



Media Fact Sheet

Name: Kenneth B. Morris, Jr.
Title: Founder & President
Organization: Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives (FDI) – 501c3 Public Charity

Ken is the:

Great great great grandson of Frederick Douglass
Great great grandson of Booker T. Washington

LATEST BOOKS

[Picturing Frederick Douglass: AN ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHY OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY'S MOST PHOTOGRAPHED AMERICAN](#) (Liveright Publishing, 2016)

Bicentennial Edition of [Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave](#) (FDI Publishing, 2017)

OUR MISSION

To advance freedom through knowledge and strategic action.

OVERVIEW

Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives (FDI) was born from an historical legacy of activism and education with its intimate connections to Douglass and Booker T. Washington. The sharing of knowledge was at the core of the work and philosophies of both men just as it resides at the heart of our work in human trafficking and other human rights challenges.

We seek to effect change by addressing issues at their very foundations with institutionalized solutions like student curriculum, professional development for educators and sustained coalition building throughout the community.

MORE

We know that slavery exists today in various forms throughout the world. It's estimated that more than 20 million people live in a state of servitude. Right now there are women being forced into prostitution, children working in factories for little or no wage and men being sold

or traded like cattle. We started the Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives to help those people to live free.

As direct descendants of Frederick Douglass, we believe we have an obligation to repeat his demand for the right of all men to be free from bondage. The state-sponsored slavery Frederick Douglass sought to abolish differs only slightly from today's black market slavery in that one was done in the light of day and the other in shadows.

In the fight against modern-day slavery, there is no group of people more qualified to speak out in protest than the descendants of former slaves, abolitionists, freedom fighters and the survivors of today's slavery. The challenge for this group is to educate a wider audience about the injustices being perpetrated against a growing number of women, children and men both internationally and here at home.

Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives facts:

- Human Trafficking Training and prevention curriculum for the State of California
- Human Trafficking curriculum and Teacher Training modules approved for use by the New York City Department of Education in NYC Public Schools
- Led local and national advocacy campaigns with Students
- Recognized for its work by: U.S. Secretary of State, John Kerry, the U.S. Department of Education, National Park Service and the U.S. Congress

Key Projects:

- [One Million Abolitionists](#)
- [PROTECT Human Trafficking Initiative for the State of California](#)
- [Trafficking Free Community](#)
- Lynwood, CA Unified School District Educator Training and Prevention Curriculum
- [Globalize 13 – Transparency in the Supply Chain Natl. Project \(2014-2015\)](#)
- [Faith + Community](#) - Ongoing
- [100 Days to Freedom \(2012-2013\)](#)

One Million Abolitionists

The Library of Congress named the Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave one of the eighty-eight Books That Shaped America. Published in 1845, Douglass's first autobiography became an instant best seller and, having escaped slavery just seven years earlier, put his life in immediate danger. The Narrative helped change the course of the U.S. Abolitionist Movement in the mid-nineteenth century and has changed the lives of readers ever since.

Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives wants to inspire and empower one million young people to do and be more than they ever dreamed possible. In honor of Douglass's 200th birthday, we

will print and distribute one million hardcover copies of a special Bicentennial Edition of the Narrative. We'll ask one million students across the country to read the book and, in 2018, the Bicentennial year, participate in meaningful service projects within their communities and internationally. They will also have the opportunity to win gifts, trips and even scholarships.

PROTECT

FDFI has partnered with two California non-profit organizations, 3 Stands Global and Love Never Fails, to develop PROTECT in the fight against human trafficking. The joint mission is to help educators and students identify and prevent instances of human trafficking through a standardized educational curriculum.

The group will create materials to allow 5th, 7th, 9th and 11th grade teachers to incorporate the topic of human trafficking into their annual educational calendar. These materials will be grade-level appropriate, state standard-compliant and provide a holistic view of the problem. The materials will also illustrate techniques that support identification and prevention.

The Trafficking-Free Community (TFC)

The project aims to reduce the vulnerability of children to the crime of sex trafficking and other forms of human trafficking through a combination of classroom curricula, educator training and the coordination of community resources. Each phase of the project, in a first-of-its-kind study, will be measured and evaluated in order to provide a clear understanding of how prevention and early intervention initiatives, geared toward youth, can impact the incidence of human trafficking in communities.

TFC will:

- Provide prevention education for young people,
- Facilitate what is perhaps the earliest form of intervention for those already involved in trafficking,
- Empower administrators and teachers to identify victims, perpetrators and the signs of human trafficking and to manage the issue in the most responsible and sensitive manner for those involved,
- Help initiate and/or strengthen community relationships critical to successfully addressing this mounting problem by having local anti-trafficking stakeholders play key roles in the educator training workshops and collaborating with educators to develop a workable response protocol,
- Present real data on questions regarding the efficacy of human trafficking education, educator training and stakeholder collaboration.

International Collaboration

Daniel O'Connell was a hero's hero. He helped shape Frederick Douglass' opinions about emancipation in the early years of his activism. Now these two legends combine on both sides of the Atlantic to develop an educational structure for understanding issues of slavery and exploitation.

- [The Frederick Douglass Ireland Project](#)
- [The Desmond Tutu Tutu Desk Campaign](#)

Ken's Bio and additional media: <http://www.fdfi.org/kbmjr-keynote.html>

Ken's Picture (serious): <http://fdfi.org/photos/washpost-kbm.jpg>

Ken's picture (smiling): http://fdfi.org/photos/kbm_media.jpg

FDFI Short Film: <http://vsconfronts.org/video/to-build-strong-children/>

FDFI Animated Short Film: <http://www.fdfi.org/human-trafficking-education-curriculum.html>

PROTECT Video: <http://www.fdfi.org/protect.html>

CBS Evening News Interview: <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/family-of-abolitionist-frederick-douglass-continues-his-legacy/>

Follow us:

Website: www.fdfi.org

Facebook: <http://fdfi.org/facebook>

Twitter: [@douglassfamily](https://twitter.com/douglassfamily)

Follow Ken on Twitter: [@kmorrisjr](https://twitter.com/kmorrisjr)

Text **FAMILY** to **515-55** to receive mobile updates and opportunities from FDFI

Text **FD2018** to **717-77** to donate to the One Million Abolitionists project

Text **PREVENT** to **919-99** to make a contribution to FDFI's human trafficking projects