

RYAN BOMBERGER

“LIFE HAS PURPOSE” MULTIMEDIA TALK OUTLINE

VICKSBURG HIGH SCHOOL ON 05/01/18



Opening remarks about our life-affirming organization and why we started it. **Illuminate** that every human life has purpose. **Educate** about a myriad of social issues in the context of human dignity and purpose. **Motivate** people to turn awareness into peaceful and positive action.



PLAY INTRO VIDEO: BEAUTIFUL POSSIBILITY



You have beautiful possibility. There's a reason why you're here...a reason for your life. Sometimes, it's really hard to see it. Sometimes it feels like you have none. But no matter who you are, where you're from, or what's happened in your past—your life has purpose. Many would say someone with a story like mine had no purpose...



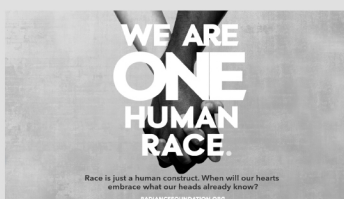
But triumph can rise from the most tragic situations. My family is filled with those from broken circumstances. And that brokenness started with my mom. She grew up in poverty...in a trailer park. She had an alcoholic father, and at the age of 5 was placed in a children's home while her parents were divorcing. It was that moment that changed, not only her life, but of countless others. One night she prayed that she would be a mommy to those who didn't have one.



Talk about how my mom had to lose a father to gain a son. Her father disowned her because she adopted a black child. But my parents knew what they were called to do...love those the world said would be “unwanted”. They shattered the myth of the “unwanted child”. Talk about news article title and the Bomberger family growing from 3 biological children to 13...10 of whom were adopted.



The whole crew (all siblings). Black, white, biracial, Native American, Vietnamese. Some were adopted as newborns, some adopted as toddlers and teens out of foster care. Some had learning disabilities, physical disabilities, some with special needs. All of us were loved like crazy. Talk about what it was like growing up in a house of 15.



I grew up in a diverse family I know about diversity. We were never taught to be colorblind but to see our colors and embrace them. All of our different hues are beautiful, but they say nothing about who we are as individuals. Talk about “transracial” adoption and how it's a beautiful act of racial reconciliation. In the end, though, race is just a human construct. We are one human race.



This is a picture of what it looks like when you defy the world's low expectations. This is what it looks like when you choose to love the broken...and unleash beautiful possibility. This is my whole family (no aunts and uncles or cousins, just my siblings, their spouses & children).

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Share about the courage of my birthmom who chose to be stronger than her circumstances. I've never met her but one day hope I can to simply thank her. Her singular decision will have reverberations for generations. I created a visual tribute to her highlighting the things I've been able to become in my life because of her courage...because of the gift of adoption.

PLAY VIDEO: LIFE HAS PURPOSE



Encourage students that we are stronger than our circumstances. Give some examples of people who are, like Nick Vujicic (the international public speaking sensation who was born without any limbs).



Talk about my inspiration for being the citizen journalist that I am today. Explain the difference between activism and factivism. Explain that mainstream media always has an agenda but we don't have to accept their narrative as gospel truth. We need to be proactive in seeking the truth. Talk about Frederick Douglass and how he had to start his own newspaper because news media during his time refused to tell the truth about slavery.



Revisit that we all have beautiful possibility. Talk about the Radiance Foundation's concept of The Possibility Quotient. Give examples of famous people who rose from the most difficult situations, some of them adopted.



These individuals don't have worth because of their achievements. We all have equal worth and value simply because we exist.



Those beautiful reverberations – my family. Talk about my wife being a single mom for two years yet allowing her situation to beautifully transform her, proving that adversity can make you become more than you ever thought you could be. Talk about daughter Aliyah's passion to sing and how she wanted to sing to a jingle I was creating. She encourages people to let their light shine.

PLAY AUDIO: LET IT SHINE



Your life has purpose.