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Pres. Obama Calls Attorney Leving's 2014 Fatherhood Symposium "Important Work"

In a private meeting between United States President Barack Obama and Jeffery M. Leving, the Chairman of the [Illinois Council on Responsible Fatherhood](#) (ICRF), the Commander-in-Chief congratulated Mr. Leving on ICRF's recent 2014 Annual Symposium, a call for fathers to unite to end the plague of street violence affecting all children. Both President Obama and Attorney Leving are passionate advocates for ending violence through positive interactions between children and their fathers.



Gov. Quinn, Atty. Leving, Pres. Obama, & Atty. Hagler

"It's important work," President Obama told Chairman Leving, who moderated the Oct. 11th event at St. Sabina Church in Chicago. His remarks came during a private discussion with the Chairman.

Illinois Governor Pat Quinn and Father Michael Pflieger spoke to Symposium attendees, who included United States Congressman Danny K. Davis, about the importance of fathers being involved in their children's lives. Other notable presenters included preeminent Fathers' Rights attorneys James H. Hagler and Maureen A. Gorman, both senior litigators discussed the correlation between father absence and increased crime. They also provided solutions to help dads become active participants in their kids' lives as a means of creating safer communities.

Retired FBI Special Agent, Robert Messemer's presentation on *Protecting Our Children from Internet Risks* provided insight to raising children in the Internet age. Messemer is best known for cracking the Rodney King case.

In 2003, the State of Illinois created the ICRF by passing the Council on Responsible Fatherhood Act, with the purposes to increase awareness of the consequences of children growing up without paternal involvement and to promote responsible fatherhood.

The ICRF has been led since its inception by governor-appointed chairman, and Fathers' Rights attorney and advocate, Jeffery M. Leving, who proudly serves in this position to strengthen responsible fatherhood throughout all communities in Illinois. His latest book, [How to Be a Good Divorced Dad](#), was endorsed by the Archdiocese of Chicago and praised by President Obama.

Given the success of the 2014 and past symposiums, planning for future symposiums is already under way.