

NEWS

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When Homosexuality Hits Home . . .

In a politically correct climate, how could the child of an overtly homosexual father communicate to society her experience of personal trauma and her message that children are affected by the sexual example of their parents? The provocative speaker and new author has broadcast her passionate saga to audiences and lawmakers in the U.S., Canada, and beyond.

“I’ve learned from all the chaos and misery of my childhood and know I have a duty to share my hard-won insights with the world,” says Stefanowicz. Flying home after her mother’s funeral in Florida, through blinding bright clouds, in the fall of 2001, “hovering in the air for a few quiet moments between the world I was born into and the world I’d created with my husband, Vince,” the author says she started to discern the work that lay ahead for her in telling her story. “My father’s sexual behaviors and choices went awry under the guise of sexual freedom, placing me in situations which would be troubling to many children,” Dawn writes of *Out from Under: The Impact of Homosexual Parenting* [Winepress Publishers, 2007]. The reader will be intrigued as unexpected tangles, discarded dreams, and a desperate search for *Daddy’s love* are poignantly unveiled.

“While prayerfully reminiscing about the family I grew up in and realizing how important it is to be thankful for my parents, and for life itself, I feel this side of the “sexual revolution”—its unspoken, negative effects on the children of gay parents—must be heard. The compelling first-person account of her childhood in cosmopolitan Toronto is an eye-opening, fast-paced narrative which leaves the strong impression that alternative households may not be as rosy as they can seem. Over two decades of direct exposure to these stressful experiences in her home and the subcultures, Dawn reports, caused her insecurity, depression, suicidal thoughts, dread, anxiousness, low self-esteem, sleeplessness, nightmares, and sexual confusion.

“The silence and dark secrets lurking below the surface that children of such homes have to bear can be overwhelmingly confusing, agonizing, and have long-term consequences,” says Stefanowicz. “Beginning in the 1960s, surrounded by diverse cultural values, I witnessed the rapidly expanding gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transsexual subcultures of my cosmopolitan city. In the span of forty years, there were a number of surprising twists in cultural and legal developments. Voices demanding rights for sexual minorities were highly vocal. Other cities and countries watched Canada and followed suit. As the global debate continues, I hope my voice can be useful in addressing current questions faced internationally on same-sex unions, gay parenting, sexuality, and education.”

Revealing, yet not disregarding a standard of good taste, *Out From Under* is a gripping read about one child’s deeply troubling experiences growing up in a homosexual household. Now an outspoken advocate of laws protecting children, it took Dawn into her early 30s to fully understand how her rearing in this environment impacted her. See how she confronts the forbidden darkness, gets out from under the foreboding weight of family secrets, and finds a future filled, surprisingly, with hope.

For a review copy or to schedule interviews please contact Dawn Stefanowicz. Further information is available at: www.dawnstefanowicz.com.



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