

The Conversation

February 2023

Mission:

Supporting fathers, future fathers, and father figures in truly understanding the vital importance of their presence, power and positive impact on their families and communities preventing devastating life challenges including human trafficking.

Vision:

Our vision is to see an end of human exploitation, and provide child and community well-being through father presence and responsible engagement.

FATHER-CON

Join The Conversation

The Founder's Reflection

February 11th we held our 4th Father-Con event in Downey, CA. with powerful moments that moved many to tears, to laughter and to reflect. After hearing from Amanda Pulley who invited the audience into her experience of being exploited by her own father and others, men went out of the gym to call their daughters. Then Father Greg Boyle, who founded Homeboy Industries, the largest most successful gang intervention and restoration organization in the world, delivered a keynote address that touched everyone with what he describes as “radical kinship” recognizing that we are all at varying stages of being “unwell” and need to fight the tendency to see the other as unworthy, as demons or disposable. He said he has no confidence he could survive what many of the homies he serves have endured. We must strive to see each other as made in the image of God and allow those scarred and traumatized to see that guy in the mirror.

We achieved what we hoped but continue to grow as Father-Con rises to meet the father crisis of our age as well as the disaster being formed today as children are being exposed to unrestricted violent and taboo pornographic content in homes without a healthy father-figure.

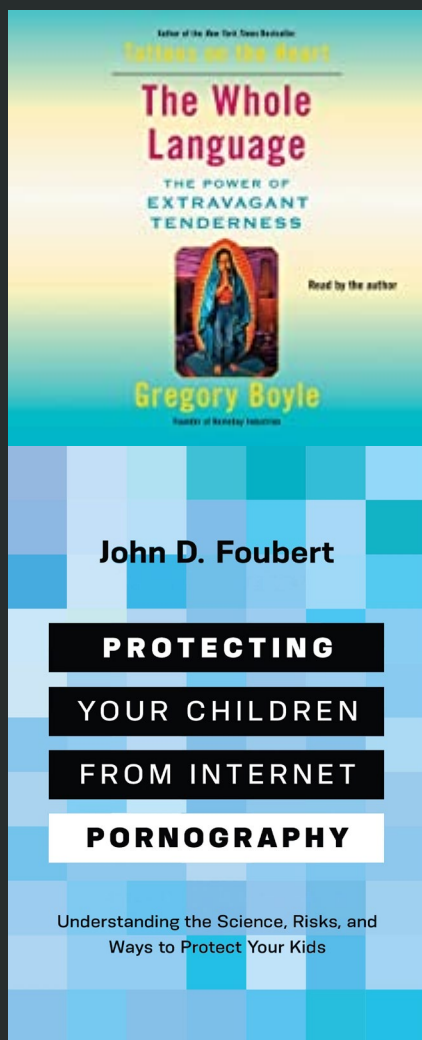
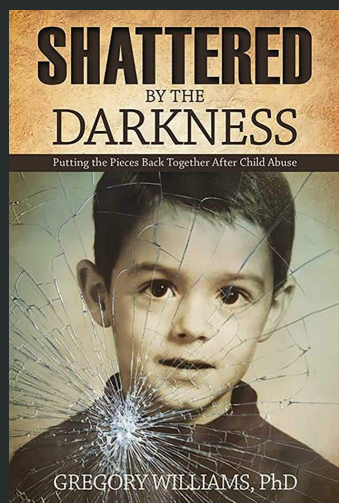
Father-Con is hitting the ground running with a variety of significant events throughout the rest of this year. Additionally, Father-Con seeks to not merely envision fatherhood as a wall of protection for our children, but as a bridge to our own personal joy. We will continue with greater determination to bring awareness, information and inspiration to fathers to be equipped for parenting in the 21st Century. Keep your eyes open!

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



Fr. Greg Boyle at Father-Con

Books we like



AMANDA PULLEY shared with such sincerity and courage to reach into the hearts of fathers and men with a clear message of the irreplaceable, unique and priceless love of a father - that being loved by a father who is healthy and healed communicates a child's worth. After her address - many in the audience wanted to know more about what came next in her life so we are including the continuation of her story here. [Read More Below](#)



Amanda Pulley morning keynote address at Father-Con

What you can do to help:

Email: patrick@father-con.org

Consider becoming a board or auxiliary board member.
Donate or become a sponsor. We need you!!

Father-Con's founder Patrick Erlandson will be a keynote speaker at the upcoming National/International Conference of Families and Fathers in Los Angeles.

KEYNOTE LUNCHEON SPEAKER



PATRICK ERLANDSON
FOUNDER / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FATHER-CON FOR THE PREVENTION OF
HUMAN TRAFFICKING
FESTIVAL SEE IT: END IT: FILM & ARTS
FESTIVAL
MSAT MEN STANDING AGAINST
TRAFFICKING,

APRIL 26TH, 2023

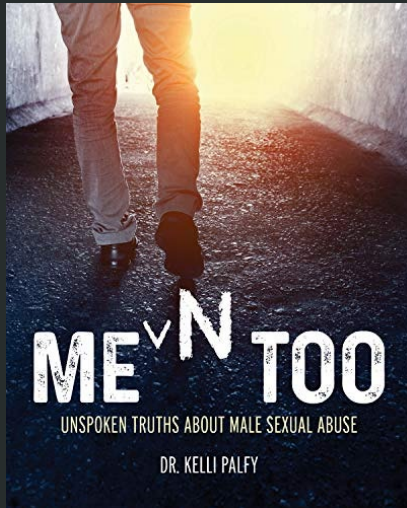
HILTON LOS ANGELES AIRPORT HOTEL
5711 W CENTURY BLVD, LOS ANGELES,
CA 90045

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION OPEN!

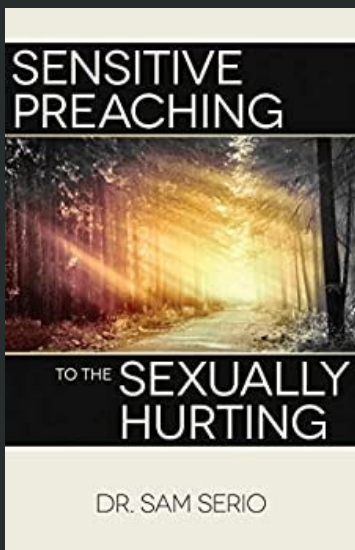


BE THE DIFFERENCE
24TH ANNUAL FAMILIES AND FATHERS
NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE

By Dr Kelli Palfy



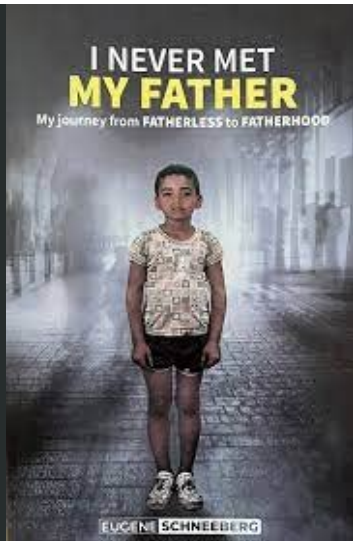
Hope's Boy by Andrew Bridge



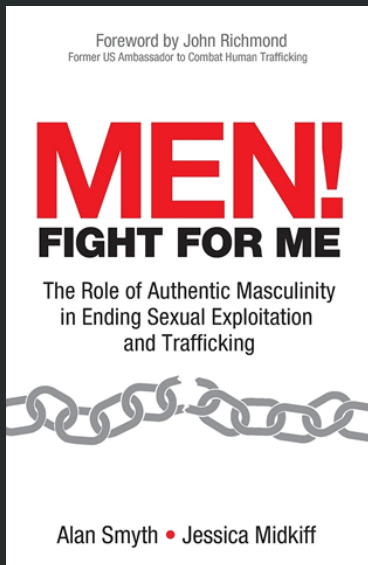
We are growing and on the rise!!
The need for fathers to be informed, inspired and equipped as 21st Century Fathers could not be greater. We can turn this ship and make waves of change!

Join our growing sponsorship community





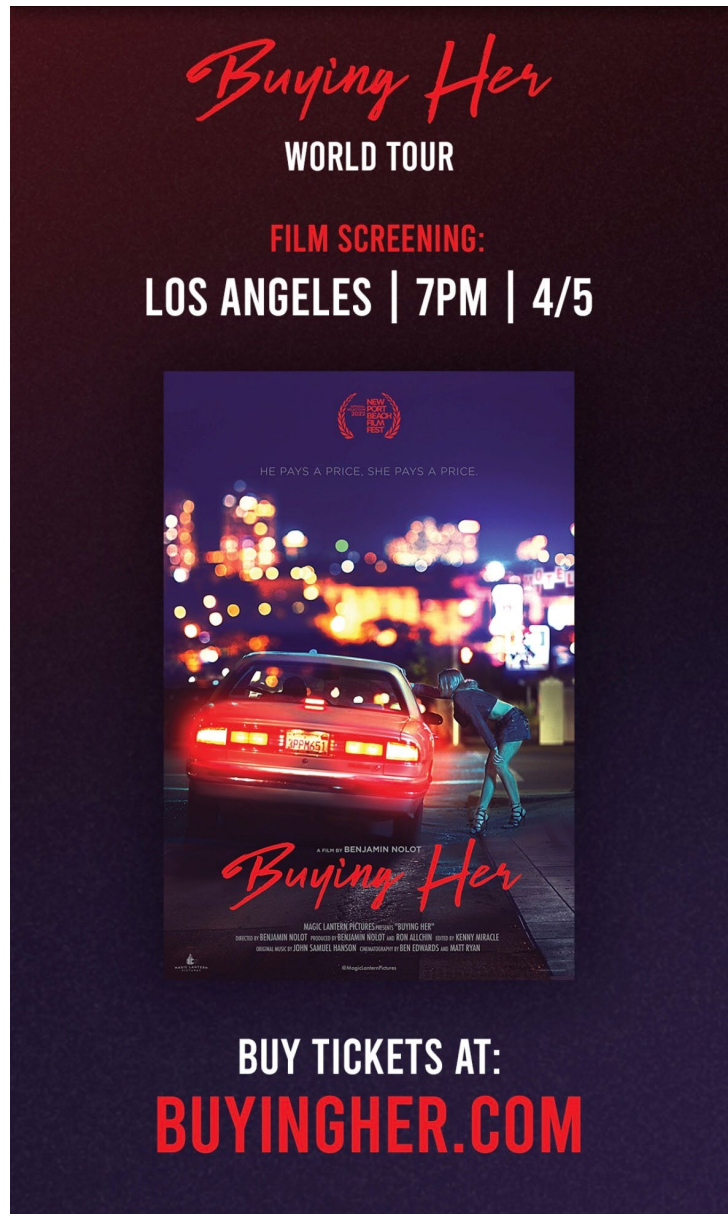
Don't miss seeing this important film by our friends at Exodus Cry providing insight and understanding of men who become the buyers – the demand – that drives the commercial sex industry that leads to so much trauma, pain and broken families.



Available at:
Fightforme.net



Vince Beresford MC Father-Con



AMANDA PULLEY About eight years ago, I discovered that the “weird experiences” I had as a teen had a name- Sex Trafficking. I started volunteering with an organization, thinking that maybe I could help victims of trafficking without even realizing I was a survivor myself. Learning that the experience had a name brought freedom as well as the ability to find a therapist who would be able to help me process and work through the experience.

I learned so many things about myself through the incredibly difficult task of going to therapy. For instance, I learned that I did not see the world in



Heart of the Father recipient
Evan Hess

More pictures at
<https://www.father-con.org>

color. My life had a depressed hue that affected how I saw everything. God restored my sight to the point where I enjoy color. Fall is now my favorite season because of all the colors. I had to learn how to feel emotions from the inside out. For most of my life, I watched the situations around me and decided to apply an emotion that I thought would keep me safe and was expected of me when situations arose. Now I feel emotions from the inside out that are appropriate to the situations I am walking through, and I have even learned to embrace emotion as a good and healthy part of life.

God has taken the years of abuse, trauma, and trafficking and restored my mind, body, soul, and emotions to a place where I can walk in my healing instead of living in states of hypervigilance, trauma responses, and fear. I have been honored to walk alongside other survivors as they walk their healing journey, share my story across the country, and train many people on trafficking. I believe the years the locusts stole from me have been restored and are still being restored.

Joel 22:23 “I will restore to you the years that the locust has eaten.”

I have learned to embrace peace without waiting for the next shoe to drop. I have learned that joy is a feeling to embrace and feel comfortable with. I have learned that having a healthy marriage free of abuse, manipulation, and fear is not only available but WONDERFUL. I have learned to work in anti-trafficking without letting it consume me (most days anyway...I am human, after all).

Most of all, I have learned that FREEDOM is mine. I have learned that the freedom I received by knowing I am a beloved daughter that is loved, seen and has a heavenly Father who is proud of her is true FREEDOM. That freedom will never be taken from me, and I get to rest in my Daddy's loving arms every day. So, if you're wondering if there is life on the other side of trafficking - yes, there is life, and life abundant and free. It's hard work to get to this point, but it is WORTH IT because we are WORTH IT!