592
Cell: 301 537-0205
9506 Silver Fox Turn Clinton, MD 20735
Email: programs@teensexpress.org

Prince George's County, Maryland | Youth participants of Teens Express, a Prince George's County-based, nonprofit, youth development and performing arts organization, gathered together in April 2009 at the Prince George's Community College's Hollow Tree Student Club to have a rap session regarding the Chris Brown and Rihanna incident.

The session proved to be very powerful, as teens ages 10–16 shared how the incident has affected their views and lives.

One male Teens Express member, age 14, stated, "Rihanna set a bad example for teens. Basically she's saying you can stay with a man who hits you." A female Teens Express member, age 14, when asked, "Why do you believe females go back to abusive relationships?" replied, "I believe they go back because they have low self esteem, and they don't like themselves basically, and they depend on how they like themselves based on whether they have a man or someone who loves them." She went on to say, "they need a man to feel secure; it's pretty sad."

Another male Teens Express member, age 15, who is no stranger to domestic violence, stated, "I'm a victim of domestic violence, but that does not give any male the right to put his hands on a female."

The Teens Express program provides its teen participants with life skills and artistic training designed to empower youth with the ability to address our nation's most newsworthy topics.

Beginning November 2009, Teens Express youth will provide an online mock radio station, Teen Talk Mock Radio (WTMR). Through the station the youth will stay on top of all current issues, addressing how each issue affects the lives of our young people today and in the future.

Teens Express serves youth in Prince George's County, Maryland, and Washington, DC. For more information about Teens Express, its productions, and how you can help, visit <http://www.teensexpress.org>.