

THERE IS A LOT TO CELEBRATE THIS FATHERS DAY...

This is a photo of just a few of the fathers who attended our Pioneering Leaders Summit last week.

The day made us so happy we wanted to share what we learned ...



Here's an example of some of the award-winning leaders who attended the Summit - these three happened to be involved fathers as well!

Ben Applegate - Founding Partner, Applegate & Thorne-Thomsen, P.C. *Ben taught us how to differentiate between chronic and episodic overwork.*

Chris Madoo - Senior Market Account Executive, Marriott International. *Chris manages a top-performing, 16-person virtual sales team.*

Will Rowe - Principal & senior leader in Booz Allen Hamilton. *Will "flexed across the life cycle" while caring for infants, aging parents, and taking a sabbatical to drive across country with his school age children.*

Join us next week when participants from the Summit share what they learned on our Thursday with ThirdPath webinar (6/11 @ 12:30pm ET).

Or learn from some of the inspirational authors involved with the Summit:

Brigid Schulte --- *Overwhelmed: Work, Love, and Play, When No One Has the Time*

Josh Levs --- *All In: How Our Work-First Culture Fails Dads, Families and Businesses - And How We Can Fix It Together*

Scott Behson --- *The Working Dad's Survival Guide: How to Succeed at Work and at Home*

Yes - we still have a long way to go to create a society where everyone – across the economic spectrum -- can feel successful at work and successful

at home. But the men and women who attended our Pioneering Leaders Summit are truly showing us an inspiring path to follow.

Happy almost Fathers Day.
/Jessica and the ThirdPath team

The Working Dad's Survival Guide: How to Succeed at Work and at Home

By Scott Behson

Read on for a very sweet excerpt from Scott's book...

A few years ago, I was in a big, fat stinking hurry for some thing that I am sure I thought was important at the time. Nick [Scott's son] was just old enough to get his coat, hat, gloves and shoes on by himself, and I needed him to do so quickly or else we'd be late for the thing that was soooo super important that now I can't even remember what it was.

So, of course I see Nick presumably fooling around and taking his sweet time getting his jacket on. We're running late. This thing is very important. We need to get going. So, I snap at him about his jacket.

He's a great kid and I hardly ever raise my voice to him, so he is struck by my tone, and he sheepishly says that he can't get his sleeve on. "Of course you can," I bark at him as I start to shove his sleeve onto his arm. But his arm won't go through - something was blocking the sleeve. That's when I realized I had put his hat and gloves in his sleeve earlier that day.

Nick was trying to do the right thing, but couldn't get past an obstacle.

I apologized, tried to make him feel better, and slowed down to his speed. Somehow it turned out perfectly ok that we were ten minutes late for that super important thing.

My mistake was a powerful lesson that taught me to be a better dad.
... ([click here](#) to read more)

Here's what Jessica DeGroot had to say about Scott's new book:

"There is a revolution taking place - one that's going to improve the lives of men, women and children. Scott's book is an important part of this movement for change, and his words of wisdom and friendly tone will help guide you to a solution that's just right for you."

Looking for a great Fathers Day gift? Both Scott's and Josh's books are just the ticket!

All In - How our work-first culture fails dads, families, and businesses - And how we can fix it together

By Josh Levs

When Josh Levs was denied fair parental leave by his employer, he fought back - and won. In his new book - *All In* - Josh shows us how we all can become advocates for even greater change.

Meet three of the dads highlighted in Josh's chapter -- FLEXIBILITY: How to Reshape Your Work Life

When Bryan Levey became a dad, he decided he was going to start working only four days a week and not extend each day beyond eight hours. He was vice president of engineering for a successful Boston-area technology company, at which that was unheard of. Stunned colleagues declared him "lucky." "You can do it too. You just have to have a plan," he told them. You'd think that as a top executive he'd be expected to put in incredible hours at least five days a week, if not six. But Bryan kept a promise he had made to himself. "Shortly after I started my career, my dad got colon cancer and died a year later. It was pivotal for me. My parents' relationship was very strong and very traditional. She stayed home, but one role was not more important than the other. I remember their always talking about how they were going to travel when they retired. It was heart breaking for me that, the year before my father was going to retire, he passed away. My mom soldiered on and traveled, but it wasn't the same.

Ivan Axelrod didn't do it for his children. He did it for his grandchildren. "I had a typical career path. My wife stayed home, because thirty years ago that was what people did," he says. But when his first granddaughter was born, he wanted to have a relationship with her and wanted her to know him. Ivan says, "My father passed away when both my children were very young, and they don't have any memories of their grandparents. I didn't want that to happen. Then I had to figure out how to do that, because I had an executive position. I decided the most important thing for me was to live for my children and grandchildren. So I worked out an arrangement with my partners." In addition to changing his schedule, he restructured his department, promising that it would deliver similar or even better results afterward.

Shaun Leighton is also creating more flexibility at the Washington law firm where he is COO. He saw how well paternity leave and flexibility have worked for his family. Now he reports, "We've got a lot of partners with younger children. Almost all of them are flexing their schedules."

Josh then goes on to say how ***Bryan, Ivan and Shaun are all involved with ThirdPath Institute*** - a Philadelphia-based, national nonprofit that helps "individuals, families, and organizations in finding new ways to redesign work to create time for family, community, and other life priorities."

Thanks, Josh, for bringing important visibility to the work we're doing. To learn more about the next steps you can take to overcome outdated policies and make things better for our families, our workplaces and society, make sure you get a copy of Josh's wonderful book.