Belonging: The Science of Creating Connection and Bridging Divides

Geoffrey L. Cohen, Ph.D.

Beverly Daniel Tatum, Ph.D.
Assistant professor of physics and astronomy and core faculty in women's and gender studies at the University of New Hampshire. Author of The Disordered Cosmos: A Journey into Dark Matter, Spacetime, and Dreams Deferred.

Thursday, September 15, 2022, 7:00 PM Central (on Zoom)
Register: www.bit.ly/CohenFANWebinar
PLUS: After-Hours Event!
Purchase a copy of Belonging from FAN's partner bookseller The Book Stall to receive a link to an interactive “After-Hours” event hosted by Prof. Cohen. Details on the webinar registration page.

Presented by Family Action Network (FAN), in partnership with

This event is #freeandopentothepublic and will be recorded. Suitable for youth 12+. familyactionnetwork.net
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: GEOFFREY L. COHEN, Ph.D. – ON ZOOM
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Thursday, September 15, 2022, 7:00-8:00 PM CT, Belonging: The Science of Creating Connection and Bridging Divides, a FAN webinar featuring Geoffrey Cohen, Ph.D., in conversation with Beverly Daniel Tatum, Ph.D.


BONUS AFTER-HOURS EVENT: Attendees who purchase a copy of Belonging from FAN's partner bookseller The Book Stall are invited to attend an AFTER-HOURS event hosted by Prof. Cohen that will start immediately after the webinar. Details on the webinar registration page.

We live in enormously divisive times. Divisions based on class, politics, race, religion, gender, and nationality are erupting around the globe. The consequences of not having a sense of belonging range from political strife to illness to underperformance at work and in the classroom. Americans have become disconnected from their communities, and about one in five Americans suffers from chronic loneliness, especially young adults. Why is our sense of belonging so undermined? What if there were a set of science-backed techniques for navigating modern social life that could help us overcome our differences, create empathy, and forge lasting connections across divides?

Geoffrey L. Cohen, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology and the James G. March Professor of Organizational Studies in Education and Business at Stanford University, answers these questions and more in his new book Belonging: The Science of Creating Connection and Bridging Divides. As Prof. Cohen explains, often inadvertently, we behave in ways that threaten others’ sense of belonging. Yet small acts that establish connection, brief activities such as reflecting on our core values, and a wealth of practices that he refers to under the general rubric of “situation-crafting” have been shown to lessen polarization in our politics, improve motivation and performance in school and work, combat racism in our communities, enhance health and well-being, and unleash the potential in ourselves and our relationships. The book’s research is essential for managers, educators, parents, administrators, caregivers, and everyone who wants those around them to thrive.

Prof. Cohen will be in conversation with Beverly Daniel Tatum, Ph.D., interim president of Mount Holyoke College and a clinical psychologist widely known for both her expertise on race relations and as a thought leader in higher education. Her thirteen years as the president of Spelman College (2002-2015) were marked by innovation and growth and her visionary leadership was recognized in 2013 with the Carnegie Academic Leadership Award.

This event suitable for youth 12+. It will be recorded and available on our website and YouTube channel.