



“Exclusive Interview”

“REBIRTH OF A ‘G’ ”

***CEDRIC DEAN’S** path of self-exploration transformed him from a gangster to a gentleman. January 20, 2009 will mark 14 years of incarceration for Cedric Lamonte Dean, sentenced to LIFE plus five ( 5 ) years for being a low-level crack dealer. In 36 years, he has fallen victim to every imaginable pitfall. But today, he has penned nine ( 9 ) books, has a renewed sense of purpose and in many ways a “second chance” to a new life.*

**Susie:** In prison, most convicts serving Life fall off the radar, how did you manage to become an “exception?”

**Cedric:** **Gangsters fall off the radar. Gentlemen remain relevant and represent change and redemption in their lives. I became a gentleman.**

**Susie:** “For The Love Of The Streets” can be misconstrued as a “glorification of the streets” title. What’s the message behind it?

**Cedric:** **The message is to never love something that cannot love you back. The streets show no love, just illusions. My writing is a way of life. It’s what I lived. It’s real. The misguided can use it to see graveyards and penitentiaries were built just for them.**

**Susie:** What prompted you to write “How To Stop Your Children From Going To Prison?”

**Cedric:** Over 4,000 children are arrested daily. 1 in 8 are killed daily from gun violence and 7000 a day drop out of school. America has a serious problem – How To Stop Your Children From Going To Prison is a serious solution to that problem. For every parent that just don’t know what to do – it’s a solution for them.

**Susie:** How did the war in Iraq impact “Operation Con Freedom?”

**Cedric:** The War On Drugs impacts families, too. I want people to see the similar impact it has had on families of the War In Iraq victims. The same way people whose family members are killed in Iraq feel – people whose family members are killed in American streets share the exact sentiment.

**Susie:** Will the U.S. Sentencing Commission’s recent changes in the sentencing guidelines for crack offenders reduce your Life Sentence? If so, what will you do when released?

**Cedric:** I pray to God it will. Parents need me. Children need me. That rebellious child that won’t listen to his single mother, will listen to me when I teach them it’s a mistake not to learn from my mistakes. This time around, I’ll be the solution, not the problem.

**By: Susie Solorio**

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