



Kenneth B. Morris, Jr. Speaker Introduction

Mr. Morris descends from two of the most important names in American history: he is the great-great-great grandson of Frederick Douglass and the great-great grandson of Booker T. Washington. His life until the year 2007 could be described as distinguished yet decisively disengaged from his lineage until Providence called.

Today, Ken's career and life path are driven by a mission to end human trafficking and all forms of servitude with a clear focus on the restoration of the dignity and well being of its victims. He could not have predicted that one day he would so fully embrace and be defined by the characteristics that so closely defined his famous ancestors.

Ken is now the President of the Frederick Douglass Family Foundation (FDFE), a public charity that endeavors to create a modern Abolitionist Movement in schools all over the country through the vehicle of Service-Learning.

Some of the work done by Ken and the foundation since 2007 include: reaching approximately 50,000 middle and high school students through the Frederick Douglass Dialogues Tour; appearing on television, radio and in newspaper articles (including CNN, Newsweek Video, PBS, the Tavis Smiley Show and the Washington Post), creating the Abolition Day Project allowing students to bring awareness of human trafficking to millions of people all over the United States and initiating HR 929, the House Resolution to recognize Abolition Day internationally as well as the work of Frederick Douglass and FDFE toward ending slavery.

In addition, he has lectured about the history of his family at universities all over the country including Columbia University, Morehouse College, Kennesaw State, UNLV, Tuskegee University and the University of West Virginia. His most recent appearance is in a 2011 National Geographic documentary on the Massachusetts 54th Regiment commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the start of the Civil War.

Ken received an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from the University of La Verne in January, 2012. He has a beautiful wife, Diana, and two lovely daughters, Jenna and Nicole.