

TRIBUTE TO ED ZIGLER

“Ed's contributions to the professional development of many is apparent in this and myriad other publications; what is less well known - - except to those who have worked closely with him is what an extraordinary human being he is. On the outside, Ed is an awe-inspiring, even intimidating figure. However, those well acquainted with him know that at a personal level, he is among the kindest, most gentle and compassionate of individuals. His loyalty to anyone he takes into his fold is unquestioning and unwavering. As an intellectual mentor, he pushes people to strive for their very best. Equally important, he shares with magnanimity and personal interest important events - - marriages, births, jobs, and honors - - and, with genuine concern and compassion, any crises that occur in the lives of his students and colleagues.

In a recent moment of reminiscences, Ed reflected about the major areas of his life's work - - his research, his social policy initiatives, his time in Washington, and he said his role as an educator and mentor. In ending the conversation, he said, “ D'you know, of all the things I've done in my career, the thing that's been most important to me -- that I've felt most proud of -- is mentoring my students? You young people, my students, have been so important to me throughout my life. I hope you know that”.

We do, Ed. Here are reflections by some whose lives you have touched, on what you have meant to them.”

- from Luthar, Burack, Cicchetti, & Weisz, 1997, p. xviii.

Development and Psychopathology: Perspectives on Adjustment, Risk, and Disorder. New York” Cambridge.

NAME	AFFILIATION	TRIBUTE TO ED -- If you would like to add a message, please email it to sluthar@asu.edu
Edmund Gordon	Yale University Teachers College, Columbia University (Emeritus)	Ed Zigler was special. He was nine years my junior, but from the beginning he and I were partners- brothers! We were not always present in each other's lives, but always there for each other. Thank you. E Gordon
Robert Sternberg	Cornell University	Ed was one of the best representatives not only of a generation that is gone, but also of a generation whose lessons seem largely to be lost. For one thing, he was a big thinker in an age, today, when there are few big thinkers left and value seems more to hinge on the exquisite care with which a behavioral scientist deals with issues that are as small and narrow as possible. Second, Ed was one of those few academic psychologists who put great attention into seeing that his ideas were societally relevant and that they were applied to society for its betterment. He spent the time in DC to see it happen. Today, how many psychologists have anything like the societal impact Ed had with his various programs, including his collaborative work on Head Start? How many really care? Third, Ed produced a whole new generation of students who have contributed to society through their work on important scientific and societal problems. I really miss him and, even more, all he stood for.

Barbara Rogoff	UC Santa Cruz	I just want to add that Ed's generosity and supportiveness extended far -- including to people he did not have direct responsibility for training, like me. I think his being an 'uncle' figure might be due to his connection with one of my grad advisors, and his colleague, Shep White.
Nancy Eisenberg	Arizona State University	You, his other students, and his colleagues were blessed to know this remarkable man well. I wish I had known him better. His legacy of caring is a model for us all.
Margaret Tresch Owen	University of Texas at Dallas	I met Ed much earlier in my career (when a student), but the best encounter was when we were both keynoting at a conference in Saskatchewan. We sat down together afterwards and I told him of my sorrow over Harold Stevenson's death the year before - the loss of a wonderful mentor. (Harold had mentored Ed at the University of Texas at Austin early in both men's careers.) Ed replied that I should feel free to call on him for any mentoring he might offer. Such a very kind and giving man! I appreciated his offer very, very much and only wish that I'd called upon him and really experienced those wonderful gifts he gave so many.
Mary Wiley	Department of Health, AZ (prior)	I did not know Ed, but I have seen the benefits of his legacy. I worked at the Department of Health in Arizona and saw how many children's lives were helped by Head Start. With all of the awards that Ed received, he said what he valued most was mentoring his students. That is kind of a statement marks an exceptional man!
Kimber Bogard	New York Academy of Sciences	Ed Zigler embodied pure passion and desire to make the world a better place for children. His approach in applying the science of child health and development to policy inspired many generations of us who aspire to have just a fraction of the impact he had throughout his life and career on so many children. A true inspiration!
John Hagen	University of Michigan	Ed became an invaluable colleague and friend early on, and we worked together on many projects together over the years. He was very supportive and helpful during my years with SRCD and it was fortuitous when we were able to work together on the Head Start Research conference for over 20 years. His influence will be lasting.
Michaela Rawsthorn	Writer, Researcher & Founder, Mergen Consultants	I spent an afternoon sitting alone with Dr. Zigler as a University of Chicago grad student and Irving Harris mentee. He wasn't up for all the mingling at an event Mr. Harris & the school co-hosted. So we just sat and talked. Afterward he sent me a book with a lengthy inscription that so moving. I still cherish it.
Ross A. Thompson	Department of Psychology, University of California, Davis	My favorite story of Ed Zigler is when I was giving a colloquium at Yale and my son, Scott, came along as part of his junior year college tour. While I was meeting with faculty, Ed took Scott aside and regaled him with stories of Head Start and other public policy adventures. By the time we reunited, Scott had a copy of one of Ed's books, with an inscription that Ed had written for Scott, and a new view of what developmental psychologists do. This was an amazing act of generosity to a high school student. Scott eventually went to Stanford but has been working in educational policy for many years now.

<p>Deborah Phillips</p>	<p>Department of Psychology, Georgetown University</p>	<p>I was half way through graduate school and Ed arranged for me to work for the summer at the Office of Child Development in Washington DC. I was immediately enchanted by the world of federal policy and decided I would drop out of graduate school, get a job in a Congressional office and work my way into a policy position, if not elected office. I called Ed and told him my plans. He was not amused. He instructed me to get on a train up to New Haven in the morning, at his expense, and come to his office. Of course, I obeyed. The rest is history. Thank goodness he talked me out of my temporary insanity. Ed was my beloved intellectual father. It is my amazing good fortunate that he was my graduate school mentor and life-long friend. The best I can do to honor him is to pass his lessons along to my student. From generation to generation. I miss you, Ed.</p>
<p>Sharon Lynn Kagan</p>	<p>Teachers College, Columbia University and Child Study Center, Yale University</p>	<p>The obituaries are being printed, the emails are flying about, the stories are being retold, and the memories are being recounted. But here is what doesn't get said in a formal obituary: how warm and giving (Ed) was. Following a speech at a Head Start gathering, when handed his honorarium check, he immediately gave it back, hoping that it would be used to buy supplies for the kids. In fact, he never actually used the word "kids" ("They aren't goats, but cherished children," he admonished us all one evening, cigar in hand!). Enconced in an office that was brimming with photos of his students, books, papers, articles, awards, newspaper clippings, and a couch you could not see because it was so cluttered with stuff, encyclopedic Ed knew where everything was, and what each article said. He also knew what he had to do—yes, science is fact-based, but social change is policy in action. Democrat, Republican, liberal, conservative, all were welcome; he made time for all, for anyone with an idea, a passion, a hope. / Ask anyone, and they will tell you about a complex, caring man who loved poker, movies, and scotch as much as he loved a well-crafted academic analysis. They will tell you about the physical challenges he overcame with dignity; they will tell you about his wry sense of humor and his profound sense of justice. They will tell you about an undaunted iconoclast who envisioned the unimaginable and championed the undoable! / Deeply saddened by the loss, fully inspired by his person, and fervently dedicated to honor that legacy, we join together to share our appreciations for an incomparable man and his incomparable, fully-lived life of contribution.</p>
<p>Amanda Guyer & Stephanie Jones</p>	<p>UC Davis & Harvard University</p>	<p>We are both students of Ed's graduating from Yale toward the end of his long and illustrious career in the Psychology Department. We remember him as a deeply generous, demanding, and loyal mentor who cared deeply about our professional trajectories, but also about our families and lives outside of work. His initial advice as we started in the program was to settle in and learn where the bathrooms were! Ed embraced and celebrated all of our milestones – completed area papers, dissertation proposals, chapters and papers, and marriages and babies -- and he supported us through setbacks and challenges. He taught us there is no limit to the importance of objective, ecologically grounded, rigorous research in service of effective policymaking and practice. We both carry these two strands in his honor as we pay it forward mentoring our own students and contributing to the field.</p>

Jacob Burack	McGill University	<p>Ed was a wonderful teacher, mentor and role model in my academic life, and a loyal friend and source of support in my personal life. Ed provided the transformative empowering moment in my education, when in my first year as a graduate student I asked him a question about my area of research and he answered, "I want to know what you think. You're the expert in the area!!" / Ed's frequent refrain that his most important contribution to science and the world was his students is something that he believed unequivocally – even if it seems absurd to the rest of us that he could narrow down all his contributions to one, or even a few. And that pride in his students extended to the next generations as well. My own students were awed, inspired, and appreciative when they'd meet Ed and he'd call them his "intellectual grandchildren". And he meant it as he spent time with them to hear about and comment on their own work. Well into his so-called retirement years and after he had limited his travels, the graduate student society in the Faculty of Education here at McGill invited him to be a keynote speaker at their conference and he agreed simply because they told him they were my students. / But, Ed's keenest interest in my life was my personal life. He was clearly relieved when I finally got married and he rejoiced (and sent presents) when each of my kids was born. About 3 years ago Tamara and I brought our kids to meet Ed and Bernice, and he was so gracious in hosting and meeting them (despite the chaos that 4 kids aged 6 and under could cause). / In concluding, I note that Rabbi Dr. Lord Jonathan Sacks, former Chief Rabbi of the UK, highlights that in the Hebrew bible and Jewish tradition, the word used "to remember" ("Yizkor") the deceased is actually an imperative link to "the future" and "for hope" – and that will always be Ed's legacy as he continues to inspire so many dedicated to studying and improving the lives of children and their families.</p>
Dante Cicchetti	University of Minnesota	<p>I was privileged to have Ed Zigler as a mentor and friend throughout my career. I learned and experienced many things from him. Here are just three: 1). Research should be rigorous, meticulous, and meaningful. 2). Long before the concept of "giving psychology away" was in vogue, Ed argued that "Science should be in the service of society;" he spent his life doing just that. and 3). Take the mentor's role seriously. Ed was a "mentor for life" to his students and colleagues.</p>
Suniya Luthar	Arizona State University; Teachers College, Columbia University (Emerita)	<p>I left India for the first time at the age of 26, in 1984, and found myself in the very fortunate position of having Ed Zigler as my mentor. Ed's approach to mentorship was much like what we refer to as a "guru"; an elder who imparts intellectual guidance and skills but so much more – someone who cares about your development and well-being as a whole person. Ed cared deeply. This was a man of the greatest integrity, kindness, decency, and generosity. I was so fortunate to have him (and his late wife, Bernice) share in many major life events across decades –the births of my kids, the purchase of my first home, and various milestones/ turning points at across my academic career. His joy at positive events in my life was heartfelt and clearly apparent, as was his concern, support, and help at times when I struggled. Ed was like a father to me. I will miss him greatly.</p>