

# LaTasha Jackson-McDougle, BSSW, MSSW, MA

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## SPEAKER'S BIO:

LaTasha Jackson-McDougle is the founder of Cheryl's Voice, a nonprofit organization to raise awareness about the effects teen dating violence and domestic violence has on children. She is a leading Domestic Violence and Sex trafficking spokesperson, awarded Mitch Poe Humanitarian Award, survivor and advocate being diagnosed with several medical conditions; weakness of bones, Trigeminal Neuralgia and Infertility all due to childhood experiences with domestic violence. LaTasha received her B.A. from The University of Texas at Arlington in 2009 and her M.A. in Criminology & Criminal Justice in 2013 along with M.S. in Social Work in 2014 both from UT Arlington graduating with honors.

In 2014, her thesis, "[The Prosecutor's role in helping Domestic Violence victims](#)," was published and achieved her nomination of Who's Who at the University of Texas at Arlington, she was 2014 recipient of this award.

In 2015, she was an contributing author of published book, "[Dethroning Domestic Violence, Stories of Survival and Victory](#)," all proceeds were donated to finding faith within Yourself, Inc.

LaTasha has spoken about overcoming childhood trauma, struggles with trigeminal neuralgia, infertility, teen dating violence, domestic violence and it's relation to sex trafficking to national politicians, judges, lawyers, civil rights activists, law enforcement, community supervision and corrections departments, police officers, social workers, scientific researchers, doctors, nurses, college and universities.



### **PAST SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS:**

- TADCP Conference Texas Association of Specialty Courts (April 2016)
- Tarrant County Sexual Abuse Advisory Council Conference (April 2016)
- Texas Corrections Association Conference (June 2016)
- Texas Wesleyan University Training Keynote Speaker (January 2016, and 2017)
- Fort Worth Police Department 5 Stones Taskforce Training (2016, 2017, 2018)
- Carswell Luncheon for the Female Offenders Program (June 2017)
- Common Ground (2017, 2018)
- University of Texas at Arlington varies events keynote speaker (2016-2017)
- Texas Probation Association Conference (August 2016)
- TDCJ-Community Justice Assistance Division Skills Conference (2016, 2017)
- SHARE Summit Conference for Female Offenders (June 2013)
- Fort Worth Independent School District Varies Locations (2015-2018)
- Destiny Church Awareness Summit (October 2016-2017)
- Running 4 Ur L.Y.F.E. Women Empowerment Conference (October 2017)
- Tarrant County Juvenile Department Keynote Speaker on varies dates (2017-2018)
- Texas Black Women's Initiative Meeting Keynote Speaker (2017)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Mental Health Conference (2018)

### **PRESENTATION TOPICS:**

- “Life after Death: Overcoming Childhood Trauma”** – There is a saying, "Whatever doesn't kill you make you stronger" This presentation explores how LaTasha overcame childhood trauma; after witnessing abuse of her mother and being left behind due to domestic violence homicide and suicide; the shame and guilt of self-associated with daily physical struggles, visible and invisible scares. She explains how she overcomes these invisible scares to empower herself and others to turn their trauma into their victory despite their setbacks.
- “How the Criminal Justice System can be of service to Victims and Abusers”** – LaTasha will talk about two amazing programs she assists with the development and case managed in the Criminal Justice system that provide resources, accountability and long term services to Victims and Abusers and how effective they are.
- “The correlation of Teen Dating Violence and Sex Trafficking”** – LaTasha bring current cases and information educating the audience on how teen dating violence and sex trafficking collide, providing signs of - abuse, warning signs and action plan to protect, prevent, and rescue teens.

- **“Domestic Violence 101”** – This workshop describes the dynamics and common tactics that characterize domestic violence, provides an overview of the scope and impact on individuals and society, explores the underlying factors that allow domestic violence to exist, offers insight into the various risks and choices that survivors face, and shares how to be part of the solution.
  
- **“Women in Criminal Justice: Does Self Care exist?”** - During the workshop you will learn why self-care is an essential component to appreciating yourself, finding balance, purpose, and having healthy relationships. Through creative activities and sharing with others you will learn skills to manage stress, evoke the relaxation response, and build resiliency.

### **PRAISE FOR LATASHA'S PRESENTATIONS:**

*"After hearing Ms. Jackson-McDougle speak to over 200 participants and seeing her work; I believe it was in connection with a movie that I first heard the phrase "Woman on Fire," which I took to describe a woman who was passionate and committed to resolving an issue that adversely impact member of the human race. With respect to the tragedy of sexual and domestic assault, two plagues that go hand-in-hand, Ms. McDougle is fighting on the front lines. She has not asked, but is worthy of recognition. I respectfully nominate Ms. LaTasha Jackson-McDougle for the Mitch Poe Public Service Award."*

*-- Brent A. Carr, Judge  
Tarrant County Court CCC9*

*"I remember the first time I attended Professor Jackson-McDougle's presentation as an undergraduate student and how mind blowing it was to listen to her story. I have not missed any of her presentations every since! I have heard her story at least five times now and I still get tears running down my face. She is extremely gifted at connecting with any audience with her incredible story. She is a caring woman who passionately advocates for victims of domestic violence, making her presentations full of energy, informative, and moving. I always leave her presentations motivated and inspired to go out to the community and make a difference. She is truly an empowering woman."*

*-- Karen Carranza, College Student & Arlington Police Dept*

*"On October 28, 2017, LaTasha Jackson-McDougle was the keynote speaker at one of my events with over 150 participants were captivated by her moving story. They listened intently because LaTasha's story is fascinating and she relates to the audience with a down--to--earth speaking style, humor, and poise. Speaking about setbacks with disabilities, struggles with infertility and overcoming issues of child victim of domestic violence, LaTasha is an excellent choice to help people understand the importance of standing up for oneself and being a catalyst for change. She exemplifies empowerment as she models educating others and not allowing misconceptions, biases and prejudices to limit her. LaTasha inspired our participants to find the good in the bad and to find joy despite adversity turning trauma into victory. She was the highlight of our program!"*

*-- Theresa Little, Community Outreach*

**Please contact LaTasha at [cherylsvoice@gmail.com](mailto:cherylsvoice@gmail.com) to discuss schedule and speaker's fee arrangements.**