

# Delve Deeper into "Hardwood"

A film by Hubert Davis

This multi-media resource list, compiled by Penny Talbert of the Ephrata Public Library in partnership with the American Library Association, provides a range of perspectives on the issues raised by the upcoming P.O.V. documentary "Hardwood" that premieres on August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2005 at 10 p.m. on PBS (check local listings at [www.pbs.org/pov/](http://www.pbs.org/pov/)).

The Academy Award-nominated "Hardwood" is a deeply personal filmic journey by director Hubert Davis, the son of former Harlem Globetrotter Mel Davis. Mel, now a coach for young basketball players in Vancouver, recalls falling in love at first sight with Hubert's mother, a white woman, at a time when racism seemed to make their union impossible. Despite their emotional bond — still resonating over 20 years later — Mel chose to marry a black woman, with whom he also had a son. The filmmaker unites both sides of his family, speaking movingly about the complex web of love, betrayal and family ties that bind them all. Through personal interviews, archival footage and home movies Davis delves into his father's past in the hope of finding his own future.

## ADULT NONFICTION

**Brown, Keith Michael.** *Sacred Bond: Black Men and Their Mothers.* New York: Little, Brown, 2000. Over 30 interviews with black men about their relationships with their mothers.

**Brown, Ursula M.** *The Interracial Experience: Growing Up Black/White Racially Mixed in the United States.* Westport, CT: Praeger Publishers, 2000. Brown presents an in-depth look at black/white couples and their children. Topics include the racism experienced from both the black and white populations.

**Clark Taylor, Kristin.** *Black Mothers: Songs of Praise and Celebration.* New York: Doubleday, 2000. An intimate portrayal of the role of African American mothers, complete with photos and quotations from the

likes of Toni Morrison and Maya Angelou.

**Clayton, Obie., et al.** *Black Fathers in Contemporary American Society: Strengths, Weaknesses and Strategies for Change.* New York: Russell Sage Foundation Publications, 2003. Clayton looks at the role of black fathers, and the impact it has on their children. While many African American children are raised without a father in the home, the author argues that this is not inevitable.

**Davol, Marguerite W.** *I'm Chocolate, You're Vanilla: Raising Healthy Black and Biracial Children in a Race Conscious World.* Danvers: Jossey-Bass, 2000. *I'm Chocolate, You're Vanilla* is a wonderful primer for parents wanting to explain both acceptance and the harm of racism to their children, regardless of race.

**Dalmage, Heather M.** *Tripping on the Color Line: Black-White Multiracial Families in a Racially Divided World.* New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2000. Dalmage looks at the politics of race and the struggles that multiracial families face in their everyday lives.

**Funderberg, Lise.** *Black, White, Other: Biracial Americans talk about race.* New York: William Morrow, 1994. Groundbreaking collection of interviews of 46 black and white biracial people. Insightful commentary provided by biracial journalist, Funderberg.

**Gaskins, Pearl Fuyo ed.** *What Are You? Voices of Mixed Race Young People.* New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1999. Approximately 45 young people between the ages of fourteen and twenty-eight discuss their feelings about family relationships, prejudice, dating, personal identity and other topics.

**Green, Ben.** *Spinning The Globe: The Rise, Fall and Return to Greatness of the Harlem Globetrotters.* New York: Amistad, 2005. Green looks at the deep-rooted history of the Harlem Globetrotters, going beyond the memory many have of their

television appearances in the 1970s.

**Hamer, Jennifer.** *What it Means to be Daddy: Fatherhood for Black Men Living Away from their Children.* New York: Columbia University Press, 2001. Hamer presents a counterinterview of the live-away black father in today's society — and the real impact they can still have on their children.

**Kaeser, Gigi.** *Of Many Colors: Portraits of Multiracial Families.* Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1997. Kaeser, a photographer and Gillespie, an interviewer, talk to dozens of parents and their biracial children to discover what it is like to live as a biracial person in America.

**McBride, James.** *The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother.* New York: Riverhead Books, 1997.

McBride's mother, a white Polish Jew, raised her biracial children while dealing with isolation and criticism. Her story is profound and a must-read for those seeking to understand the racial climate in America.

**Neuman, M. Gary.** *Helping Your Kids Cope With Divorce the Sandcastles Way.* New York: Random House, 1999. The Sandcastles Workshop is a ½ day workshop for children dealing with divorce. In this book, Neuman presents this technique, including helpful tips for the divorcing family.

**O'Hearn, Claudine Chiawei, ed.** *Half and Half.* New York: Pantheon Books, 1998. Eighteen essays on growing up biracial and/or bicultural, including work by Danzy Senna, James McBride and David Mura.

**Pitts, Leonard Jr.** *Becoming Dad: Black Men and the Journey to Fatherhood.* Atlanta: Longstreet, 1999. Through recollections of his own abusive father, Pitt explores the real meaning of being a black father and the hope for change.

**Pruett, Kyle D.** *Why Father Care is as Essential as Mother Care for Your Child.* New York:

# Delve Deeper into "Hardwood"

A film by Hubert Davis

**Broadway Books, 2000.** An interesting, and sometimes academic, look at the importance of fatherhood and how it affects children.

**Root, Maria P.P., ed. *The Multiracial Experience: Racial Borders as the New Frontier.* Newbury Park, U.K.: Sage Publications, 1996.** Root provides a comprehensive look at biracial children in today's world. Using essays from social workers, psychologists, educators and other interested parties, this book sheds new light on thinking about the multiracial experience.

**Taylor, Kristin Clark. *Black Fathers: A Call for Healing.* New York: Doubleday, 2003.** Taylor argues that for too many black men, "fatherhood has become optional." Her exploration of the experience of fatherhood for black men is quite poignant and an important contribution to the available literature on the topic.

**Wallenstein, Peter. *Tell the Court I Love My Wife: Race, Marriage, and Law - an American History.* New York: Palgrave, 2002.** A history of the laws on biracial marriage in America, from pre-Civil War times to the present.

**Zimmerman, Jeffrey and Elizabeth S. Thayer. *Adult Children of Divorce: How to Overcome the Legacy of Your Parents' Breakup and Enjoy Love, Trust and Intimacy.* Oakland, CA: New Harbinger Publications, 2003.** While it is said that children of divorced parents have a much higher chance of becoming divorced themselves, this book offers hope and suggestions to break the cycle.

---

## NONFICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS

**Davol, Marguerite. *Black, White, Just Right!* Morton Grove: Albert Whitman and Company, 1993.** A wonderful look at the world from the eyes of a biracial child.

**Gaskins, Pearl Fuyo ed. *What Are You? Voices of Mixed Race Young People.* New York: Henry**

**Holt and Company, 1999.** Interviews, poetry and essays from over three dozen mixed race young adults weave together a telling portrait of growing up biracial.

**Kandel, Bethany. *Trevor's Story.* Minneapolis, MN: Lerner, 1997.** This is the story of ten-year-old Trevor and his life as a biracial child.

**Lowry, Danielle and Bonnie J. Matthews. *What Can I Do? A Book for Children of Divorce.* Washington D.C.: Magination Press, 2001.** This book provides great narratives and is an invaluable resource for children going through divorce.

**MacGregor, Cynthia. *The Divorce Helpbook for Teens (Rebuilding Books).* Atascadero, CA: Impact Publishers, 2004.** This book provides teens with advice on how to deal with their parents' divorce and how to build support networks for their own well-being.

**Nash, Gary B. *Forbidden Love: The Secret History of Mixed Race America.* New York: Holt, 1999.** Nash presents the history of mixed race Americans from colonial times to the present. This book is for older teens who can understand an academic writing style.

**Walker, Paul Robert. *Hoop Dreams.* Nashville, TN: Turner Publishing, 1995.** Walker takes a look at what it is like to live in poor urban areas with dreams of NBA fame.

---

## VIDEOS/DOCUMENTARIES

**"An American Stepfamily." Princeton, NJ: Films for the Humanities and Sciences. 1997. (26 min.)** This program examines the problems of divorce and remarriage: conflicting loyalties and rivalries, dealing with former spouses and the three categories of kids—his, hers, and theirs. [www.films.com/title/1935](http://www.films.com/title/1935)

**"Between Black and White." New York, NY: Filmmakers Library. (26 min.)** Explores the impact society and history have on the perception of color in the United States and asks the question, "Are

the categories of 'black' and 'white' still relevant in our evolving society?" [www.filmakers.com/indivs/BetweenBlackWhite.htm](http://www.filmakers.com/indivs/BetweenBlackWhite.htm)

**"Black Like Who?" A film by Debbie Reynolds. New York, NY: Filmmakers Library. (30 min.)** Explores themes of assimilation, internalized racism and self-hatred. [www.filmakers.com/indivs/BlackLikeWho.htm](http://www.filmakers.com/indivs/BlackLikeWho.htm)

**"A Conversation on Race: Black, White or Other?" Princeton, NJ: Films for the Humanities and Sciences. 2000. (27 min.)** In this program, ABC News anchor Ted Koppel and correspondent John Donvan explore what it means to be black in America. [www.films.com/title/11216](http://www.films.com/title/11216)

**"Domino: Interracial People and the Search for Identity." Princeton, NJ: Films for the Humanities and Sciences. 1994. (47 min.)** This program explores the stories of six interracial people and their quest to forge their own identities. Told through personal narratives. [www.films.com/title/5852](http://www.films.com/title/5852)

**"Fatherhood USA." Princeton, NJ: Films for the Humanities and Sciences. 1999. (2 part series, 57 min. each)** This two-part series, hosted by former Senator Bill Bradley, offers an intimate look at fatherhood in America by examining the daily dilemmas, pressures, joys, and successes faced by fathers today. [www.films.com/title/11094](http://www.films.com/title/11094)

**"Fatherless in America." Princeton, NJ: Films for the Humanities and Sciences. 1994. (26 min.)** This program examines the causes and effects of growing up without a father. [www.films.com/title/5254](http://www.films.com/title/5254)

**"In Search of Our Fathers." A film by Marco Williams. New York, NY: Filmmakers Library. (55 min.)** African-American filmmaker Williams was twenty-four years old when he first learned his father's name. This film documents his seven-year search for the elusive father he never knew and his coming to terms with the truth

# Delve Deeper into "Hardwood"

A film by Hubert Davis

of his origins.

[www.filmakers.com/indivs/InSearchOurFathers.htm](http://www.filmakers.com/indivs/InSearchOurFathers.htm)

## "Interracial Marriage."

**Princeton, NJ: Films for the Humanities and Sciences. 1992. (52 min.)** This program examines how and why couples of different colors, religions, and ethnic roots are drawn to one another, how their differences affect their marriages, and how they deal with their friends and family.

[www.films.com/title/3200](http://www.films.com/title/3200)

## "Just Black? Multi-Racial Identity." New York, NY: Filmmakers Library. (57 min.)

In this provocative documentary several articulate young men and women of mixed racial heritage speak about their struggle to acquire and assert a racial identity. Each has one black parent, and a second white, Asian or Hispanic parent. Their experiences lead to the question of whether there is room in America for a multi-racial identity.

<http://filmakers.com/indivs/JustBlack.htm>

**"Harlem Globetrotters: 6 Decades of Magic." Starmaker, 1988.** Hosted by Louis Gossett Jr., this film showcases the multi-talented and athletic players that have been delighting audiences all over the world since 1927.

[www.videoflicks.com/titles/1009/1009237.htm?SHOW=1&TYPE=3&ASSN=20482](http://www.videoflicks.com/titles/1009/1009237.htm?SHOW=1&TYPE=3&ASSN=20482)

**"Hoop Dreams." New Line Home Entertainment. 1994. (170 min.)** Two African American teens rise above inner city culture to try and play professional basketball.

[www.finelinefeatures.com/hoop/](http://www.finelinefeatures.com/hoop/)

**"He Got Game." Directed by Spike Lee. Touchstone Video. 1998. (136 min.)** A young African American man's dream of playing professional basketball is overshadowed by his complicated relationship with his father.

[www.filmscouts.com/scripts/film.cfm?film=he-got](http://www.filmscouts.com/scripts/film.cfm?film=he-got)

**"Hoosiers." MGM/UA Studios. 1986. (115 min.)** A coach with a shady past and a local drunk train a small town high school basketball

team to become a top contender for the championship.

[www.mgm.com/title\\_title.do?title\\_tar=HOOSIERO](http://www.mgm.com/title_title.do?title_tar=HOOSIERO)

**"Mr. and Mrs. Loving." Hallmark Home Entertainment, 1996. (105 min.)** Set in the 1960s against the growing Civil Rights Movement, an interracial couple is arrested on their wedding night and banished from their Southern town.

**"Rebound." Warner Home Video. 2005. (103 min.)** To help his career a college basketball coach begins to coach a middle school team.

[www.reboundthemovie.com/home.html](http://www.reboundthemovie.com/home.html)

**"Sunset Park." Columbia TriStar. 1996. (99 min.)** A young white teacher takes over a black high school basketball team and leads them towards victory.

<http://movieweb.com/movies/film.php?1698>

**"Soul in the Hole." Xenon Studios. 1997. (98 min.)** Follows a young African American man who plays for a local Brooklyn team. Follows his struggle between a life playing basketball and a life on the streets.

**"Coach Carter." Paramount. 2005. (136 min.)** Samuel L. Jackson plays the controversial high school coach who benches his winning high school team due to their poor academic performance.

[www.coachcarter.com/movie.htm](http://www.coachcarter.com/movie.htm)

## WEB SITES

[www.pbs.org/pov/pov2005/hardwood/index.html](http://www.pbs.org/pov/pov2005/hardwood/index.html)

The P.O.V website for *Hardwood*.

[www.harlemglobetrotters.com](http://www.harlemglobetrotters.com)  
Official website of the Harlem Globetrotters

[www.hoophall.com/halloffamers/harlem\\_globetrotters.htm](http://www.hoophall.com/halloffamers/harlem_globetrotters.htm)  
History of the Harlem Globetrotters

[www.nfb.ca/hardwood/](http://www.nfb.ca/hardwood/)  
Site for *Hardwood* from the National Film Board of Canada

[www.mavinfoundation.org](http://www.mavinfoundation.org)

National organization that celebrates and advocates for mixed race people and families to create a cohesive, multicultural society

[www.ameasite.org](http://www.ameasite.org)  
Association of Multiethnic Americans website

[www.lovingday.org](http://www.lovingday.org)  
Site for the day commemorating the legalization of interracial marriage in 1967. Includes resources and legal history.

[www.bfnchicago.org](http://www.bfnchicago.org)  
The Biracial Family Network

[www.i-pride.org](http://www.i-pride.org)  
Interracial Intercultural Pride organization

[www.anomalythefilm.com](http://www.anomalythefilm.com)  
Site for *Anomaly*, a documentary in production, that takes an insider's look at the complexity of multiracial identity in a race-conscious society.

[www.interracialvoice.com](http://www.interracialvoice.com)  
Independent, information-oriented, networking news journal serving the mixed-race/interracial community in cyberspace.

[www.mixedfolks.com](http://www.mixedfolks.com)  
A community site for mixed race individuals. Celebrates multiracial heritage and features famous people who are mixed race.

[singleparentsnetwork.com](http://singleparentsnetwork.com)  
A hub of resources for single parents

[www.makinglemonade.com](http://www.makinglemonade.com)  
Single Parent networking site

[www.parentswithoutpartners.org](http://www.parentswithoutpartners.org)  
Non-profit, educational organization devoted to Single Parents and their children

[www.singlemothers.org](http://www.singlemothers.org)  
Resource and support site for single mothers

[divorcesupport.about.com/cs/youareok/1/bladultchildren.htm](http://divorcesupport.about.com/cs/youareok/1/bladultchildren.htm)  
Adult Children of Divorce support site

[pbskids.org/itsmylife/family/stepfamilies/article4.html](http://pbskids.org/itsmylife/family/stepfamilies/article4.html)

# Delve Deeper into "Hardwood"

*A film by Hubert Davis*

Support site for kids dealing with new stepfamilies, stepsiblings and half siblings.

[www.psychologyofsports.com/couch/couch093097.htm](http://www.psychologyofsports.com/couch/couch093097.htm)

Article on the issues faced, being in a professional athlete's family.

[www.fatherhood.org](http://www.fatherhood.org)

National Fatherhood Initiative.  
Support Organization for Fathers.

[www.cbmnational.org](http://www.cbmnational.org)

Concerned Black Men, Inc.

[outreach.missouri.edu/parentlink/Library/fathers.htm](http://outreach.missouri.edu/parentlink/Library/fathers.htm)

Resources and links for Fathers.