



# SPEAKER PROFILE:

## Attiya Khan (Co-Director, *A Better Man*)

### ABOUT A BETTER MAN

A documentary co-produced by Intervention Productions and the National Film Board, *A Better Man* follows conversations between co-director Attiya Khan and the man who abused her 25 years ago. Illuminating a new paradigm for domestic-violence prevention, *A Better Man* offers a fresh and nuanced look at the healing and revelation that can happen for everyone involved when men take responsibility for their abuse. It also empowers audience members to play new roles in challenging domestic violence, whether it's in their own relationships or as part of a broader movement for social change.

### Past & Upcoming Talks

- *White Ribbon: What Makes a Man Conference*
- *World Bank Group*
- *UN Women*
- *Shelter Movers of Toronto*
- *Alberta Council of Women's Shelters*
- *Canadian Domestic Violence Conference*

### ABOUT ATTIYA KHAN

Attiya Khan is a Toronto-based feminist, intimate partner violence survivor, and long-time advocate and counselor for abused women and children. Attiya has worked in women's shelters in Canada and the United States, including running the Child and Youth Services Program at Transition House in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Most recently she worked at YWCA Toronto where she supported the communications and advocacy team, ran crisis intervention training, and administered the December 6th Fund, which offers interest-free loans for women fleeing domestic violence.

### TOPICS\*

**Moving beyond labels:** Supporting people who use violence in learning to change their behaviour is a necessary piece of the abuse prevention puzzle. Totalizing labels like "abuser" can boil the whole person's identity down to their choices to use violence, make their friends and family less likely to address their violence, and feed a "monster" mentality that believes there is little possibility for the person to change. If we wish to end gender-based violence, we must be willing to see people who use violence as whole human beings.

**Everyday intervention:** We often think of bystander intervention as a heroic act that prevents violence, but intimate partner violence is rarely intercepted and ended in a single interaction. Confrontation with the person using violence can even be harmful for the person being abused. Effective intimate partner violence intervention requires patience and compassion. We can intervene before, during or after the violence, and it can sometimes be as simple as listening.

"We are grateful to Attiya Khan for sharing her experience with us at World Bank Group. It was truly an impactful event with many conversations already taking place that wouldn't have transpired without her. This is a welcomed initiative to raise awareness so we can all work together to end domestic violence!"

- World Bank Group

*\*Attiya can prepare talks on additional topics upon request*

**A  
BETTER  
MAN**

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