

# Parenting without God

How to Raise Moral, Ethical, and Intelligent Children,  
Free from Religious Dogma, Second Edition

**Dan Arel • Foreword: Jessica Mills**

Children inevitably turn to their parents for more than just food and security; equally important are assurance, recognition, and interpretation of life. A child develops best in an environment where creativity and discovery are unimpeded by the artificial restrictions of blind faith and dogmatic belief.

*Parenting without God* is for parents, and future parents, who lack belief in a god and who are seeking guidance on raising freethinkers and social-justice-aware children in a nation where public dialogue has been controlled by the Christian Right.

Dan Arel, activist and critically acclaimed author, has penned a magnificently practical guide to help parents provide their children with the intellectual tools for standing up to attempts at religious proselytization, whether by teachers, coaches, friends, or even other family members. *Parenting without God* is also for the parent activist who is trying to make the world a better place for all children by first educating their own children about racism, sexism, and all forms of discrimination that continue to serve as a barrier to the fundamentals of human dignity and democracy. It's for parents who wish for their children to question everything and to learn how to reach their own conclusions based on verifiable evidence and reason. Above all, Arel makes the penetrating argument that parents should lead by example—both by speaking candidly about the importance of secularism and by living an openly and unabashedly secular life.

*Parenting without God* is written with humility, compassion, and understanding. Dan Arel's writing style is refreshingly lucid and conveys the unmistakable impression of a loving father dedicated to redefining the role of parenthood so that it also includes the vitally important task of nurturing every child's latent human impulse for freedom and autonomy.

This second edition has been expanded with new material from the author.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

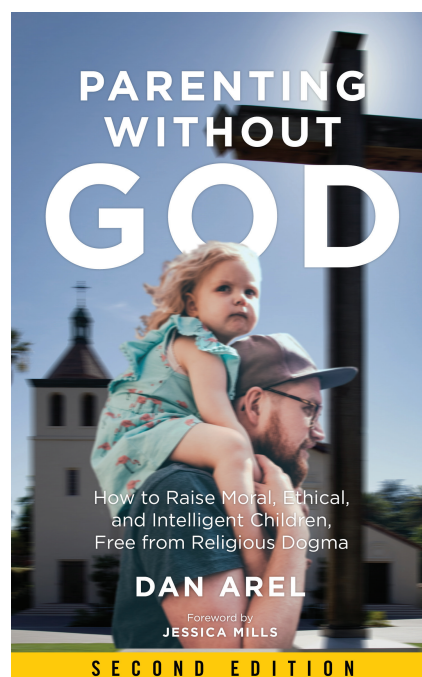
**Dan Arel** lives with his family in California, where he is a freelance writer and author. His work has appeared in such publications as *Time*, *Huffington Post*, *AlterNet*, *Salon*, *The Hill*, *The New Arab*, and more. He is the recipient of the 2014 American Atheists First Amendment Award for Investigative Journalism for his work in helping expose the Ark Encounter, a Noah's Ark theme park, which received millions of dollars in tax incentives from the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

**Jessica Mills** is a touring musician, artist, activist, writer, teacher, and mother. She is author of *My Mother Wears Combat Boots: A Parenting Guide for the Rest of Us*.

## ACCOLADES

"*Parenting without God* is not just about the absence of religion—it's about the glorious space that opens up for secular parents and their lucky kids once the clutter and smoke of religion is gone. Dan Arel's voice is clear, smart, and a welcome addition to the growing chorus of parents taking the hands of their children and running at full speed into the real world."

—Dale McGowan, author/editor of *Parenting Beyond Belief* and *Raising Freethinkers*



## SUBJECT CATEGORY

Atheism/Parenting

## PRICE

\$15.95

## ISBN

978-1-62963-708-2

## PAGE COUNT

176

## SIZE

5x8

## FORMAT

Paperback

## PUBLICATION DATE

10/19

## DISTRIBUTED BY

Independent Publishers Group  
(312) 337-0747  
www.ipgbook.com

## DISTRIBUTED IN THE UK/EUROPE BY

Turnaround Publisher Services Ltd  
t: 020 8829 3000  
orders@turnaround-uk.com

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