

The Conversation

April 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 recently watched a documentary, the Birthgap , on YouTube, detailing the alarming falling birthrates in almost every country outside of sub-Saharan Africa. There are many reasons for this – including the campaign against having children since the 1960's to counter the threat of overpopulation. Within decades we will reach a point of serious decline in workforce, consumers, and students while seeing an increase in an elderly demographic suffering loneliness and struggling with health needs. Within the shadows of those concerns, we see a growing movement to decriminalize prostitution overtly and covertly, and a Netflix documentary choreographed to elicit sympathy for porn performers and cheerlead for “ethical porn.” The war against intimacy is on, to be replaced by distraction and dissatisfaction born of entitlement.

These are genuine concerns that will open the doors to future harm to families and communities. The answer, through all this chill, is making fatherhood an attractive element of identity and measure of a successful life. This will come as a grassroots shift occurs where fathers come to recognize and celebrate their significance. It is never too early. Never too late. Fathers matter, now more than ever.

Thank you for taking fatherhood, families and communities seriously.

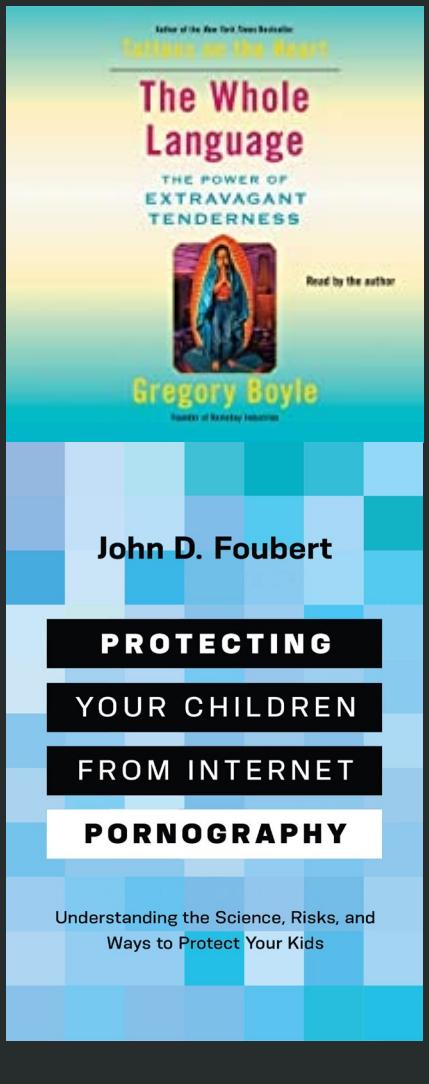
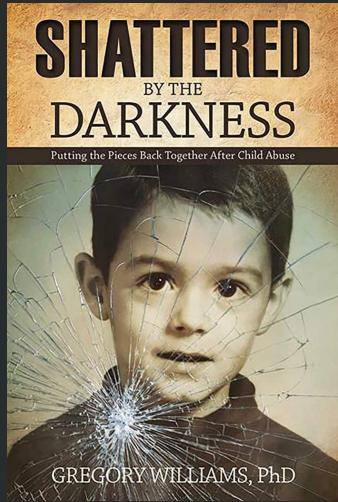
Patrick Erlandson – Founder: Father-Con and See it. End it. Film & Arts Festival



Fr. Greg Boyle at Father-Con

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

Books we like



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

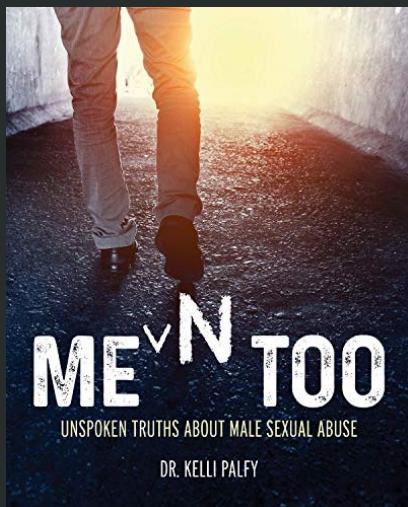
Consider becoming a board or auxiliary board member.
Donate or become a sponsor. We need you!!

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

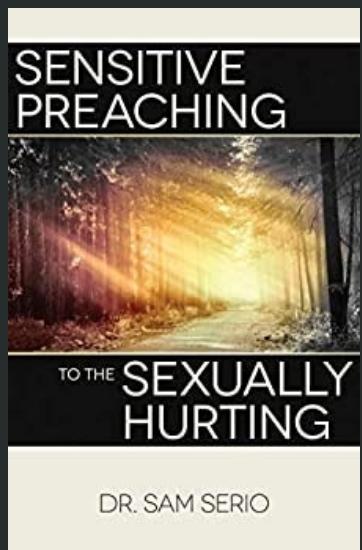


We are growing and on the rise!!

By Dr Kelli Palfy



Hope's Boy by Andrew Bridge

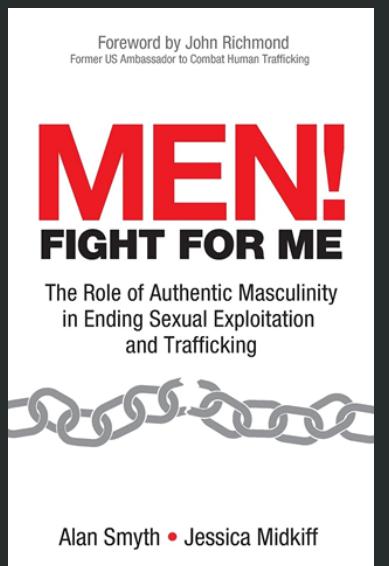
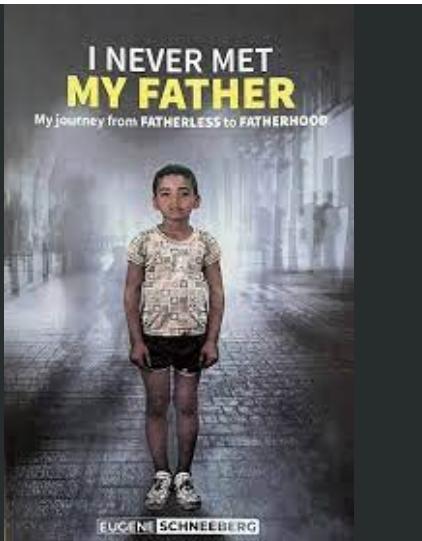


The need for fathers to be informed, inspired and equipped as 21st Century Fathers could not be greater. We can turn this ship and make waves of change!

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

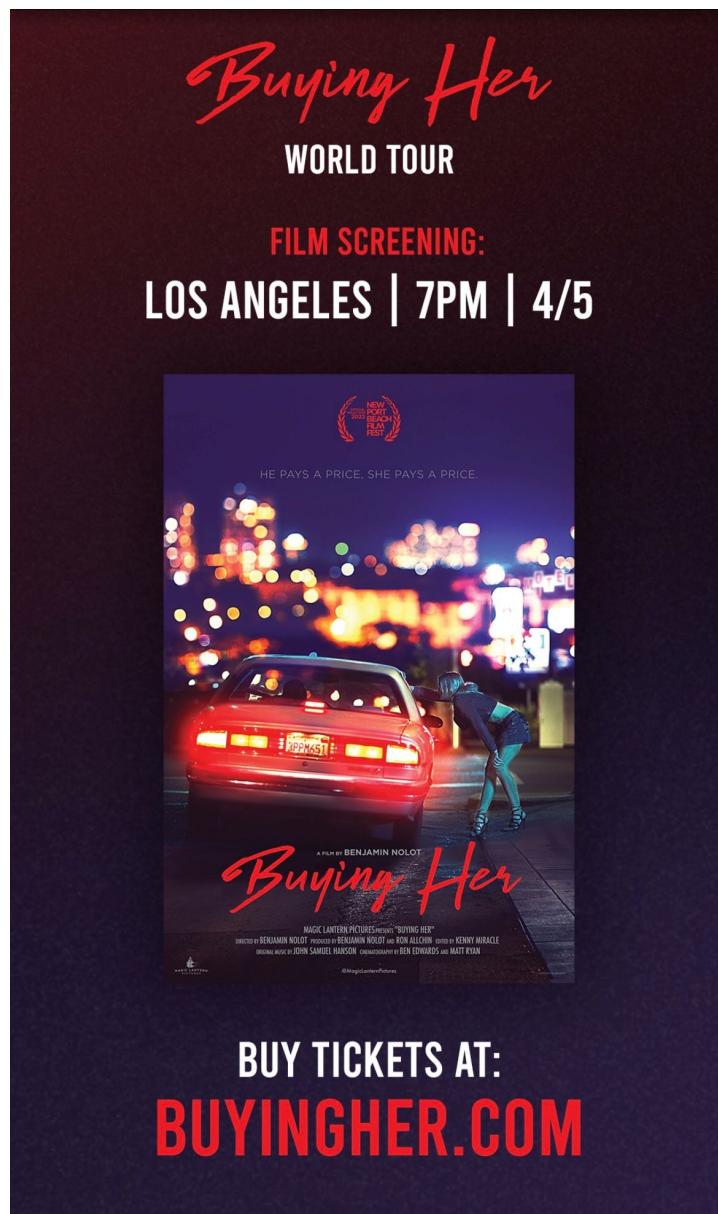


Available at:
Fightforme.net



Vince Beresford MC Father-Con

demand – that drives the commercial sex industry that leads to so much trauma, pain and broken families.



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 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



**Heart of the Father recipient
Evan Hess**

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

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!