

ONCE UPON A TIME...

"It's all a question of story. We are in trouble just now because we do not have a good story. We are in between stories. The Old Story, the account of how we fit into it, is no longer effective. Yet we have not learned the New Story."
- Thomas Berry



What If We Embraced A New Story Of Childhood, Parenthood and The Human Family?

By Lisa Reagan

What if everything we thought and believed to be true turned out to be a story passed down from parent to child through daily, unconscious habits to ceremonial traditions, all designed to help us make sense of our world?

What if the chaos we are witnessing in and around us today is a symptom, evidence even, of an Old Story - the belief in our separateness - breaking down?

Would our fears be lessened and our curiosity piqued if we made a conscious choice to turn our attention toward this emerging New Story? Could an expanding sense of wonder allow room for questions like:

What if babies are conscious? What if sustainability begins with conception? What if Womb Ecology Becomes World Ecology?

When we consider the way we create meaning has always been through

stories, other questions arise, like, *Who wrote these stories? Can they be changed? What steps can we take toward shifting our current, industrial story of a disconnected humanity to a life-affirming and empowering narrative authored, as always, by US.*

Our daily choices and habits are informed by the context, the Big Picture, whether we are aware we hold a worldview, a personal mythology or a story of our own being and becoming. This revelation is no sentimental notion, but a scientific fact of human conscious development (see www.noetic.org for 40 years of research).

Families for Conscious Living and its initiatives have explored this New Story from the ground up in grassroots' communities and from the top down with frontier science researchers and social changemakers for 20 years. FCL's nonprofit work has been led by

families who have sought out insight and solutions to shifting their own awareness from the limits of the Old Story to the practical wisdom of conscious living heralded in the interconnected threads of the New Story. This New Story comes with its own language, phrases like [Cultural Creatives](#), [Grounded Expansion](#), [Harmonic Family Resonance](#), and the Ecology of the Child.

What is needed at this time is a safe gathering place, a sanctuary, created with great compassion to inspire and welcome our imaginations to engage in open dialogue, create connected community and identify resources that support an adventurous exploration of holistic, peaceful and sustainable living.

Take a look inside to discover FCL's vision to meet these needs...

ENDORSEMENTS



FCL is proud to be recognized as a Top-Rated Nonprofit by [GreatNonprofits](#) again in 2015

"This not-for-profit is an engine room, it generates rivers of social capital. It is exactly the kind of initiative that brings me hope and reassures me - someone is doing something powerful to change the world from childhood up - and the ripples will be felt far and wide."
- Robin Grille, Parenting for a Peaceful World

"There are lots of organizations who help families, but FCL is the most progressive organization I have encountered. Their projects are consistently pushing the limits on how parents envision a better world. I love reading the pieces in Kindred - I always look forward to how each piece helps shift the paradigm to a more peaceful planet." - Karen Brody, playwright of Birth

"FCL is illuminating the strands that connect those who are consciously involved in the movement to awaken the planet. I feel extremely lucky to be a part of this network and as a graduate student at UW-Madison studying mindful wise parenting I could not feel more supported in the work I do. Families for Conscious Living connects the head, the heart, and the soul." - David Metler

"I work as a writer on topics relating to birth work, support for the dying, spirituality, and parenting. I've found the Kindred to be an excellent and progressive resource for families and individuals seeking insight, support, guidance, and inspiration. I'm honored to my work featured on their website and know that FCL is doing wonderful work in this world." - Amy Glenn, author of Birth, Breath and Death

"We need foresight. We need to do more to protect, preserve and support our next generation. FCL provides awareness, empowerment and holistic support to create a healthy future for us all." - Elly Taylor, author of Becoming Us

Kindred's 2015 Highlights

Over 200 Contributors and 15 Years of Conscious Parenting Insights: A Virtual Treasure Horde!



[How Attachment Helps Us Make Sense Of Terrorism](#)

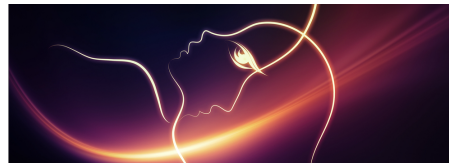
- Suzanne Zeedyk, PhD



[Ireland Bans All Corporal Punishment](#) - Robin Grille



[The Birthing Zone: Secret Men's Business](#) - Gary Caganoff



[What Is Integral Parenting?](#)

- Miriam Mason Martineau



["Grit" Training for Babies?](#)

- Darcia Narvaez, PhD



[BreastSLEEPING](#): Can A New Science-Based Holistic Concept Create Cultural Support And Resources For Parents? A podcast interview and transcript with the world's leading mother-baby sleep expert, Dr. James McKenna - Lisa Reagan



[New Study Finds Epidurals and Other Birth Interventions Increase Risk of Postpartum Depression and Decrease Exclusive Breastfeeding Rates](#)

- Kathleen Kendall-Tackett, PhD



[The Blind Leading The Blind](#): A Reaction To The AAP's New Screen Time Policy

- Michael Mendizza

"Looking for readings and videos to spark your imagination and open your heart? Kindred has what you need. Kindred is one of the best sources for holistic parenting that is aimed at child wellbeing. I am honored to be part of the team."

[Darcia Narvaez, PhD,](#)
University of Notre Dame and
Kindred Editorial Advisory Board
Member

How We Explore, Share and Enjoy The New Story... Together!



While Kindred's over 200 contributing authors share a variety of insights into the New Story, they also lead Kindred readers on an exploration of how humans have constructed stories since the beginning of time with Joseph Campbell's Hero's Journey Monomyth Wheel in FCL's Parenting as a Hero's Journey Virtual Retreat Series!

Kindred Media and Community



Kindred is an alternative media and nonprofit educational project featuring over 200+ contributors and over 15 years of conscious parenting articles, interviews and editorials. Kindred serves as a gathering place for families to explore and share their

experiences of writing a new story of childhood, motherhood, fatherhood and the ever changing and evolving adventure of being fully human.

Kindred's international editorial advisory board features researchers and scientists who are pioneering their fields and providing parents and practitioners with evidence-based insights into biological imperatives for optimal child development.

Kindred's New Story Podcast and Video Series on YouTube features interviews with leading conscious parenting experts and changemakers.

Kindred was founded by Kelly Wendorf, as the world's first eco-parenting magazine out of Australia in 2002. The magazine was in print until 2009 and became an FCL nonprofit initiative in 2010. Kelly serves on FCL's board of directors and is active in planning the nonprofit's future.

www.KindredMedia.org

Sign Up for Kindred's E-Newsletter:



Parent Liberation Alliance



The Parent Liberation Alliance is an evolving, cross-cultural program that provides parents with the science behind child brain development along with insights and tools for

reflecting upon cultural norms as a conscious move toward building the emotionally intelligent families and compassionate communities needed for peaceful social change.

The Parent Liberation Alliance has partnered with international parent nonprofits and NGO's to bring the Parent Liberation Project and facilitator training to their communities. Find out more about this global outreach and how your international organization can participate.

Teresa Graham Brett, JD, is the founder of the Parent Liberation Alliance and Project. She is the author of *Parenting for Social Change*, a editor for the alternative media outlet, Kindred, and a board of director's member of Kindred's parent nonprofit, Families for Conscious Living. She is also the associate dean of students at the University of Arizona.

www.ParentLiberationAlliance.org



PLA facilitator training in South Africa holding their manuals featuring FCL and Kindred logos.

Parenting As A Hero's Journey



Parenting As A Hero's Journey is a nonprofit educational initiative employing the elements of curiosity, fun and imagination to support parents in exploring their personal stories while unmasking

modern, uber parenting mythologies. This initiative gathers the thought leaders, pioneers, authors and activists of the conscious parenting movement together in LIVE and ON DEMAND virtual retreats that allow the participants to experience a Deep Dive into themselves with the presenter's compassionate guidance and expertise.

The initiative calls on Joseph Campbell's great Monomyth Wheel to help us have fun with the ancient process of creating and discarding personal and cultural story lines as a path to transformation.

A magazine and book edition of *Parenting As A Hero's Journey* is forthcoming.

Lisa Reagan is the creator of the Parenting As A Hero's Journey concept. She is Kindred's executive editor and FCL co-founder.

www.ParentingAsAHerosJourney.com



Kindred's Birth Psychology Resources

As a Pioneering Partner with the Association for Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Health, Kindred and Families for Conscious Living are proud to work together, collaborate and co-create multiple mediums for sharing the dynamic story of Birth Psychology. Find more [birth](#), [pregnancy](#) and [birth psychology](#) resources on Kindred. Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

New Story Video Series



This video series, shot as part of Kindred's Pioneering Partnership with [APPPAH](#), the Association for Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Health. The video features Kate White, APPPAH's education director talking with Robin Grille, Mary Jackson, Marti Glenn and Myrna Martin in a four part series. The viewer explores the Origins of Birth Psychology; Human Neurobiology and Emotional Intelligence; The Intersection of Midwifery and Birth Psychology; and more! Visit our [YouTube](#), [Vimeo](#) and [website](#) to view the birth psychology collection.

New Story Podcasts, Interviews and Features



[Creating "Harmonic Family Resonance" With Birth Psychology: An Interview With Baby Whisperer, Ray Castellino, DC](#)
"Every expression a baby makes has purpose. If I actually sit with that and actually get quiet and mindful and still enough, I will come into resonance with that baby in a way where that baby communicates to me what I need to know from them. Every parent that does that will be able to reflect the truth of that baby to themselves."



[Why Babies Remember and What Parents and Practitioners Need To Know: A Pre and Perinatal Psychology Overview With Kate White and Myrna Martin](#)



[Bringing Birth Psychology Into The World: An Interview With APPPAH President, Sandra Bardsley](#)

"APPPAH wants to help people learn about the consciousness of their unborn baby and what they can do to make their baby's life even better - right from the start."



[An Interview With IN UTERO Filmmaker, Kathleen Gyllenhaal, Includes Podcast And Transcript](#)

IN UTERO is a cinematic exploration of the sciences supporting birth psychology and humanity's potential for personal and planetary healing.



Are You Looking For Your Conscious Living Family? We're Looking For You!

As a grassroots, 501C3 nonprofit, FCL has existed through the energies and financial support of volunteers for nearly 20 years. If you are called to participate in the conscious parenting movement, we can find a place for you in our family! Email us with your passion project idea at info@FamiliesforConsciousLiving.org. You can also visit our Gold-Ranked Guidestar page, our Great Nonprofit's Award page or Network for Good to support our work at www.FamiliesforConsciousLiving.org.