

The Conversation

July 2024

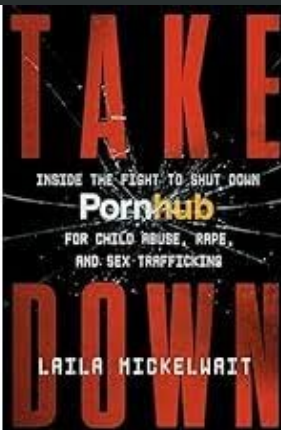
Mission:

To bring a revival of the fundamental role of fatherhood to today's family unit..

Vision:

To see loving, engaged fathers at the core of every family unit, and support for all those serving in the role of father figures

Books we like about keeping kids safe



Join The Conversation

In this issue, Foster-Con Encouragement to see Sound of Hope 75 Days to Father-Con 2024!!

The Founder's Conversation Starter

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit together at the table of brotherhood.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

As many of you know, I was transformed into a grandfather on February 11th with the arrival of a beautiful boy who is a perfect blend of European, Korean and Japanese ethnicities, and with this new role comes powerful insights. Just last week, my grandson began to sit up and had his first experience being welcome to the table. This made me think about how being welcomed to the table is such an elevating experience, and creates a geographic, if not audible, sense of equality where there is no throne, but a level eating field. There is an irrepressible desire for us as human beings to be heard, to be seen, to be at the table. This begins in a very organic way within a family when parents and children share around the stew the news of the day - though it is often a challenge to find families today that can settle around the table without cell phones nagging at shrinking attention spans and virtual priorities. In my youth, it was no TV's on during dinner so all 7 of us kids could discuss the latest revelation from the White House and the Watergate Hotel. These discussions resulted in lunch time laughter among the nuns at my younger brother's elementary school after he turned in a paper about Nixon asking Santa Claus for a new taperecorder!



In July we held our 2nd pair of Fathers Read - Kids Succeed events, during which we emphasized the simple ways fathers can have a major impact on the relationship that children can have with language and education when a father

reads to his kids. Recognizing that we as fathers can often thunder over the voices of our children and leave them exhausted and without having been heard. I have unwisely silenced my daughters with my wisdom too many times to count. Too often I felt I had such important points to make that no thought or idea they wanted to discuss could rise to the surface, and that resulted in years of comatose monologues, more like echoes than conversation. It took a long time to stop needing to be right over real. Our kids need to know we are not just "right", but trustworthy, and to be trustworthy, we often need to prioritize listening and

assuring our children that they are valuable and worthy of love; we need to trust our kids with working through some ideas that stink. Of course this doesn't mean embracing their passion du jour with artificial glee, but holding your ground without building a fort. Hold your nose, listen more, and pass the potatoes. Welcome to the table.



Patrick Erlandson – Father & new grandfather Founder: Father-Con and See it. End it. Film & Arts Festival

Upcoming Events of Father-Con

"ORGANIZED BY COMMUNITY COALITION NETWORK"

2nd Joyful Living Resource Fair & Back to School Event

July 27, 2024 10:00am – 2:00pm
Boys & Girls Club of San Fernando Valley
Address: 11251 Glenoaks Blvd, Pacoima, CA 91331

Logan@pyrs.org | 818-837-2272

- Free Community Resources
- Free Lunch Bags and Book Bags
- Health Screenings
- Raffle prizes
- Photo booth
- Free Food Donations
- Games Prizes
- Activities for the youth
- Music
- Creative Workshops

Back to school supplies while supplies last. Students MUST be present.

Over 40 Community Partners here to support YOU!

This material was made possible by funds from the County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Health, Substance Abuse Prevention and Control.

LAPD SOUTHEAST DIVISION PRESENTS:

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

CELEBRATION

TUESDAY, AUGUST 06 2-5 PM

SOUTHEAST STATION
145 W 108TH ST
LOS ANGELES, CA 90061

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT!

ENJOY GAMES, TASTY TREATS, COOL VENDORS, AWESOME RAFFLES, AND TOP-NOTCH ENTERTAINMENT!

Questions? Email Stephanie at steph@lspdmoseast.com and Officer Hill at 38559@lapdonline

LIGHT at the LIGHTHOUSE MUSIC FESTIVAL

20th ANNIVERSARY

FREE ADMISSION SAT. AUG. 31 2024 10AM-8PM

PT. FERDINAND PARK SAN PEDRO

SPEAKERS: FOOD TRUCKS, KIDS' KINGDOM AREA

CHRISTAFARI

THE KATINAS

GEN 2 STAGE: Harbor Music, San Crew, Princess Demari and more...

ALAN KISAKA

FATHER-CON
Never too early. Never too late. Fathers matter

Save the Date

October 11 - 12th

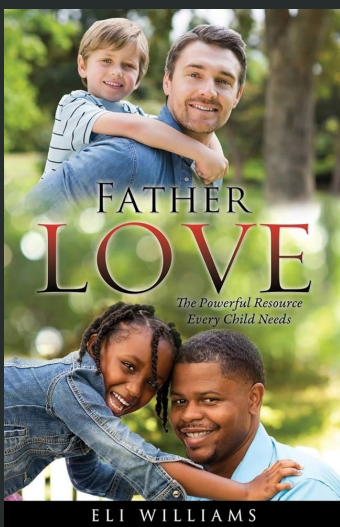
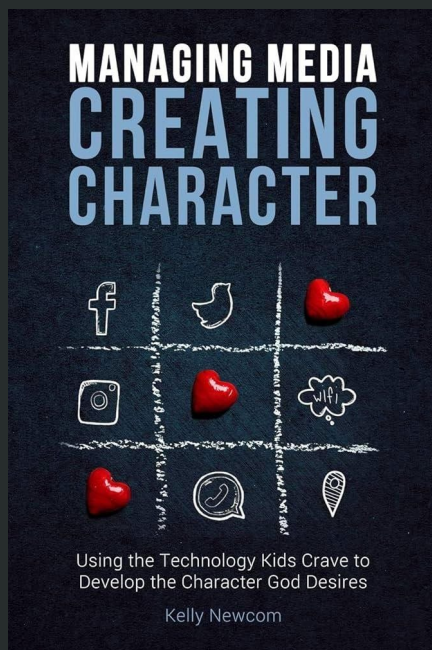
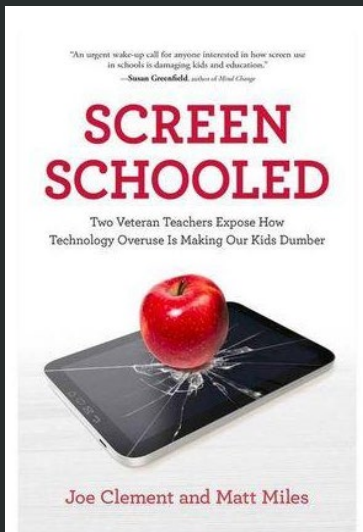
Cal State University Dominguez Hills

Our Annual Father-Con conference
Bringing a revival of the fundamental role of fatherhood to today's family unit.

Keynotes
Workshops
Resource organizations
Heart of the Father Awards
And much, much more

We take on the con, the lies we are told that diminish the significance of fatherhood and family. Come get inspired! Informed and equipped to make a real difference.

www.father-con.org
info@father-con.org



Foreword by John Richmond
Former US Ambassador to Combat Human Trafficking

MEN! FIGHT FOR ME

The Role of Authentic Masculinity
in Ending Sexual Exploitation
and Trafficking



Alan Smyth • Jessica Midkiff

Available at:
Fightforme.net

Pictures of Father-Con
2023 at

<https://www.father-con.org>

And this Fatherhood conference organized by Assemblyman Mike Gipson

ASSEMBLY MEMBER
Mike Gipson
ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 65

-FATHERHOOD CONFERENCE-

FROM THE STREETS TO THE BOARDROOM

**SATURDAY
AUGUST 10TH, 2024** | **7:00AM-3:00PM**

California State University Dominguez Hills-
Loker Student Union
CSUDH 1000 E Victoria St, Carson, CA 90747

RSVP HERE!

Good+Foundation
children's institute, inc.
PROJECT Fatherhood
children's institute
FIRST5 CALIFORNIA
CSUDH
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, DOMINGUEZ HILLS

MAKE RESPONSIBLE PEOPLE
WARP
really matters

Make a world of difference – for our children and the communities they live in. Give generously to Father-Con



Foster-Con

Our column for all things foster-care and good for those children thrust into the system.



Please go see Sound of Hope while it is still in theaters. You will be moved - perhaps to action!

If you have questions about fostering or fostering to adopt. Please contact me Bob Levy – blevy@fosterall.org (818) 649-8018

Father-Con invites you to contribute to our monthly publication – submit contributions at info@father-con.org

Contribution from Fathers.com

How do you maintain your motivation and [commitment as a dad](#)? According to [our own research](#) on fatherhood, [high commitment](#) is the number-one sign or predictor of an effective father. And if you're reading this, then there's a good chance that describes you—you're a devoted dad. But there's a problem ...

https://fathers.com/blog/topics/commitment/ways-to-fight-fathering-commitment-erosion/?utm_campaign=NCF%20Weekly%20Newsletter%202024-05-02&utm_content=right%20here&utm_medium=email&utm_source=sendx

Dr. Meg Meeker - Parenting Great Kids Podcast

To celebrate Father's Day, Dr. Meeker invited three fathers to share their insights on the challenges and joys of fatherhood. Influencer Andy Dooley, Super Bowl champion Benjamin Watson, and successful executive Michael Dickson offer personal stories and tips on everything from communication to disciplining your kids.

<https://megaphone.link/TNM8488150456>

Other News:

June 18, 2024

WASHINGTON, DC (June 18, 2024) – The International Centre on Sexual Exploitation (ICOSE), a division of the National Center on Sexual Exploitation, calls on the United Nations Human Rights Council to unreservedly **adopt the proposals** on prostitution and violence against women and girls in its recent UN Report that will be formally presented on June 21, 2024.

“This very comprehensive UN Report not only correctly identifies the nature of the global sex trade and the reasons it exists, but also what states must do to eradicate it. Reem Alsalem has done significant work with this report, both in investigating the harms of the sex trade and even in going some way towards redeeming the reputation of some UN Agencies, which have been long-standing centers of problematic ideological bias on this issue for decades,” said Rachel Moran, Director of International Policy and Advocacy, International Centre on Sexual Exploitation.

The report identifies prostitution as violence against women and girls, stating, “Prostitution results in egregious violations of human rights and multiple forms of violence against women and girls,” who are “often dehumanized and perceived as persons without human rights. Prostitution violates the right of women and girls to dignity, and often constitutes torture, inhuman and degrading treatment. Physical forms of violence – mainly by sex act buyers – include sexual abuse, rape and gang rape, severe beatings, including for the victim’s refusal, lack of enthusiasm or dissociation.”

The report also highlights the connection between prostitution and pornography: “The perceived right of men to purchase a sex act normalizes the systematic violence inflicted on women through prostitution, including in pornography, as it erases the boundaries between what counts as sex and what counts as sexual violence. The violence enacted against women in pornography, such as strangulation and defecation, is often re-enacted against girls and women by those who consume pornography in the physical world, such as strangulation and defecation. The increase in rape, including gang rape, can be linked to the increased male consumption of pornography.”

Finally, the report calls for the UN to “end demand for buying sexual acts” by “increasing obstacles” and “normalizing the illegality” of doing so.

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