

Michael Franzese
Keynote Speaker and Former Underboss of the Colombo Crime Family

1. What was Michael Franzese's main reason for joining organized crime?

- A) He wanted to become wealthy
- B) He wanted to help his father get out of prison
- C) He was forced into it by the mafia
- D) He was fascinated by the lifestyle

Answer: _____

2. What crime was Michael convicted of in 1985?

- A) Bank robbery
- B) Drug trafficking
- C) Defrauding the government on gasoline taxes
- D) Money laundering

Answer: _____

3. How long did Michael Franzese serve in prison after taking a plea deal?

- A) 10 years
- B) 5 years
- C) 8 years
- D) 12 years

Answer: _____

4. What was one of the key turning points that led Michael Franzese to leave organized crime?

- A) His father advised him to leave
- B) He wanted to have a different life with his wife
- C) The FBI convinced him to become an informant
- D) He became disillusioned with the wealth

Answer: _____

5. While in solitary confinement, what influenced Franzese's transformation?

- A) Reading about business strategies
- B) Studying the Bible and growing in his faith
- C) Writing letters to his father
- D) Learning new legal defenses

Answer: _____

6. According to Michael Franzese, what are two key factors in living a successful life?

- A) Wealth and power
- B) Surrounding yourself with the right people and being accountable
- C) Avoiding all risks and following authority
- D) Education and hard work

Answer: _____

7. What does Franzese say about the mafia in the United States compared to Italy?

- A) They follow identical codes and rules
- B) The U.S. mafia allows members from Italy to join automatically
- C) The Italian mafia has different rules regarding drugs and law enforcement
- D) The mafia in the U.S. is larger than in Italy

Answer: _____

****Written Response Questions****

8. Michael Franzese emphasizes the importance of accountability in life. Reflect on a time when being accountable to someone helped shape a positive decision for you. How can accountability impact personal and professional growth?

9. Franzese discusses his struggle with leaving the mafia and the emotional conflict it created. What challenges do individuals face when trying to leave behind a destructive lifestyle or habit? How can support systems help in such transitions?

10. Faith played a significant role in Franzese's transformation. How can faith or personal belief systems influence major life changes, and what role do they play in personal redemption?
