

Forgiveness Research Goes Viral

Demand Surges for Forgiveness Research Tools

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EINPresswire.com/ -- Surging world-wide interest in the virtue of forgiveness was vividly demonstrated this week when the International Forgiveness Institute (IFI) released updated distribution totals for its prized Forgiveness Research Tools.



Forgiveness therapy tools developed by Dr. Robert Enright are being used around the world.

In just the past 17 months, the IFI has fulfilled requests for 717 copies of its Forgiveness Research Tools received from individuals and research organizations in 41 countries and 43 US states plus the District of Columbia. The IFI began offering the tools for free on April 1, 2021.

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Dr. Robert Enright

The forgiveness tools were developed by IFI co-founder Dr. Robert Enright and his associates through the Enright Forgiveness Lab that he established at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Enright has validated those scientific measuring tools and used them in more than 50 forgiveness research projects he has conducted at locations around the world since 1993.

By far the most popular and most requested forgiveness tool (223 requests) is the Enright Self-Forgiveness Inventory (ESFI) that “captures the Aristotelian view of forgiveness as a moral virtue practiced toward the self.” According to Dr. Enright, validation of the tool demonstrates that “self-forgiveness is a moral virtue, not a psychological technique.”

Close behind in requests (201) is the Enright Forgiveness Inventory-30 (EFI-30)—a shortened version of the Enright Forgiveness Inventory for Adults that has become the interpersonal forgiveness measure tool of choice for research professionals since its development in 1995. The EFI-30 is the forgiveness tool most requested by both US and international researchers.

Two other forgiveness tools developed by Dr. Enright are also extremely popular:

- The Enright Forgiveness Inventory for Children—an objective measure of the degree to which one person forgives another who has hurt him or her deeply and unfairly (125 requests); and,
- The Enright Group Forgiveness Inventory—a newly-developed research tool that takes forgiveness from its traditional focus on individuals to a higher magnitude by concentrating on group forgiveness—an area of intervention that has dramatic implications for its ability to enhance peace efforts in the world (109 requests).

Dr. Enright is a licensed psychologist and an educational psychology professor at UW-Madison who pioneered the scientific study of forgiveness. He wrote the first scientific journal article on person-to-person forgiveness, is often introduced as “the father of forgiveness research,” and has been labeled “the forgiveness trailblazer” by Time magazine.

In 2019, Dr. Enright received the international Expanded Reason Award from the Universidad Francisco de Vitoria and the Vatican Foundation Joseph Ratzinger/Benedict XVI and he holds the Aristotelian Professorship in Forgiveness Science (2020) from UW-Madison. Earlier this year he was awarded the 2022 American Psychological Foundation [Gold Medal Award for Impact in Psychology](#). His work integrates psychology, philosophy, and psychotherapeutic disciplines.



Dr. Robert Enright, co-founder of the International Forgiveness Institute and educational psychology professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, received the Gold Medal Award for Impact in Psychology.



The International Forgiveness Institute (IFI) is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization founded by Dr. Robert Enright in 1994.

Dr. Enright's 37-year quest to harness what he calls "the power of forgiveness" has resulted in the development of curriculum guides for students in each level from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade that are now being used in more than 30 countries around the world.

His groundbreaking clinical manual Forgiveness Therapy, an Impirical Guide for Resolving Anger and Restoring Hope, developed with psychiatrist Dr. Richard Fitzgibbons through the American Psychological Association, is the basis for the world's first online [forgiveness education course for psychologists](#), social workers, nurses, and other professional counselors. It is offered exclusively through the IFI.

"When I first began exploring the virtue of forgiveness, I was unable to find a single scientific journal article on forgiveness that had been published anywhere in the world," Dr. Enright recalls. "Today there are literally hundreds of such articles and based on the demand for our research tools, that number will soon be growing exponentially."

Dr. Enright's forgiveness research tools are available free upon request at the International Forgiveness Institute website: internationalforgiveness.com.

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