

The Conversation

June 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

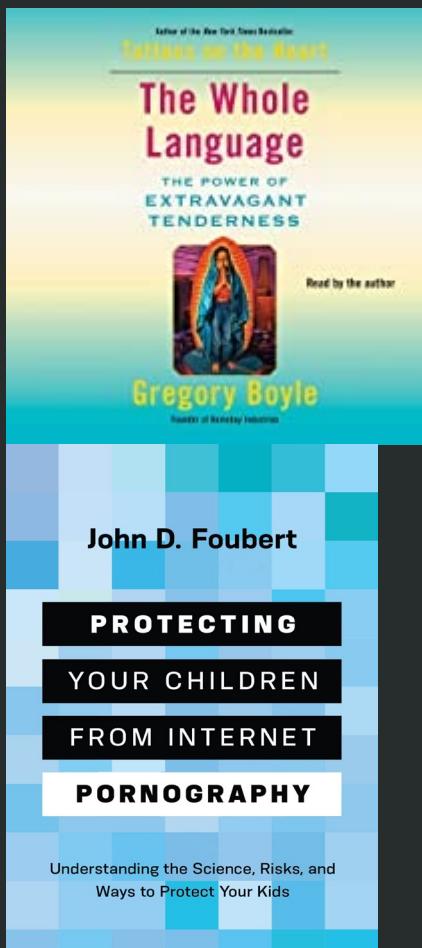
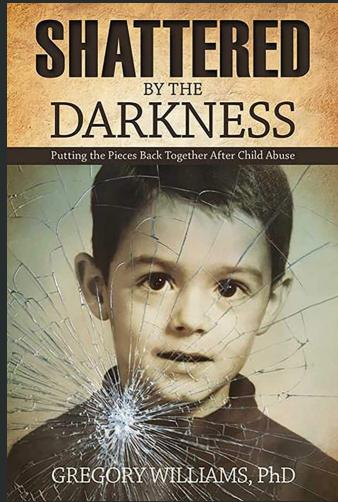
The Founder's Reflection

I just returned from 10 days in Europe which began with a meeting in Amsterdam to hear firsthand of the consequences of legalization of prostitution with a guided tour with Raymond Venema who was the police officer who oversaw the infamous red-light district of Amsterdam for over 15 years. Raymond is now the manager of Comensha, a human trafficking organization in Holland. What became apparent in our observation and conversation is that once you legalize prostitution, it is very difficult to get control again of the demand you have stimulated. Amsterdam is now trying to recover a city image of art and culture, one that does not primarily attract those who want to use drugs and engage in irresponsible sex, but it is an uphill battle with dangers to individuals and families on both sides of that precipice. Before we allow our legislators and governors to plunge us into the swamp of decriminalization or legalization of prostitution and pimping, let us consider the long-term consequences of the "sex worker" rights picture being painted.



After Holland, I went to Vienna to speak as part of a delegation of the women's NGO, WFWP, which has been raising concerns about family health at the UN for decades. I was able to address the plenary session of delegates from all around the world as well as at a side event that was both in person and online. One of my main points was that if we want to prevent much of the devastation of human trafficking and other crimes against children and the most vulnerable, we need to consider the family. The greatest obstacle to family health today is father absence, distraction or abuse. We must continue to fund the consequences of the father crisis through women's empowerment efforts, but if we do not invest in raising the significance of fatherhood and begin to provide support for men to be better husbands and fathers, we will not stop the hemorrhaging of children into an increasingly dark unknown. The response I heard from some of the delegates after I spoke was gratitude that I brought fathers into the discussion. I quoted the UNICEF Chief of Early Childhood Development Dr. Pia Britto, "More than just an extra set of hands, fathers are one of the best child development resources we have, and if we are going to give children the best start in life, we all need to fully recognize and utilize this role"

Books we like



Thank you for taking fatherhood, families and communities seriously.

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

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!!

A big thank you to our consistent volunteers Linda and Jim Howat of San Pedro. They are indispensable in our growth and getting the message out! So big thank you Howats who stood at the Joyful Living Resource Fair on May 30!!



Linda and Jim Howat

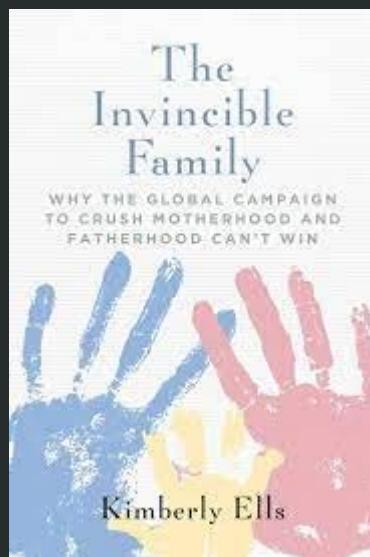
Upcoming events



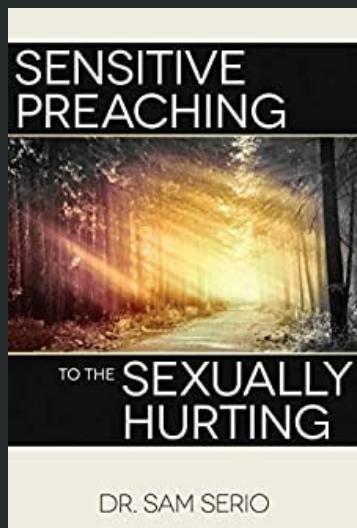
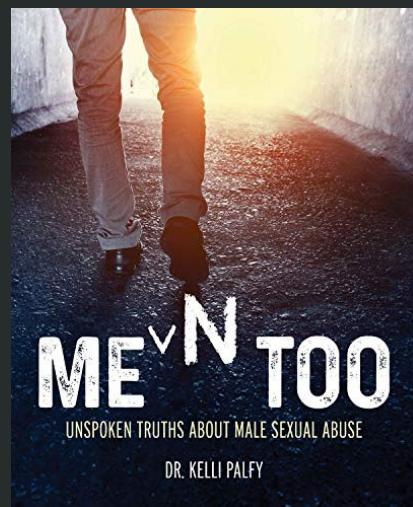
Thank you Cecilia & Joseph for making this happen.

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!



By Dr Kelli Palfy



Join our growing sponsorship community



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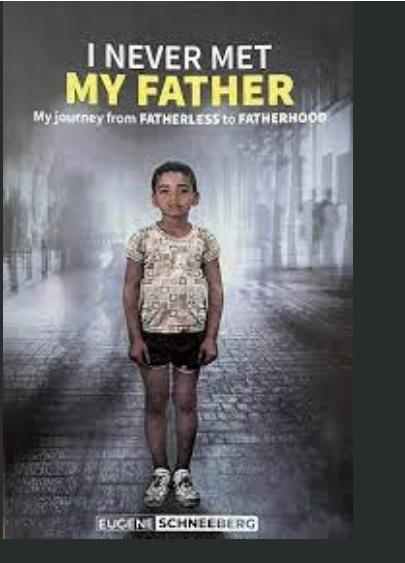
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ARTISTS FOR CHANGE

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DesertReign
CHURCH



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

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LET'S
CONNECT

Website
<https://www.father-con.org>
Email
info@father-con.org

ABOUT

Father-Con creates pathways to change how we see ourselves as fathers and how society sees the significance of fathers - in child development and child safety.

The internet has elevated the threats to children to frightening levels and fathers - engaged, equipped and inspired - are critical to protect them and throw open doors of opportunity for them to thrive.

Father-Con provides, a conference, learning opportunities and connection to critical resources

**MAKING A WORLD
OF DIFFERENCE,
RIGHT AT HOME**
Getting fathers informed, inspired and equipped!

THE CONFERENCE

Once a year Father-Con holds a conference for the diverse population of fathers to share, learn and get fired-up about fatherhood! Dozens of workshops, speakers and the Heart of the Father Award.

FUTURE EVENTS

When Fathers Read
kids thrive! June 16, 4 - 8 pm
Columbia Memorial Space
Center of Downey FREE event
prizes

Workshops & Trainings

Father-Con is not a men's organization but a father-centered approach to healing our families and providing the best course for children to thrive.

Fathers Make a Difference

Over 400,000 children are in the Foster Care system in the US
Human traffickers prey upon those most vulnerable

Father-Con 2024
Father-Con & Joy International
Barefoot Mile Walk to DeFEET
Child Exploitation