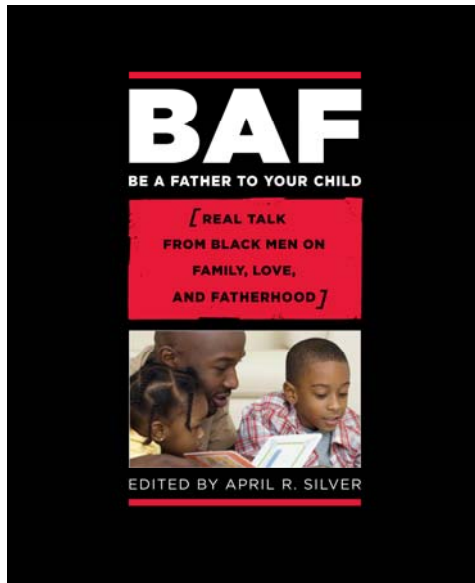


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**Groundbreaking Anthology
Discusses Family, Love,
Fatherhood and Hip Hop, as
Told by Black Men!**

In the age of hip hop, how do Black fathers relate to their children, as well as to their own fathers? How do they see—and play—their roles in both family and community?

Editor **April R. Silver** weaves together a seamless tapestry of essays, poems, lyrics, and interviews from both analytic and anecdotal perspectives - from the corner to the campus - to address issues of Black masculinity and fatherhood at the birth and maturation of hip hop culture. There are twenty-four contributors in this anthology.

Be a Father to Your Child begins with a frank discussion of how family formation has changed since the 1960s, especially for communities of color. Individual entries then flesh out historical, sociological, and cultural contexts, examining the impact of welfare, child support, criminal justice, and employment policies on young men of color, Black men in particular. Key to the pieces is the role of hip hop as an influential cultural phenomenon that shaped the individual writer's conceptions of sexual behavior, family formation, fathering, and community building. Gripping firsthand narratives expound on statistical data to form a powerful composite portrait of the challenges facing modern African American communities, and how to overcome them.

Be a Father to Your Child is a timely and accessible anthology that reaches across genres to understand how young Black fathers relate to their children, their fathers, and themselves.

~ more ~

“Buy a book, support a cause!” One of the main objectives of *Be a Father to Your Child* is to support the *Black Men and Boys Initiative* (BMB) of the Twenty-First Century Foundation (www.21cf.org). BMB exists to provide grants for work aimed at “addressing the root causes of problems facing Black men and boys.” BMB also seeks to “raise the visibility of critical issues facing Black men and boys nationally in a way that leads to substantive action.” For this reason, the contributors and the editor *Be a Father to Your Child* have agreed to forgo their royalties in order to make the project a charitable cause. Royalties will be donated to support the BMB initiative.

***Be a Father to Your Child* Contributors (24) ***

Lumumba Akinwale-Bandele	Loren S. Harris	Shaun Neblett
Adisa Banjoko	Lasana Omar Hotep	James Peterson
Mo Beasley	Byron Hurt	Kevin Powell
Thabiti Boone	Timothy D. Jones	Rhymefest
Dion “Showtime” Chavis	Saddi Khali	Bill Stephney
William Jelani Cobb	Bakari Kitwana	Cheo Tyehimba
Davey D.	Talib Kweli	Kevin Williams
Steven G. Fullwood	Aaron Lloyd	Alford A. Young, Jr.

* *Contributor bio/blurbs are available upon request.*

About the Editor

April R. Silver is a widely respected social entrepreneur, activist, and writer. She is founder of AKILA WORKSONGS, Inc., an “arts and activism” multi-service company and is co-founder/producer of the country’s first national hip hop conference (Howard University, 1991). A former television talk show host of *My Two Cents* on BETJ, she has been frequently featured, profiled, or quoted in *Time*, *Newsweek*, *The Washington Post*, *Ebony*, *Ms.*, *The Amsterdam News*, and many other outlets. Silver resides and works in Brooklyn, NY.

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Be a Father to Your Child: Real Talk from Black Men on Family, Love, and Fatherhood
Edited by April R. Silver

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