

A ViiV HEALTHCARE INITIATIVE

Mother to Son

STORIES OF POWER AND VULNERABILITY



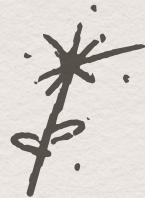


As an extension of ViiV Healthcare's *Positive Action for Latinx Men* and *accelerate* programs, we are excited to launch a new campaign – *Mother to Son*. *Mother to Son* is an initiative to foster, lift up and expand the conversations between mother and sons in order to amplify the bond of Black and Latinx gay, bisexual, trans and queer men and their mother/maternal figures, as well as highlight this network of support and its importance for Black and Latinx gay, bisexual, trans and queer men. It seeks to imagine them in ways that reflect how they wish to be seen and how they wish for the world to see their mother/son.

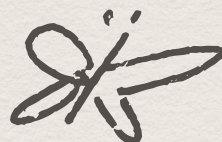
We developed this conversation guide to help break down some of the walls that can obstruct your path towards a safe and open dialogue.

INSTRUCTIONS

Sit down with your mother, your son, or your maternal figure, and take turns asking each other the questions below. Write them down if you'd like to come back to them. There are no right or wrong answers – only an open and honest dialogue that will help both of you explore your relationship and, hopefully, grow closer.



HOW DO YOU SEE EACH OTHER?



FOR MOTHERS

How do you think I see you?

How do you want me to see you?

How do you see me?

FOR SONS

How do you want the world to see me?

What do you wish everyone knew about me before they met me?

HAVING DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS

FOR MOTHERS

What is the most difficult conversation you've had with me?
Why was it so difficult?

FOR SONS

What do you wish had been easier to talk to me about?



MEMORIES, CHANGES, STRENGTH & THE LESSONS WE LEARN

FOR MOTHERS

What type of space do we hold for each other?
And how has that changed over the years?

What is one thing in your life that wouldn't have been possible
without my support?

What is the strongest aspect of our relationship?

What are the most important things you have learned from me?

MEMORIES, CHANGES, STRENGTH & THE LESSONS WE LEARN

FOR SONS

What is your favorite memory of me?

How have I changed you?

How has being a mother changed you?



OUR HOPES & OUR FEARS

FOR MOTHERS

What do you hope you are able to give to me?

If you could improve one aspect of your relationship with me, what would it be?

What do you wish I knew or understood about you that I don't?

FOR SONS

How do you want me to be loved?

What do you hope I remember about our relationship?

What are you most afraid of for me?

SEXUAL HEALTH IS ABOUT PROTECTING OURSELVES

FOR MOTHERS

What information do you remember me sharing with you about your sexual health?

What do you wish I would have shared with you about sex/sexual health? Why do you think I didn't?

How do you want to approach talking with me about HIV/HIV prevention?



SEXUAL HEALTH IS ABOUT PROTECTING OURSELVES

FOR SONS

What information do you want to share with me about sexual health?

Are there any topics around sexual health that you felt you couldn't discuss with me? Why or why not?

How do you want to approach talking to me about HIV prevention?

XOXO

THE PRIDE WE HAVE IN EACH OTHER

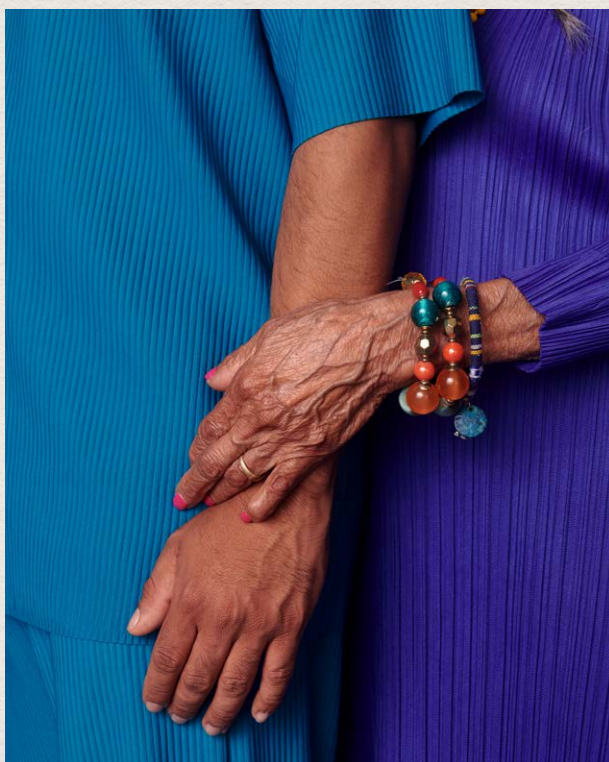
FOR MOTHERS

What about me makes you the most proud?



FOR SONS

What part of how you love me are you the most proud of?





THE CONVERSATION DOESN'T HAVE TO END WITH THESE QUESTIONS - AND IT SHOULDN'T. THIS IS JUST A STARTING POINT - A CATALYST FOR YOU TO DIG DEEPER INTO YOUR RELATIONSHIP AND BUILD A STRONG FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE. IT WON'T ALWAYS BE EASY – BUT AS LONG AS WE ARE WILLING TO PUT IN THE WORK, AND TO VALUE EACH OTHER'S EXPERIENCES WITHOUT JUDGMENT, THERE IS ALWAYS ROOM FOR GROWTH. COME BACK TO THESE QUESTIONS AND REMEMBER THE ANSWERS THAT YOU GAVE EACH OTHER WHEN THINGS GET TOUGH – AND ALWAYS REMEMBER THE UNCONDITIONAL LOVE AND SUPPORT THAT MAKES YOUR BOND SO SPECIAL.

THIS CONVERSATION GUIDE EXISTS AS PART OF A NEW VIIV HEALTHCARE INITIATIVE. SCAN THE CODE TO EXPLORE THE FULL INITIATIVE, DOWNLOAD OUR CONVERSATION GUIDE, ACCESS HIV PREVENTION INFORMATION AND CONNECT TO RESOURCES.

EXPLORE THE INITIATIVE HERE:



#MOTHER2SON

