

Exclusive Interview With Dr. Alvy Ph.D in Psychology

Written by Patricia Turnier LL.M
Friday, 01 March 2013 00:00



Clinton congratulating Dr. Alvy for an Award for Enhancing the Status of Parents, National Parents' Day, Oval Office, 1995

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Dr. Kerby T. Alvy Ph.D has decades of experience in clinical child psychology. His approach focuses on preventing [child abuse](#), drug abuse, juvenile delinquency and other problems--often intertwined--in which parent-child relationships are deemed a crucial factor. It is important to note that 2 million kids were abused and neglected in the U.S. in 2008 (1).

Thus, Dr. Alvy, an advocate of the welfare of children, is the executive director of the Center for the Improvement of Child Caring (CICC), based in North Hollywood, California. The Center provides help to more than 20, 000

[parents](#)

a year. Dr. Alvy lends his expertise on child rearing on a regular basis to government and civic bodies. He also appears on television and radio programs on child, family and parent training issues. In addition, he serves as a consultant to governmental agencies, corporations, news departments, film and television companies on these matters. He is a frequent keynote speaker and workshop leader at events nationwide.

Over the years, Dr. Alvy has created, delivered and disseminated model parent training programs. All of the activities and projects of the CICC are designed to bring coherence and strength to the nationwide Effective Parenting Movement in order to improve the overall quality of parenting in the United States. He and his organization work primarily with African-American and Latino children.

Dr. Alvy has been a Principal Investigator on research projects sponsored by the National Institute of Mental Health, the National Institute on Drug Abuse, and the U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. He designed and advocated a federal government-led effective parenting initiative which he presented at a White House Briefing in December 2006.

Dr. Alvy has founded and directed several community service projects to increase parental effectiveness and reduce [child abuse](#), drug abuse, juvenile delinquency, school failure and gang involvement. His projects have gained the support of various state and local funding agencies, and the support of over 75 private foundations and corporations, including the Ford Foundation, AT&T, Xerox, Annenberg, Mattel and Hearst.

Dr. Alvy was previously affiliated for seven years with Kedren Community Mental Health Center in the Watts area of Los Angeles where he was the Director of Children's Services and with the Los Angeles Campus of the California School of Professional Psychology for 17 years where he served as Professor and Dean for Academic Affairs. He also taught at other institutions such as

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UCLA and the California State University at Los Angeles.

Dr. Alvy's writings have appeared on the editorial pages of metropolitan newspapers like the *Los Angeles Times* and in professional journals such as the *American Psychologist* and the *Journal of Community Psychology*. Dr. Alvy is a prolific author of books and articles on parenting, parent training, child development and [child abuse](#) prevention. His written works have been translated in other languages such as Spanish and Khmer.

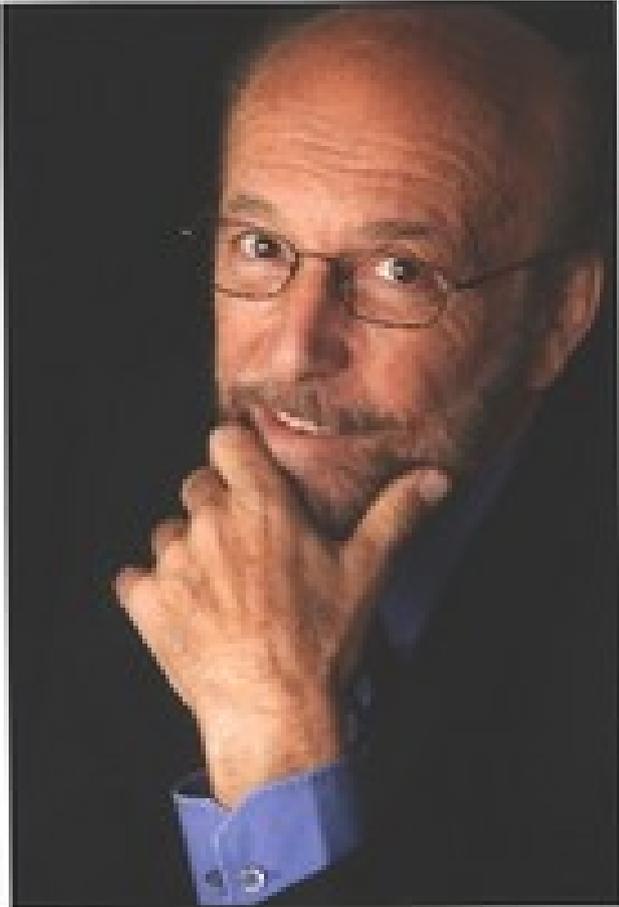
His major publications include: 1) Parent Training Today: A Social Necessity, 2) Black Parenting: Strategies for Training, 3) The Power of Positive Parenting, 4) his latest book: The Soulful Parent: Raising Healthy, Happy and Successful African American Children. The latter talks particularly about the program Effective Black Parenting. The Soulful Parent provides tools such as a point system chart where parents write points for the good behavior of their children, for instance putting the clothes away, making the bed and so on. The cover of the book is an illustration of a beautiful picture of an African-American family showcasing unity of three generations à la the Huxtables from *The Cosby Show*.

On a more personal note, Dr. Alvy was born in New York. He has Spanish and Jewish origins. He was married to Mary Alvy, a teacher, for 30 years. The couple has two adult children, Lisa and Brittany. *Here, Dr. Alvy talks to us about his latest book and shares his expertise in child rearing in the African-American community.*

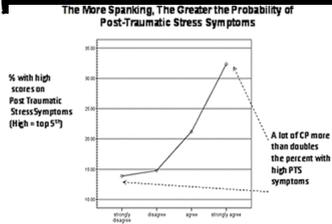
[This interview is the 2012 version which was posted previously on our webmag]

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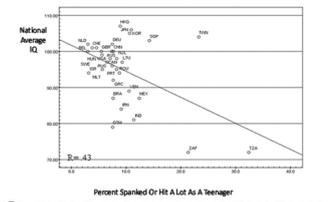
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Dr. Alvy Ph.D in Psychology is a leading expert in the field of psychology, with a focus on the relationship between parenting styles and mental health. He has spent the last 20 years of his career studying the effects of corporal punishment on children's psychological well-being. His research has shown that children who are spanked are more likely to develop post-traumatic stress symptoms, and that countries with higher rates of corporal punishment have lower national IQ scores. Dr. Alvy is a frequent speaker at conferences and has published numerous articles on these topics. He is currently a professor at a major university and continues to be an active researcher in his field.



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