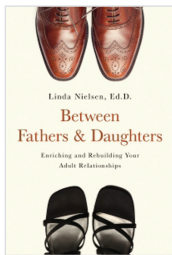


of her examples the monolingual parent learns a language along with the children.

Other steps include creating a bilingual action plan, preparing for common challenges parents may encounter, and incorporating language learning into formal schooling. Steiner's suggestions are well researched, concise, and are supported by her extensive experience working with bilingual families. She offers real life examples of people who have opted to pursue bilingual lifestyles at various levels of fluency and describes their successes and challenges with insight and encouragement. Worksheets and tip boxes sprinkled throughout the book reinforce and enhance the highlighted concepts.

Steiner's passion for languages is obvious on every page and instills inspiration in both parents who've always planned to raise their children to be bilingual and in those who never considered bilingualism to be an important possibility. Perhaps, with Steiner's help, the people of the global village will raise the level of discourse and not only will countries be able to speak to each other, they'll also be able to understand each other. (November) *Andi Diehn*



**Between Fathers & Daughters: Enriching and Rebuilding Your Adult Relationship**

**Linda Nielsen**

Cumberland House,  
Softcover \$16.95 (247pp)  
978-1-58182-661-6

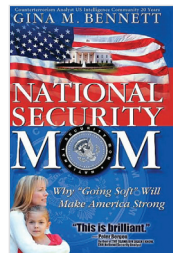
In recent years, the importance of fathers has come into focus, particularly regarding their relationships with sons. But the bond between father and daughter hasn't been as fully explored, and there's been very little discussion of what happens as the daughter approaches adulthood. By that point, both father and daughter may feel it's not worth the effort, that old patterns are too firmly entrenched to be changed. And besides, mothers are the ones who really matter to daughters.

Not so fast, says Linda Nielsen, Ed.D. in her new book. The relationship between fathers and daughters is equally as important. When the childhood/adolescent years don't go well the father/daughter bond can be repaired and regenerated in the adult years. Nielsen is careful to point out that she's talking about relationships which haven't been affected by more debilitating actions, such as addiction or physical abuse. She's looking at the average father/daughter relationship that simply never got off the ground—thus leaving an emotional hole in both lives.

Nielsen authored three previous books about adolescents, and is a professor of Women's Studies and Education at Wake Forest University. She has done extensive research on the topic, covering media portrayals of father/daughter relationships, gender differences in parenting, and the changing role of fathers. The

book is heavily footnoted, with an extensive reference section at the end. However, it's not an academic tome, but a friendly handbook for both fathers and daughters who have distance to cover in regaining a worthwhile relationship, even past adolescence.

Nielsen provides quizzes, checklists, conversation starters, profiles of famous daughters and fathers, and most importantly, encouragement to begin the journey, difficult though it may seem. She acknowledges that not all damaged relationships can be fixed, but that's not an outcome that can be predicted without trying. As she says, "Ask yourself: What have I got to lose? You don't have a relationship now—if things don't work out, you're probably not going to end up feeling worse than you do now." (September) *Amy C. Rea*



**National Security Mom: Why "Going Soft" Will Make America Strong**

**Gina M. Bennett**

Wyatt-MacKenzie,  
Hardcover \$24.00 (172pp)  
978-1-932279-72-6

Being a good parent is like being a good counterterrorism agent, and vice versa.

That's an intriguing concept, and one explored by Gina M. Bennett in her new book, *National Security Mom*. She equates her twenty years of work as a Senior Counterterrorism Analyst in the U.S. intelligence community to her years of parenting, and illustrates why the two have much in common. This is not as glib as it may sound; Bennett puts forth persuasive arguments as to why common and time-tested parenting concepts have value within the counterterrorism community.

Stylistically the book is divided into three sections. The first looks at a variety of truisms often used in life ("An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure"; "Actions speak louder than words") and applies them to the world of national security. The second section reviews the lessons parents often teach children ("Tell the truth"; "Choose your friends wisely") and why those pieces of advice aren't just good for the elementary school set. The final section uses famous quotes (Gandhi's "We must be the change we wish to see") to illustrate how individual and familial actions affect the world around us, whether on a local, regional, or national level.

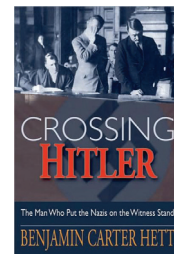
Bennett spent several years with the Counterterrorist Center and the Central Intelligence Agency. She's also a mother of five, so she comes to the topic with extensive experience in the parenting arena. Her parenting views are of a "firm but kind" bent; sometimes parents have to make hard choices, and the important thing is either to stick with those choices, or to understand when they're wrong and explain why a change of course is necessary. Good parents

don't give in to whining or bullying children, but instead explain clearly the values they want their children to learn. That is the primary lesson Bennett promotes for approaching the ominous world of terrorism.

While parenting is a major part of the book's theme, it is more likely to be of interest to readers looking for current events, national security, and foreign policy debates. It's not a politically dense book, but a highly approachable read, with anecdotes from Bennett's personal work and parenting experiences highlighting her recommendations.

Perhaps counterterrorism professionals should work with parenting experts; Bennett's book makes it clear that's not an approach to be mocked. (November) *Amy C. Rea*

## HISTORY



**Crossing Hitler: The Man Who Put the Nazis on the Witness Stand**

**Benjamin Carter Hett**

Oxford University Press,  
Softcover, \$27.95 (354pp)  
978-0-19-536-988-5

It sounds like the plot for a thriller by someone like Robert Ludlum. In 1931 Germany, Nazi thugs shoot and wound several men at a dance hall. The incident triggers three months of violence. When the suspects are brought to trial, a brilliant young Jewish lawyer decides to focus the spotlight on their leader. Ordering Adolf Hitler himself into the courtroom, he subjects the rising demagogue to a withering examination. The lawyer will eventually pay with his life.

It sounds like a fictional plot, but it's actually the engrossing real-life story of a fascinating man named Hans Litten, as compiled in a biography/history by Benjamin Carter Hett, himself a former lawyer and the author of an earlier study of German criminal justice during the reign of the last Kaiser.

Litten was no ordinary hero. He was strongly principled and often didactic, if not strident. He went against the grain almost to a fault; Litten demanded severe commitment from everyone else and even more from himself. His brilliance was intimidating, mesmerizing. This was a man who regarded the law, in the author's words, as "a lever of revolution."

The son of a Prussian aristocrat with whom he had a painful parting of the ways, Litten was only in his late twenties when the Eden Dance Palace trial of four Nazi storm-troopers unfolded. Calling Hitler to testify was a daring ploy. The passages of the book which deal with Hitler's two-day appearance are riveting. Here was the one enemy Litten could not afford to have.

Devious yet temperamental, Hitler wanted to make it appear that any brutality by storm-troopers occurred without official Nazi approval.