

*Before you hit a woman,
remember her father
loved her first.*

© Victor McTeer Photography

1st Place - Best in show and 1st Place - People's Choice Award * Delta Artists Association on September 25, 2011 *** *Photograph of Mr. Danny Bolden by Victor McTeer*



Bishop Roderick Mitchell - Cleveland, MS



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Rev. Larry Keys - Ruleville, MS



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Brother Joe McCall - Greenwood, MS

Hearts of Fathers: A Conversation

*An emotional and stunning series of black and white photographs
by Victor McTeer of men who have survived domestic violence*

December 29, 2011

Photography Exhibit - 5:30 p.m.

Conversation - 6:30 p.m.

1213 VFW Road

(Our House -Main Entrance-Front Building)

*Our House, Inc. - Mission is to eliminate domestic violence and sexual assault through
intervention, prevention, prosecution, victim protection and sustainable restoration*



Engaging Men to End Domestic Violence

You are invited to a compelling, powerful, sensitive, and spiritual event:
“Hearts of Fathers-A Conversation”

On December 29, 2011, Our House, Inc. will host a Photography Exhibit of men who have suffered as a result of domestic violence. Exhibit photographs will feature:

- **Danny Bolden**, whose daughter was killed by a young man she dated while attending college. An image of Danny Bolden was placed in the Member’s Exhibition of the Delta Artists Association sponsored by the Greenville Arts Council in September 2011 and won 1st place for two separate awards—Best in Show and the People’s Choice Award.
- **Rev. Larry Keys** lost his granddaughter to domestic violence. No one at school believed her or understood the danger when she told of her boyfriend’s text threatening to kill her. She was murdered at Rev. Keys’ home in front of his wife and grandson in 2009.
- **Bishop Roderick Mitchell** was raised in a home of domestic violence. He remembers the Christmas Eve when he, his brother, his sister, and his mother hid in a ditch to escape their father’s violence. His father was a police officer. Bishop Mitchell speaks frequently about preventing domestic violence. Vice-President Joe Biden awarded him the “Champion of Change” Award for Fathers in 2011.
- **Brother Joe McCall** regularly speaks to over 1,500 youth on building and maintaining healthy relationships. He still vividly remembers his father stomping on his mother.

This emotional and stunning series of black and white photography was composed by Victor McTeer Photography LLC. McTeer said, *“Although, I did not know then, the assignment given me by the people of Our House was a critical life experience for me. It was a call to action.”*

When asked about the exhibition, Dr. Patricia Davenport commented, *“The startling truth is that we cannot accomplish our mission without the support of the community, especially men. This is why this exhibit is so important.”* Davenport’s private and personal mission is to involve men in Our House programs and activities. *“There is a generational curse among our people that must be broken in order to save our society. We must go back to the family and treat everyone with respect. Shutting our doors to neighbors must stop. Blaming all men must stop. There are good men in our community and we need them to stand up and say ‘enough is enough.’ We can no longer sit in offices, homes, schools and businesses without getting involved. My hope is that this exhibit will encourage men to speak out against domestic violence, to set an example, to financially support our agency, to reach out and touch a life. Tomorrow’s bright future compels all to take a stand today for what is good and right.”*

About Our House

Our House, Inc.’s mission is to eliminate domestic violence and sexual assault through intervention, prevention, prosecution, victim protection and sustainable restoration.

Why Our Work is Necessary

In 2010, 394 youth between the ages of 13-24 who live in Washington, Bolivar, Leflore and Humphreys counties (Mississippi) were interviewed. Of the interviewees, 83.5% stated they had witnessed domestic violence at school, 79% had witnessed domestic violence at their home, and 79% stated they had witnessed inappropriate sexual behaviors at school.

ALL PROCEEDS AND DONATIONS SUPPORT ACTIVITIES OF OUR HOUSE, INC. AND ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Victor McTeer's Message from his January's 2012 newsletter.

WE WILL NO LONGER TURN A BLIND EYE TO DOMESTIC ABUSE--AN IMAGE OF GREENVILIAN DANNY BOLDEN WINS AN AWARD



Danny Bolden in "Before you strike a woman, remember her father loved her first."

How can a man be a victim of domestic abuse?

Our House, Inc., is a Greenville, Mississippi charity that provides housing, counseling and other services to women and children that are victims of domestic abuse. The organization also sponsors speeches by men to young boys and other adults about the evils of domestic abuse against women.

Each of these men was no stranger to domestic abuse. Danny Bolden and Rev. Larry Keyes lost beautiful teenage daughters tragically killed by young men. Brother Joe McCall and Bishop Roderick Mitchell were raised in homes where women and children were victims of an abusive father.

Our House Director, Dr. Pat Davenport asked me to attempt to capture images of these men as they talked about their experiences. During a two day shoot, we heard their stories as I individually photographed them in the presence of Our House staff. The result was an series of photographs that show the emotional impact that domestic abuse can have upon the fathers, grandfathers, sons and brothers of female abuse victims. Yes, innocent men can suffer loss, frustration, guilt and a sense of hopelessness as a result of domestic abuse inflicted upon the women and children that they love.

Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women in the United States between the ages of 15 and 44--more than car accidents, muggings, and rapes combined. A woman in the U.S. is assaulted or beaten every 15 seconds. There are 16,800 homicides and 2.2 million (medically treated) injuries due to intimate partner violence annually.

An image of Danny Bolden, whose daughter was killed by a young man she dated while attending college, was placed in the Member's Exhibition of the Delta Artists Association sponsored by the Greenville Arts Council in Greenville MS on Friday, September 25, 2011. The picture won two separate awards--Best in Show and the People's Choice Award. Victor McTeer Photography was very honored to receive the \$350 award and certificate.

In turn, McTeer Photography gave the money to Our House to help its efforts to assist the victims of domestic abuse and stop the injury to women and children our homes and communities. **We can no longer turn a blind eye to domestic abuse.**

"HEARTS OF OUR FATHERS: A CONVERSATION", EXHIBIT OPENED THURSDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 29, 2011 AT OUR HOUSE



Brother Joe McCall

Bishop Roderick Mitchell

Rev. Larry Keyes

A standing room only crowd heard from photographer Victor McTeer and four male victims of domestic abuse upon women at the Our House Building in Greenville Mississippi on Thursday night, December 29, 2011. McTeer provided a personal introduction of each of these men, Bro. Joe Wille McCall, Rev. Larry Keyes, Bishop Roderick Mitchell and Danny Bolden that included an exhibition of 80 images culled from the thousands of images taken of the men during a two day shoot. Afterwards, each of the gentlemen provided their personal and sometimes emotional reflections of the events in their lives that so affected them

and the significant women or girls in their lives.

These pictures reflect the loss, frustration, fear and anger that men can endure as a result of domestic abuse inflicted upon women and children. This was a powerful and unforgettable experience for me and the others present during the shoot as each man, in his own way, described the personal impact of domestic abuse upon their lives and the lives of their loved ones.

I hope that these images, including the award winning picture of Greenvillian Danny Bolden entitled, "Before you Strike a Woman, Remember her Father loved her First.", will help to convince men and women that physical and mental abuse of women, men and children must stop right now.

Our House, Inc., remains one of the only facilities in our region that provides a safe haven, counseling and other benefits to women and children forced to leave their homes due to domestic violence. I hope that you will consider a financial gift to Our House in order to help its ongoing efforts to stop the abuse and violence. If you are interested in learning more about Our House, Inc., please call them at 662-332-5683 or view their web-site at ourhousenewbirth.com