

# **Linda Nielsen**

**Professor of Adolescent and Educational Psychology at Wake Forest University**

Winston-Salem, NC, US

Nielsen's special interest is helping divorced and estranged dads and daughters reunite or strengthen their bonds.

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## **Biography**

Linda Nielsen is a nationally renowned expert on father-daughter relationships, having researched and written about the topic since 1970. For more than 25 years, she has taught the only known college class in the U.S. devoted exclusively to father-daughter relationships.

Her latest book, *Father-Daughter Relationships: Contemporary Research and Issues*, examines what improves or weakens these relationships and their impact on society. Written to aid social workers, family counselors, mental health practitioners and educators, Nielsen's special interest is helping divorced and estranged dads and daughters reunite or strengthen their bonds.

In addition to having written five related books and numerous articles for scholarly journals such as the *Harvard Educational Review*, her analyses of shared residential parenting after divorce have been pivotal in legislative debates about custody law revisions. Linda is a nationally recognized expert on the research on shared physical custody and shared parenting after parents separate.

Nielsen's research and advice have appeared in national news outlets such as NPR, *Wall Street Journal*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Seventeen*, *Woman's Day* and in a PBS documentary. Her work is also featured on many national organizations' web sites, including Stepfamily Association of America, National Center for Fathering, and the Center for Successful Fathering. She is a member of the American Psychological Association, National Council on Family Relationships, Council on Contemporary Families and the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts.

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## **Areas of Expertise**

Family Dynamics, Educational Psychology, Fathers and Daughters, Portrayal of Fathers in Media, Adolescent Psychology, Divorce and Stepfamilies, Shared Residential Parenting, Fairy Tales and Fatherhood Myths, Restoring Relationships

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## **Affiliations**

American Psychological Association : Member, National Council on Family Relationships : Member, Council on Contemporary Families : Member, Association of Family and Conciliation Courts : Member

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## **Education**

University of Tennessee

Ed.D. Educational Psychology

**University of Tennessee**  
M.Ed. Educational Psychology

**University of Tennessee**  
B.S. Teacher Education

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## **Accomplishments**

### **Outstanding Article Award**

Awarded by the U.S. Center for Women Scholars

### **Postdoctoral Fellowship**

Awarded by the American Association of University Women

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