



Providing Resources and Support For Single Mothers Raising Boys

Media Advisory: *Raising Him Alone* Book Release (Baltimore, MD)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: On **Saturday, June 1, 2009** the *Raising Him Alone Campaign* officially released the critically acclaimed book, ***Raising Him Alone: Things Black Women Can Do to Raise Boys***. According to David Blankenhorn in his ground breaking book, *Fatherless America: Confronting Our Most Urgent Social Problem*, the absence of fathers has become one of our greatest social ills. It estimated that 24 million children in the U.S. go to sleep each night without seeing their father. This phenomenon has left entire communities with mothers and grandmothers raising children.

To this end ***Raising Him Alone*** is based on 16 months of interviews of single mothers and grandmothers from across the United States. These interviews focused on a cross section of women from diverse educational, economic and social backgrounds. Each interview provided David Miller & Matt Stevens with a wealth of information on parenting strategies and recommendations for single mothers struggling to find answers to raise healthy African American boys.

Raising Him Alone provides single women with advice and parenting tips that range from monitoring their son's access to technology (internet, MySpace, Facebook etc.) to talking to boys about sex. Lisa Ferguson a single mother of three boys in Washington, DC stated, "The chapter on talking to your son about sex was what I needed. My son just turned 13 years old and every other day he gives his cell number to another little girl at school. I have been waiting for my son's father to begin this conversation but I can no longer wait. The book provided me with what I needed to support a healthy discussion with my son about sex."

Raising Him Alone was written specifically for Ms. Ferguson and the many single women who are raising boys. Many of these boys are angry and frustrated because "daddy rolled." With national estimates hovering around 70% of African American children being raised by single mothers and grandmothers the issue of absentee fathers has become a national epidemic.

Other mothers like Tiffany Jones-Waters a divorced mother of three teenaged boys has struggled to raise her boys since her husband moved to the West Coast four years ago. "As my boys get older it is important for me to do a better job monitoring their daily lives. The essay, *Searching Your Son's Room* provided me with a blue print on how and why I should search my son's room."

Several celebrity moms who have raised highly successful sons have contributed to the book. These moms include Dr. Mahalia Hines (Mother of rapper and actor Common), Sheron Smith (Mother of rapper & actor Mos Def) and Dr. Brenda Greene (Mother of rapper and activist Talib Kweli).

For more information on the ***Raising Him Alone*** book and the *Raising Him Alone Campaign* please visit www.raisinghimalone.com.

**Raising Him Alone is available at Amazon.com

www.RaisingHimAlone.com

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