

Dr. Alvin Poussaint



Local author, psychiatrist, educator, and respected social critic, Dr. Alvin Poussaint was born in East Harlem, attended Columbia and received his MD from Cornell. He received his psychiatric training at UCLA and earned a masters degree in research methodology. In 1969, he joined Harvard Medical School, where he is Professor of Psychiatry and Faculty Dean for Student Affairs. He is director of the Office of Recruitment and Multicultural Affairs. From 1994-2010, Dr. Poussaint served as Director of the Media Center of the Judge Baker Children's Center in Boston, promoting the health and well being of children and families. The Media Center launched the nonprofit Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood, which advocates reducing the impact of advertising in children's lives. He has provided consultation to government agencies, corporations, and the media.

On subjects from stress to interpersonal communication, from multiculturalism to family dynamics, Dr. Poussaint is also one of the country's top authorities. He has worked with corporate managers on the management of stress-related work issues and diversity in the workplace. An expert on the dynamics of racial and ethnic relations in America's increasingly multicultural society, he is also a strong proponent of non-violent parenting and parenting education, having devoted a great deal of time to violence prevention initiatives. Dr. Poussaint authored *Why Blacks Kill Blacks* (now out of print); co-authored with Dr. James Comer *Raising Black Children*; and co-authored with Amy Alexander Lay *My Burden Down: Suicide and the Mental Health Crisis Among African Americans*. With Bill Cosby, he co-authored *Come On, People! On the Path from Victims to Victors*, which is a powerful message for families and communities as they lay out their visions for strengthening America, or for that matter, the world. He has written over 100 articles for both lay and professional publications.