

The Conversation

August 2024

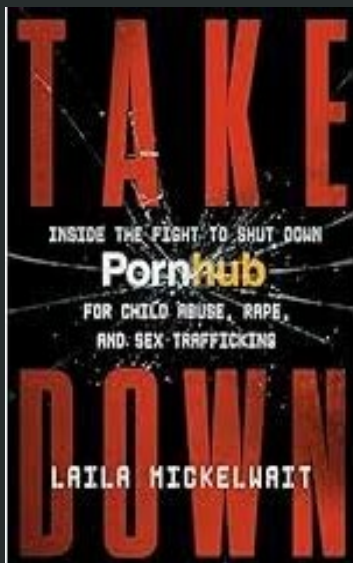
Mission:

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, reviews of the new book by Andrew Bridge, *The Child Catcher*
51 Days to Father-Con 2024!!

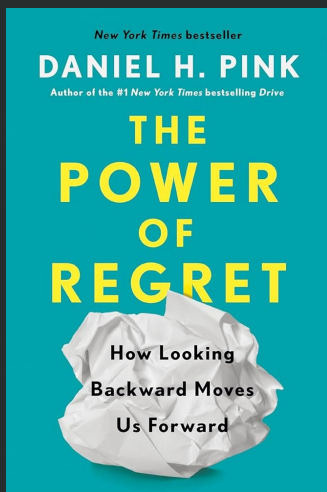
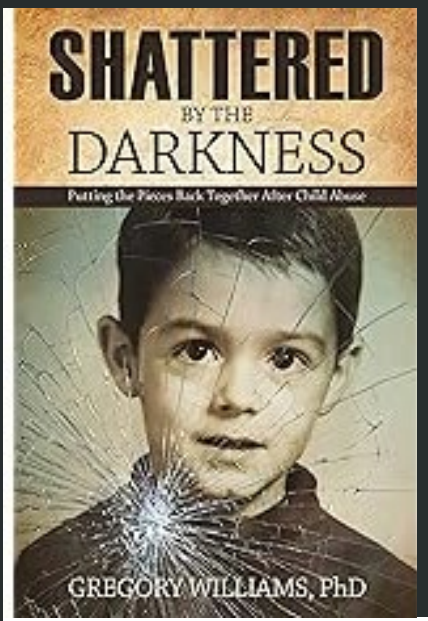
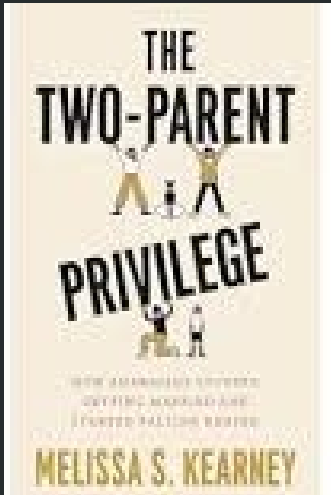
Learn how you or your company can become a sponsor of Father-Con!
patrick@father-con.org

The Founder's Conversation Starter

"We are not equipped to go through this life ALONE." Adrian - former foster youth who aged out of the system.

There are many things we do in our life that we wish would just go away - like dust in the wind. But they don't. They linger like wads of gum to the bottom of desks we discover when we revisit a classroom from our childhood. Some of those dark experiences were of our own making, and some were not. Human beings have a unique function in our brains - regret - which when working properly helps compel us to improve, to learn from mistakes and grow! This is the power of positive regret, as I call it. But when there is regret without hope, it is cancerous and destructive as it morphs into shame. Regret is a remarkable reminder that we are not born done, rather, we are birthed into a process of rising from lying helplessly on our backs, to knees to wobbly feet to running miles in record times, if not in practice, in dreams. To benefit from regret, we must embrace the promise that we are co-creators of our lives and there is a way to excel uniquely and wonderfully as members of one great human family. "We are not equipped to go through this life ALONE," says Adrian. And it is true.

On September 12, Father-Con will host our 2nd Power Luncheon to raise funds for our significant work to work towards the aim of every child having a healthy father or father figure in their lives to encourage, inspire and instruct them. We are deeply honored to have as our keynote speaker, Dr. Gregory Williams, author of the breathtaking autobiographical story of his life, *Shattered by the Darkness*. Dr. Williams was sexually abused by his father for 12 formative years, faced denial and rejection when he revealed his abuse, and after demanding the abuse end, suffered the complete withdrawal of his father's attention. He knows better than most, how significant a father's presence and acceptance are, and what it feels like when denied. Gregory knows all too well about ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) and has healed to help heal others. It is reported that somewhere between 3.8% to 7.6% of boys have experienced CSA Child Sexual Abuse. Most keep it silently stuck on the bottoms of their desks, until those sticky wads become dislodged in marriages or as fathers. Dr. Williams powerfully demonstrates the liberation of redemption and the ability of the human spirit to



overcome. What could have been irreparable harm done to him twisted into shame and self-blame, has become a testimony of hope needed by millions of boys and men with whom we share our homes and communities. Let us learn to be a safe place for healing - let us all contribute to breaking the cycle of sorrow residing in silence and darkness. Your attention at the right moment, could mean the difference of a lifetime.



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

FATHER-CON

NEVER TOO EARLY. NEVER TOO LATE. FATHERS MATTER.

HEART OF THE FATHER LUNCHEON



BRINGING A REVIVAL OF THE FUNDAMENTAL ROLE OF FATHERHOOD TO TODAY'S FAMILY UNIT.



Dr. Gregory Williams
endured what no child should at the hands of his father, not believed when shared, with every reason to silently endure, move on...but he chose to heal, become an example and serve others who need to heal.

SPRINGHILL SUITES MARRIOTT DOWNEY
9066 Firestone Blvd,
Downey, CA 90241

**SEPTEMBER 12,
11 AM - 1:30 PM**
[@fathercon.org](http://fathercon.org)
www.fathercon.org



Registration: Name _____ Org. _____
Address _____ City _____
ST _____ Zip Code _____ Email _____

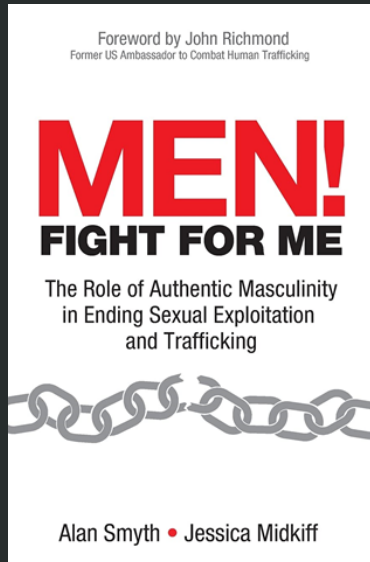


Individual tickets @ \$75 Qty _____ Total \$ _____
Eventbrite: <https://Father-ConLuncheon.eventbrite.com>
Tables of 8 @ \$600. Qty _____ Total \$ _____



We take on the con, the lies we are told that diminish the significance of fatherhood and family.

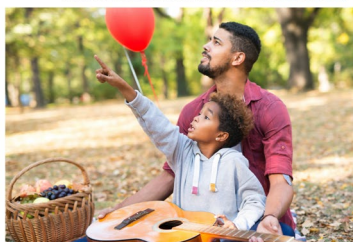
Father-Con will also have a table present at this year's Light at the Lighthouse musical celebration in San Pedro, California



Available at:
Fightforme.net



SAVE THE DATE
FATHER-CON
NEVER TOO EARLY. NEVER TOO LATE. FATHERS MATTER.



FATHER-CON
5TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Dondre Whitfield
Actor/Author Male vs Man

KEYNOTES
25 WORKSHOPS
40 RESOURCE GROUPS
3 HEART OF THE FATHER
AWARDS
FREE LUNCH & PRIZES

CAL STATE
UNIVERSITY
DOMINGUEZ HILLS
Loker Student
Union Building
1000 E Victoria
St, Carson,
90747



MORE
INFO

OCTOBER 11, 6-9PM
OCTOBER 12, 9AM-4PM

@fathercon.org
www.fathercon.org

BRINGING A REVIVAL OF THE FUNDAMENTAL ROLE
OF FATHERHOOD TO TODAY'S FAMILY UNIT.

We take on the con, the lies we are told that diminish the significance of fatherhood and family.

SAVE THE DATE
FATHER-CON
NEVER TOO EARLY. NEVER TOO LATE. FATHERS MATTER.



FATHER-CON
QUINTA CONFERENCIA ANUAL



Dondre Whitfield
Actor / Autor de
Male vs Man

ORADORES
25 TALLERES PRESENTACIONES
40 ORGANIZACIONES DE RECURSOS
EL PREMIO "EL CORAZON DE PADRE"
Y MUCHO MAS

CAL STATE
UNIVERSITY
DOMINGUEZ HILLS
Loker Student
Union Building
1000 E Victoria St,
Carson, 90747



MÁS
INFORMACIÓN

OCTUBRE 11, 6-9PM
OCTUBRE 12, 9AM-4PM

@fathercon.org
www.fathercon.org

PRESENTANDO UN RESTABLECIMIENTO DEL PAPEL FUNDAMENTAL
DE LA PATERNIDAD A LA UNIDAD FAMILIAR DE HOY EN DÍA

We take on the con, the lies we are told that diminish the significance of fatherhood and family.

Pictures of Father-Con
2023 at

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



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.

Full Circle

In our country 200 years ago during the “Industrial Revolution, immigrants came to America to find new hope for themselves and their families. Unfortunately, there were not enough jobs, food, and housing to care for the estimated 5 million people that landed on our shores during that time. Families were forced to spend every waking hour just to try to survive and many times did not have enough for themselves and their children too. So, they desperately looked to our country for help.

Take a moment to think about it.

You’re a child and you are moved from everything you know in the country you were born and raised and brought to a strange new land by way of ship on the open seas facing sickness, fear, danger and death. Only to come to a new land with hordes of others just like yourself with nothing but a dream. But that soon dream became a nightmare for many children that had to be placed in orphanages apart from their families.

A shortage of staff, abuse, sickness and death would soon force orphanages to close, due to the huge influx of immigrant children. So now families are left to their own devices to try to survive.

At that time a gentleman by the name of Reverent Charles Loring Brace created The Children’s Aid Society to help these children, common referred to as “ street rats”. It wasn’t long before he realized that he had to get them out of New York. So, he created “The Orphan Trains” to find these children homes in the Midwest, where they could have a chance at having a normal childhood, until they could be returned to their families.

This was the beginning of foster care system as we know it. It is estimated that somewhere between 200,000-400,000 immigrant children were placed in homes in the midwestern states from 1850-1929 through The Orphan Trains.

Well, here we are again!

As we see in the news, families from all over the world are fleeing their countries to come to the U.S. and looking for help.

It has gotten to the point where the influx of unaccompanied minors requires that we do what we did 200 years ago-

“Ask American families to open their homes to care for these children.”

In my experience as a Director of Family Recruitment for FosterAll, it is very clear that some cultures are not attracted to the prospect of fostering American children. My hope and prayer is that these same cultures would now consider fostering a child from their own country of origin that has been placed on U.S. soil.

It is also my hope and prayer that this will activate The Church and those who are “missions” minded to consider being a missionary in their own home by taking in these children.

Please take a moment and picture how you would feel being in this situation as a child and a parent. Scared, anxious, depressed, hopeless, helpless, guilty, broken hearted...

You can give hope to a child.

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

ANDREW BRIDGE Children's Rights Lawyer | Author of The New York Times Bestseller Hope's Boy | Lived Experience Foster Care System | Speaker Author has just released his second book, The Child Catcher. Following are 3 reviews of this book.



“In the eighteen years between a child’s birth and high school graduation, 3.6 million children will enter foster care in the US. Andrew was one of those children.

Then, he became a lawyer for them. By turns reflective and poignant, always keenly observed, Andrew tells the story of those he represented in foster care. Balancing triumph and loss, Andrew reminds us how King’s admonition that ‘injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere’ applies distinctly to children, especially those in foster and related care systems.” -- James Tucker, Civil Rights Lawyer, State of Alabama

“This gripping book explores the shadowed world of adolescent mental health institutions and the dark truths often found behind those doors. Admitted to one of these institutions at just six years old, Andrew Bridge survived and became the lawyer who fought to defend 120 children trapped in a remote institution in rural Alabama. Intimate, rigorous, and humble, The Child Catcher is both heart song and triumph.” -- Melissa Bond, Author, Blood Orange Night: My Journey to the Edge of Madness

"Last year alone, 4.2 million young people experienced at least one night of homelessness in the United States. Through his own experiences, Andrew very personally and marvelously shows how institutions like Eufaula, and the perverse economic incentives they create, have driven us to a place where youth homelessness, hopelessness, and worse have become the accepted result of foster care. The Child Catcher is a rallying cry for action for today's children and generations to come." -- Bill Bedrossian, President & CEO, Covenant House International

An Offer to participate in a coaching training for Non-profit organizations offered by a great supporter of Father-Con, David Kobelin

Subject Awyken ICF Coaching Training

I am writing to propose an introductory training program aimed at equipping your staff with foundational knowledge and practical skills in ICF (International Coach Federation) coaching principles and techniques. Investing in the professional development of your staff can significantly enhance your organizational effectiveness and impact.

Our proposed training program will cover the following key areas:

Introduction to Awyken/ICF Coaching: An overview of the core principles and ethical guidelines set forth by Awyken, in conjunction with the International Coach Federation.

What is Coaching? Gaining a basic understanding of what coaching actually is. Understanding how it both compares and contrasts with other professions focused on helping people. Further, a core understanding of neuroscience that establishes why coaching works so effectively.

Basic Coaching Skills: Training sessions designed to develop essential coaching skills such as active listening, powerful questioning, and goal setting.

Application of Coaching Techniques: Practical exercises and case studies to illustrate how coaching techniques can be applied in various professional settings within your organization.

Building Coaching Relationships: Strategies for establishing trust and rapport with clients to facilitate meaningful coaching conversations.

Integrating Coaching into Organizational Culture: Guidance on how to embed coaching practices into the fabric of your organization to promote a culture of continuous learning and growth.

Our training program will be delivered by David Kobelin, an experienced Professional Certified Coach with the ICF, who has trained hundreds of coaches and served both non-profit and for-profit organizations. We understand the unique needs and challenges faced by non-profit organizations, and our curriculum will be tailored to address these specific considerations.

The benefits of investing in Awyken/ICF coaching training for your staff are manifold. By equipping your team with coaching skills, you will enhance communication, foster a culture of collaboration, and empower individuals to take ownership of their personal and professional development. Ultimately, this will contribute to greater organizational effectiveness and mission fulfillment.

We would be delighted to discuss the details of our proposal further and tailor the training program to meet your specific needs and objectives. Please feel free to reach out to schedule a meeting at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for considering this proposal. We look forward to the opportunity to support your organization in achieving its goals through the power of coaching.

Warm regards,
David Kobelin
Chief Training Officer/Awyken Coach Training
dave@tharseo.com

Join our growing sponsorship community





enclayve Group



ARTISTS FOR CHANGE

