



PRAYERS FOR BOBBY VIEWING PARTY TOOLKIT

VIEWING PARTY CHECKLIST

An open mind and heart are the most important requirements to host a *Prayers for Bobby* viewing party. Here are some other items that you'll want to ensure you have before planning your party:

- A television and basic cable subscription (check TVGuide.com to find your local Lifetime channel).
- Sign-up sheets, discussion questions, Trevor fact sheet and donation forms (included in this toolkit).
- Plenty of boxes of tissues, as *Prayers for Bobby* is a tearjerker.
- A list of friends, family, neighbors, colleagues, etc. to invite.

CREATE YOUR OWN

Plan your party based on what you think will be the most enjoyable for you and your guests. If you like to cook, consider hosting a dinner party featuring your favorite meal. Not so inclined in the kitchen? Order pizza or Chinese food for delivery, pick up some favorite party foods at the grocery store or ask each guest to bring one item for a potluck. The options for a fabulous party are limitless!

PARTY PLANNING

Make sure you're ready for your viewing party on January 24 by following these easy steps:

- Invite guests to the party one to two weeks beforehand. Simplify the invitation process by creating an Evite or sending an e-mail with all party details (date, time, location, what to bring, etc.) Be sure to ask guests to R.S.V.P. so you know how many people to plan for.
- Consider asking guests to make a donation to The Trevor Project as their "ticket" to the party.
- On the day of the party, print out plenty of sign-up sheets for guests to fill out so they can stay in the loop about what's new at The Trevor Project. Also be sure to print out the film discussion questions and donation forms.
- Set your DVR to record the movie while you watch it so you can share it with other friends. Or, record the movie beforehand and hold a commercial-free viewing party afterward.

HAVE FUN AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- Before the party, engage guests in a thoughtful discussion about the issues the movie covers using the pre-movie discussion questions.
- After the movie, revisit these issues and talk about how the Griffith family's story affected you and your guests using the post-movie discussion questions.
- Talk to guests about The Trevor Project using our fact sheet as a guide. Finally, ask each guest to consider making a donation to The Trevor Project and join us in saving young lives.

PRE-MOVIE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Bobby lives in a small town in a rural area. The majority of calls to The Trevor Helpline come from young people in rural areas. Why do you think these areas make youth more susceptible to homophobia?
2. You'll learn in the film that Bobby's family tried to "cure" his homosexuality because of their religious beliefs. Have you or someone you know ever experienced sexual orientation or gender identity discrimination based on religious convictions?
3. When Bobby moves away from his family due to their conflicts with his identity, he has a difficult time adjusting to life without them. Why do you think family support and acceptance are important and vital?
4. In America, more than 32,000 people commit suicide each year. Do you know someone who has attempted or completed suicide? What do you think the government, community organizations, friends or family members can do to help people who are considering taking their own lives?
5. LGBTQ youth are up to four times more likely to attempt suicide than their heterosexual peers. What do you think some of the factors are that contribute to this tragic statistic? What challenges do LGBTQ youth today face that their heterosexual peers may not experience?

POST-MOVIE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. *Prayers for Bobby* was both tragic and inspiring. In your opinion, what was the most poignant or inspirational part of the film?
2. When Bobby came out to his brother and his brother told their mother, he was hurt and upset. Do you think his brother was justified in telling their mother, or do you think he betrayed Bobby's trust by doing so?
3. What do you think Bobby's family could have done differently that may have saved his life?
4. Mary Griffith read *The Bible* literally and did not take into account the cultural and historical context of the Scriptures until she reached out to the gay community. What religious teachings have you encountered that are often used as a basis to discriminate against a group of people?
5. It took time and a great deal of reflection for Mary Griffith to realize that there was nothing "wrong" with Bobby. Besides Bobby's suicide, what do you think finally helped her to change her beliefs and become a gay rights crusader?

ABOUT THE TREVOR PROJECT

- The Trevor Project is a non-profit organization that operates the only nationwide, around-the-clock crisis and suicide prevention helpline for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) youth.
- The Trevor Helpline receives more than 18,000 calls annually and is staffed by more than 100 volunteer counselors. The average age of a caller is 15 to 16 years, and the top issues that youth call about include depression, isolation, family/peer rejection, anxiety and confusion about sexual orientation.
- Suicide is one of the top three causes of death among 15 to 24-year-olds; only accidents and homicide occur more frequently. LGBTQ youth are up to four times more likely to attempt suicide than their heterosexual peers, and those from a rejecting family are up to nine times more likely to attempt suicide.

HOW TO DONATE

- Ask guests at your viewing party to make a tax-deductible contribution to The Trevor Project. Please make all checks payable to “The Trevor Project” and send them in the mail to: **The Trevor Project, 9056 Santa Monica Blvd. Suite 208 West Hollywood, CA 90069**. Be sure to include a note about your viewing party as well as the sign-up sheets so we can add your guests to our mailing lists!
- Send your guests home with this sheet so they can fill out the donation form below and send it to us on their own if necessary.
- Donations can always be made via credit card on The Trevor Project Web site at: www.TheTrevorProject.org (click on “Donate.”)

Tear or cut donation form below

Your Gift to The Trevor Project: *Extend a lifeline to a young person.*
Please mail this form to The Trevor Project or fax it to us at 310-271-8846.

YES: I want to support the lifesaving and hope-renewing work of The Trevor Project. To help you answer calls from, and reach out to, LGBTQ youth confronting fear, loneliness and depression, I have enclosed a tax-deductible gift of:

\$15 (The cost of one call) \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other \$_____

My check is enclosed, made payable to The Trevor Project.

Please charge my credit card. See information below.

Please charge my: Visa Master Card Amex

Card number: _____ Exp. Date: ____/____/____

Signature: _____ Phone: _____

PRAYERS FOR BOBBY: VIEWING PARTY SIGN-IN SHEET

Yes! I'd like to receive information and periodic updates from The Trevor Project, the non-profit organization that operates the only nationwide, around-the-clock crisis and suicide prevention helpline for LGBTQ youth. *I understand that my information will be kept private and will not be distributed to any person or organization outside of The Trevor Project.*

First & Last Name	E-mail Address	Home Address
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
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