**Success Stories: Insights by African American Men** 

Release 2016

A Few Excerpts from "Success Stories insights by African American

Men"

A quote from USC student Troy Durk: ""Humble beginnings" is a term often

used to describe one's hardships and eventual rise to success. I am from Los

Angeles, California. Growing up in the midst of adversity is a common thread

shared by many and generally accepted by its residents. I too, am a part of

that thread. I spent most of my life in South Central Los Angeles and

Inglewood, humble beginnings indeed. However, though the temptations

were many and the pull of the streets were like a magnet, I did not allow

myself to become a statistic and fall victim to my environment. I decided to

....."

A quote from Stanford Student Remound Wright: "It doesn't matter if I

attend one of the leading academic institutions in the world. I'm still going to

get followed by the police through the streets of Palo Alto, and they'll still

have their headlights off so that I can't tell it's them. They will still follow me

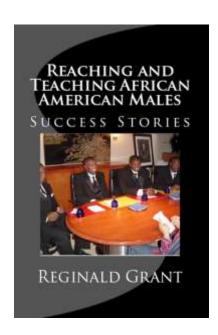
on Stanford University's campus and pull me over in the parking lot of my

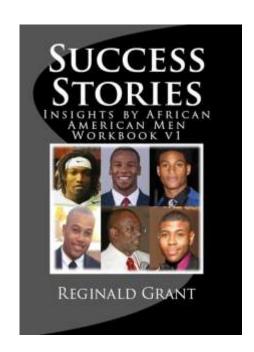
own dorm as though I don't belong."

A quote from Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr: "I've had my share of

opportunities to give up and quit on myself and to believe that good things,

no great things were not intended for me. The story that illustrates this best is after my graduation from high school I was determined that I was to attend college. My high school guidance counselor never met with me to help me understand how to apply for college. In fact, I didn't know that you had to apply for college. However, I caught the city bus and made my way to Texas Southern University in my hometown of Houston, TX anyway. I arrived at the Registrar's Office and stood in line with all of the other students only to discover that they had applied and were prepared to be processed and admitted..... However, this is where I learned the importance of knowing what my mother taught me. "God will never let you down, so don't you ever stop believing in yourself!" I refused to leave the registration line when I was told that I had not applied and should go...." Read his entire of all the available piece and others, at https://www.createspace.com/5057020, or in eBook format on Amazon.com.





Book and Workbook with 5 college students stories and worksheets

Author: Reginald Grant Publisher: Reginald Grant /

A Family of Authors

ISBN - 978-1522831242

ISBN - 152283124X

Pages 230

Hard Copy \$ 24.95

Ebook version \$ 6.95

Available on Amazon.com

## Description"

This new book was released in 2016 at the Los Angeles Public Library Author Series" Literacy is Every Thing. "Success Stories: Insights by African American Men" is an inspirational collection of stories by 19 African American Men. It also includes researched based information by Reginald Grant, MSEd on Reaching and Teaching African American Children. A cross generational collection of stories from college students to men in retirement, a true glimpse into the journey of African American Men in America.

"African American males want the same things as everyone else, a family, a job a education, the opportunity to live the American dream." J. Everett Pearsall, Executive Director of the National Alliance of African American Athletes. I, nor most African American males don't want any handouts or hand me downs, just the opportunity to compete on a level playing field. But, being an African American male in American is a unique experience.

Black men are our ancestors, fathers, husbands, baby daddies, boyfriends, nephews and sons,—they are all of us—and it is past time to eradicate the stigmas surrounding African American Males. We need to step up to fight the misinformation too often perpetrated in main stream media. In the first section of the book are their Success Stories, told by African American Men. How they have persevered and overcome here in the American system so heavily stacked against them.

In the book we look at the research, the historical factors and hopefully provide some insight and solutions.

## **Author: Reginald Grant**

Has a Master's in Education, Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL). He has been an English teacher since 2002. He is a state of California Certificated English Teacher and taught public school for eleven years. For four years he has focused on research, teaching English as a Second Language and speaking. He is back in the classroom working with urban youth, writing and presenting workshops. In 2011 he served on the CASHEE – California State High School Exit Exam development/review panel for English. He is committed to making a positive difference in the lives of others and sees education as the force for change. He is an alumni member of Sigma Tau Delta, International English Honor Society.

He is currently on the board of directors for three non profits, NAAAA presenters of the "Watkins Award" for scholar athletes, Powers Women's Network and the GCUMM, General Commission on United Methodist Men. Prior to entering education he was a businessman and professional athlete (New York Jets, NFL & Ottawa ,CFL) after graduation from the University of Oregon. He often speaks on Culturally Inclusive Curriculum, ESL, Mentoring and the Winners Mindset. Visit him online at <a href="www.rgrant.com">www.rgrant.com</a> or <a href="www.rgrant.com">www.rgrant.com</a> available on Amazon.com.

Contact: 323 503 5675 , reginaldreggiegrant@gmail.com

## The Success Stories included in the book are as follows.

```
Remound Wright (Stanford Student, Watkins Award Alumni)
"A Lifetime of Fear ...a young black man in America"
Michael Montgomery (Retired NFL)
"A heartbeat away from your destiny"
Charles Barnes (Musician, Author)
"If You keep Going Everything will be Alright"
Casey Cummings (Branding Professional)
"The Cummings Family, A Family of Success
Chase J. Moore (Holy Cross)
, "My Vocation"
Zachary Byrge , (UCLA) "Beating the Odds"
Troy Durk (USC) "Humble Beginnings"
Caylin L. Moore (Fulbright Scholar, TCU)
"Life isn't Easy",
Robert Carter (Retired LAPD),
"Take advantage of your Opportunities"
Chris Ward, Phd (Retired NFL All-Pro, Minister),
"From a Dumpster to the NFL and beyond"
Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr. (Minister, UMM)
"Don't you ever stop believing in yourself?"
Robert "Bob" Baddy (Retired Dept of Commerce), "
47 foreign countries...What a Journey!" 1
Mark Campbell, (Educator, Speaker)
"Are You Running Away from Something or Sprinting Towards
Greatness?"
Tyrone Tate (Educator, Entrepreneur )
"How could I be so unique in overcoming adversity without God?"
```

Ashley Tucker (Actor, Writer), "Victors not Victims." 16.

J. Everette Pearsall (Director Nonprofit).

"From West Baltimore to the World"

Delmus Harris (Law Enforcement).

**"Overcoming Destructive Comments from Others** 

Steven Holden (Former NFL player, Coach)
"From Watts to the NFL because I Listened"

Reginald Grant ( Author, Educator, Speaker), " **Stop Pigeonholing Me** ".and more.....

Plus Section Two of the book "Reaching and Teaching African American Males"

<u>www.Afamilyofauthors.com</u> / <u>www.rgrant.com</u> / www.grantlanguageacademy.com