

# Tyronza Hicks, Producer of The DeVonta's World podcast interview w/ Talib Jasir #BlackMenWin

***1. What is your name? Where are you from? GAS YOURSELF! Let the people know who you are!***



My name is Talib Jasir Fleming, born in Baltimore, MD, raised in the DMV, glowed up in Jersey City, NJ. I am a founder of two businesses, FWD Movement, LLC a life coaching business to Black creatives and entrepreneurs and Afros & Audio, LLC a full-scale podcast agency, network, and festival. In addition, I am the Director of Mastermind Connect's Youth Empowerment Services program and consult as an Account Manager at a Pharmaceutical Digital Marketing agency. Lastly, I am an author of two books both titled Adviser to the Throne Vol. 1 & Vol. II, fiction podcast writer, and producer of the comedy series, "The Fussings: Until One of Us is Dead" and creator of the bestselling "I Am" Affirmation Card Deck.

***2. Do you believe that as Black men, we support each other 'enough'?***

I am a big proponent for support from others because there was a time I would have rather bit off my own tongue than to ask for support. Then I woke up and realized how advantageous it is to be supported and to support others. In my older years, I began to intentionally seek out sources of support for myself. Today, I am a member of a men's mastermind group, Mastermind Connect @mastermindconnect, that is founded by Black men and serves to change and progress our narratives in all areas of life. So, yes, I think we support each other to certain extents but there are issues among brothers that we get to address as

we are all learning to trust and be vulnerable with one another. I dedicate a chapter in my book, *Adviser to the Throne, Vol. II* about the “S” word and how important it is for people in general to request support when needed and be a reliable source of support for others. By supporting, loving, and having a win/win mindset for our people it causes a trickle-down effect in our personal relationships, communities and deeply impacts younger generations who are watching our moves.

***3. Do we continue to let our generational curses in our community of black men hinder us for experiencing and realizing our true potential?***



Through my life coaching and other work in service to others, I have come to believe that generational curses are a myth - and more damaging; a belief that limits our possibilities as a people. What I do believe in is unchecked, under-examined, and unhealed pathologies that are interpreted as “generational curses”. Mental and emotional damage is real and when it remains unchecked it can both, directly and indirectly, fuck up generations. As free people, we must realize that our individual lives aren’t hindered by the choices and behaviors of people who came before us whether it’s a mother, father, or grandparent. Can their show up impact us? Absolutely, but will it cause us to not have what we want in this lifetime? No, only you have the power to play out your life the way you want. Examine your life, resolve your pain and take inventory on how your lived experience has shaped you. Disrupting pathologies and being an ambassador for forward movement is the amazingly fulfilling work I do as a life coach, as well as, with our youth.

#### ***4. What can we do better as black men, individually, to help improve our overall community for the next generations?***

We can stop taking on the weight of the world or asking permission to BE, practice self-care, honor our people, and be humbled and grateful for the people in our lives who choose to love and support us. We owe it to ourselves to seek mental and emotional closure for past hurts and disappointments, and discover ways to work and live where we feel alive and get to be authentic and unapologetically human. Our communities are in desperate need of men who know their purpose and impact. Our communities win when we do. Therefore, getting our shit together has a ripple effect on the world.



#### ***5. What does #BlackMenWin mean to you?***

It means that Black men recognize the importance of our very existence. It means that we live on our own terms not defined by oppression, stereotypes, external judgment or gaze, lack of opportunity or resources. And that we remain focused on creating a win/win world that includes all black lives and expressions within our communities. I believe the evidence of our wins will live on in our legacy and the story folks tell about us while we're here and long after we're gone.

#BlackMenWin is a liberating concept and I interpret that as being able to experience ourselves as free thinkers and movers in this game of life. A free Black man (emotionally, mentally, creatively, physically, financially, spiritually, etc.) always wins!

#BlackMenWin