

UNDERSTANDING A SPECIAL FATHERHOOD

A book and accompanying
conversation & writing
prompt workbook for educators

Dads of Disability

Accounting for the special role a father has

Too often, programs that train genetic counselors, therapists, social workers, physicians and others fail to fully account for a father's special role in parenting a child who has a disability. Let's change that!

Why me?

My son has a rare genetic disorder. When he was 12, after exhausting many other options, he entered a residential school. At that point, my depression and guilt could have gone in many bad directions. Instead, I chose to research the need and develop a book of essays by and about fathers to help professionals, parents, and caregivers build empathy and empathize with special fathers.

It started with a book

I made calls to genetic counselors, and found out that almost without fail, they wanted additional resources for them and their clients to help fathers and those that support them. I spent the next 18 months in an odyssey of crowdfunding, emails, phone calls, book layout, working marketing contracts to pay the mortgage, and managing my son's placement and care.

Success!

The project was the subject of many podcasts, articles, and I even coordinated and ran a speaking tour which led me, among other places, to speak to Masters in Genetic Counseling Students at Tufts, Brandeis, and Johns Hopkins/NIH — where a White House representative attended and had tea with me after! I also led a fathers' storytelling group for the Williams Syndrome Association and was privileged to be asked to write guest blogs for amazing organizations, including Easter Seals.

Who the project has helped

The book has been useful for genetic counselors, social workers, special education teachers, physicians, psychologists, and parents and caregivers. It's about empathy. The book has even saved a life (I am not ready to tell that story yet, but it's true!)

Winter 2020! Departmental licensing and accompanying workbook for educators

I have built a conversation prompts and writing prompts workbook with over 200 prompts and have packaged it together with a digital copy of the book as a departmental license for college, university, hospital, and other programs.

Stories for, by, and about fathers whose children experience disability (and the women who love them)

Dads of Disability

What does the package consist of?

A digital version of the Dads of Disability Book

You get a digital PDF version of the book inscribed and for exclusive use for student and faculty in your specific department.

A digital version of a conversation and writing prompt workbook

You get a digital PDF version of the workbook inscribed and for exclusive use for student and faculty in your specific department. This workbook contains over 200 thought provoking questions and challenges. They can be used in a variety of educational settings and will elicit thoughts, discussions, and writing across a wide variety of issues surrounding fathers whose offspring experience disability.

What are the departmental licensing terms?

You can distribute the electronic book and electronic workbook to any student, faculty, or adjunct who is a part of your specific department for a period of two years from the delivery date. This is an unlimited license. You may not distribute the electronic book or workbook to any other person or entity outside of your department. For campus-wide or organization wide licensing (such as an entire hospital), please contact gdietz@garydietz.com



See <https://tinyurl.com/dietzdads> for a 90 second video

Introductory Cost: \$299 (regularly \$399)

This price is good through December 31, 2020. Remember, this is for an unlimited student / instructor license of the digital content. This is the same cost as buying 2 ½ dozen of the paper book. Yet it is for unlimited digital copies for you and your students AND you get the discussion and writing prompt workbook.

How to order

- Order online with major credit cards at www.dadsofdisability.com
- Send a purchase order (net 30) to this address
- Send a check to "Gary Dietz" for US\$299 to this address: Gary Dietz, PO Box 21, Brookline, New Hampshire, 03033 (USA)

"...Mr. Dietz has been a guest speaker in the genetic counseling program for several years. Our program places a strong emphasis on learning from a wide variety of personal narratives, particularly with parents of a child with a genetic condition and/or disability. Bringing in Mr. Dietz provides our students the opportunity to hear his take on being a dad and the experiences he and his son have shared in their interactions with healthcare providers, educators, and other service providers in the community. His presentation broadens our understanding and challenges our thinking, revealing the biases we often hold towards fathers."
- Gayun Chan-Smutko, MS, LCGC