



KEN R. CANFIELD, Ph.D.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Dr. Ken R. Canfield is a research scholar specializing in the area of fatherhood and the history of the family. He is founder and president of the Kansas City-based National Center for Fathering — a non-profit education and research center dedicated to inspiring and equipping men to be responsible fathers.

His work has been recognized in a variety of ways: He serves as one of the founding members of Vice President Al Gore's private-sector "Father to Father" Initiative; is a consultant to state and community officials on ways to engage and equip fathers in local programming; and was awarded the 1993 Father of the Year by the National Congress for Men and Children.



He is the author of *The Heart of a Father* (Northfield Publishing, Chicago, 1996), as well as three other books including the award-winning *7 Secrets of Effective Fathers* (Tyndale, 1992). Canfield has been interviewed on *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, NBC's *Today Show*, ABC's *World News Tonight* and numerous radio programs as an authority on fathering skills and research, as well as the negative consequences of father absence.

Besides publishing the quarterly *Today's Father* magazine and doing a short weekday *Today's Father* radio commentary (heard on some 400 stations nationwide), Canfield has written for a number of magazines both academic and popular: *Psychological Reports*, *Educational and Psychological Measurements*, *The World & I*, *Parents*, *Today's Better Life*, *New Man* and *Living With Children*.

Canfield's work is rooted in his knowledge of the historical literature on fathering and current social science research data. The Center maintains one of the largest ongoing data bases on fathering in the nation, including more than 10,000 responses from men to the 138-question *Personal Fathering Profile* Canfield developed in conjunction with a number of scholars. The profile has been termed by authorities in the field the most comprehensive, scientifically sound tool available for a man to inventory his strengths and opportunities as a father. Canfield has led other research as well, including three national random sample polls on fathering and an ongoing National Survey of Men covering a wide variety of men's life issues.

Canfield earned his B.A. degree in philosophy from Friends University (Wichita, KS). He has an M.C.S. degree from the University of British Columbia - Regent College (Vancouver, B.C.) and a Ph.D. in education from Kansas State University (Manhattan, KS). His dissertation reported on his innovative research on the life course of fathers.

Ken and his wife Dee reside in Kansas City. They have been married for 23 years and have 5 children.