



MENTORING MOMENT: POWER OF MENTORING TO A FATHERLESS GENERATION

Last week I shared a perspective on the crisis in our land of a fatherless generation from a book by John Sowers. This week I want to share John's powerful words on the hope that mentoring provides in the face of this crisis. This is from John Sower's book *Fatherless Generation*:

"Statistics have shown that one-to-one mentoring is the most effective way to reach a fatherless child. Children with mentors are 46% less likely to do drugs, 33% less likely to resort to violence, 53% less likely to drop out of school, and 59% more likely to improve their grades. One-to-one mentoring has also been shown to lower the rates of teen pregnancy, suicide, and gang involvement in communities.

Mentoring tells a child that he is cared for, that he matters, and that he is not alone. Mentoring shows a child how to be respectful and how to interact with peers and elders. Mentoring gives a child confidence in his talents, gifts, and natural abilities, which helps shape his pursuits, education, and eventual occupation.

Many counselors agree that healthy and loving human relationships are the most powerful behavior modifier in the world. Fatherless children lack these loving relationships and often feel lonely, flawed, and incomplete. It is in relationships where the fatherless generation has been wounded the most deeply. Thus, it is in relationships where reconciliation must begin."

Dr. Blair Ritchey is Executive Director of ISF, a non-profit foundation dedicated to providing scholarships, mentoring and leadership development for young people who have aged out of orphan or foster care, as they pursue their dream of a college education and a successful life. Mentoring Moment is a weekly message of encouragement and inspiration to those committed to the mentoring process. If you prefer NOT to receive Mentoring Moment, simply reply to this email.



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