

Daryl Davis

Musician, Author, Internationally Acclaimed Conflict Navigator, Compelling Unifier, and Klan Whisperer

HATE – UNDONE: CONVERSATIONS THAT IGNITE CHANGE. Conversation can build bridges or walls. It's up to us. Daryl Davis should know. The noted Black musician gained international acclaim by confronting, face to face, leaders of the Ku Klux Klan and other White supremacist groups who hate him simply for the color of his skin. Daryl's was an effort to understand them, not to change minds, but those civil conversations forged unlikely and genuine friendships. Over time, many of his new friends changed their own minds and renounced their old beliefs. What can we learn from Daryl's inspiring and jaw-dropping experiences?

Sample Takeaways:

- Apply universal tools to create positive change wherever conflict or disagreement exists
- Prepare: Understand the other person's position and reasoning before you engage
- You needn't respect what people say but you must respect their right to say it
- Learn to listen, understand, and keep emotions in check, even in incendiary situations
- How to recover/repair a relationship with a colleague, client, friend, or family member

DIVERSITY LESSONS FROM A BLACK KLAN WHISPERER. "We spend too much time talking about the other person, talking at the other person, and talking past the other person. Amazing things can happen when we spend some time talking with the other person." So says Daryl Davis, whose jaw-dropping experiences engaging KKK and White supremacist leaders hold lessons that inspire audiences to think differently about how they engage others who don't share their views, backgrounds, religion, etc. The more we talk, the more we understand each other and discover what we have in common. That's when the possibilities open up and the importance of our differences diminishes.

Sample Takeaways:

- Learn to build bridges and ignite positive change in the workplace, community, and at home
- Everyone wants the same 5 things – learn what they are and how they drive behavior
- Spend 5 minutes together and you will find things in common with even your worst enemy
- A missed opportunity for dialogue is a missed opportunity for conflict resolution
- The power of empathy – put yourself in the other person's shoes

2042 – WHAT'S DRIVING HATE AND HOW TO STOP IT. The forces of hate are on the rise in America, making more headlines each day. What can be done about this troubling trend? With over 40 years of engaging KKK and far-right White supremacist groups as a Black man, Daryl Davis provides answers and tells audiences what's driving this domestic terror, including fear of 2042, the year America is predicted to become a non-White majority nation. Fringe groups are stoking people's worst fears about that – fostering hate that is very real and extremely dangerous. In this talk, Daryl reminds people, hate is learned – and what is learned can be unlearned. Engaging and educating, not shunning those with toxic beliefs, is crucial. Sharing his powerful personal stories of building true friendships with the same people who once hated him simply for the color of his skin, shows how to build bridges and be a force creating a better world. Engaging those who don't share our beliefs promotes understanding and respect, even in the face of serious disagreement or differences. Daryl believes we can all play a part in ending hate because, as he says, "There's only one race – the human race."

Audiences leave Daryl's lecture understanding:

- How fear drives hate and engagement overcomes it
- The key to changing another's reality through perception
- Ways to overcome one's own prejudices, biases, and fears
- How one person can make a world of positive difference
- How to navigate a world of ever-growing diversity

HAIL, HAIL ROCK'N'ROLL – THE ULTIMATE BRIDGE-BUILDER. At its inception, Rock 'n' Roll was called "the devil's music" by its detractors. Some cities banned it altogether. Rooted in Black R&B and Blues, its

infectious beat led young people in the South to leap over the rope that segregated Whites from Blacks in the audience. The 1957, Chuck Berry lyric, "Deliver me from the days of old," in his hit song School Days, celebrated the music as a turning point in race relations. Daryl brings that history forward into his own story, using music as a common denominator and proving that musical and racial harmony go hand-in-hand.

Sample Takeaways:

- How musical inspiration differs from musical appropriation
- The Elvis conundrum: How he was crowned King of a genre he didn't create
- How Country and Blues are the same music, and why society separates them
- How a Black musical genre improved race relations and elected a Black president
- Why music is a cultural necessity and not a luxury

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