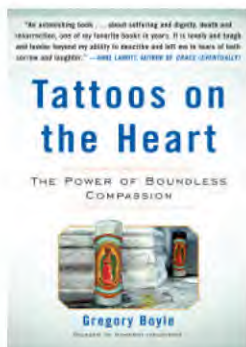


From moving vignettes about gangsters breaking into tears or finding themselves worthy of love and affirmation, to moments of spiritual reflection and sidesplittingly funny banter between him and the homies, Boyle creates a convincing and even joyful treatise on the sacredness of every life. Considering that he has buried more than 150 young people from gang-related violence, the joyful tenor of the book remains an astounding literary and spiritual feat. —(Starred) **Publishers Weekly**

Father Boyle is a national treasure. We need more ministries like Homeboy Industries across the country.
—**Marian Wright Edelman, President, Children’s Defense Fund**



TATTOOS ON THE HEART

The Power of Boundless Compassion by Gregory Boyle

com·pas·sion (kəm-pāsh'ən) noun

Deep awareness of the suffering of another coupled with the wish to relieve it.

Homeboy Industries, founded by Father Gregory Boyle in 1986, is the largest gang intervention program in the country, offering job training, tattoo removal, and employment to members of enemy gangs and has become a national model in its effectiveness. Homeboy offers hope to those for whom all hope is lost.

In **TATTOOS ON THE HEART: The Power of Boundless Compassion (Free Press; March 9, 2010, \$25.00)**, Boyle condenses his work with these gang members—the homies—in the barrio of Los Angeles into a book of amazing stories and essays. He relays, with humor and breathtaking compassion, the heartbreaking and uplifting tales that surround him every day. Arranged by theme and filled with sparkling humor and generosity, it’s an inspiring look at how to stay faithful in spite of failure and how to meet the world with a loving heart.

As *Publishers Weekly* notes, Boyle both recounts the despair of watching “the kids you love cooperate in their own demise” and levels the challenge to readers to “stand in awe at what the poor have to carry rather than stand in judgment at how they carry it.”

From giant, tattooed Cesar, fresh out of prison, shopping at JCPenney, we learn how to feel worthy of God’s love. From ten year old Pipi we learn the importance of being known and acknowledged. From Lulu we understand the kind of patience necessary to rescue someone from a dark place. In each chapter—“God, I Guess,” “Dis-grace”, “Compassion”, “Baptism”, “Patience”, “Jurisdiction”, “Success”, “Kinship”—we benefit from Father Greg’s extraordinary, hard-earned wisdom.

With **TATTOOS ON THE HEART**, Boyle hopes to lead people to lives of compassion and kinship no matter who they are or what they’ve done. As he says, “God doesn’t just love you, it’s his joy to love you...he is like a father who can’t take his eyes off his kid.” This is an extraordinary book—erudite,

down-to-earth, and utterly heartening—that amply demonstrates the impact unconditional love can have on all our lives and gives us a window onto the lives of those affected by gang culture, particularly in a spiritual context.

Boyle is a nationally renowned speaker and an acknowledged expert on gangs and intervention who gives about two hundred talks per year. He and his work have been featured on *The Today Show*, *60 Minutes*, *The Bob Edwards Show*, *Fresh Air* and in numerous print articles. His non-profit, Homeboy Industries, provides jobs to reformed gang members and counts actors Martin Sheen and Anjelica Huston among its biggest supporters.

Boyle lives in Los Angeles and will be traveling to New York, Boston, Chicago and Washington, DC beginning March 9th to promote the book. He will be available for interview.

****TATTTOOS ON THE HEART** will be published simultaneously as a Spanish edition – **TATUAJES DEL CORAZON: The Power of Boundless Compassion** (Free Press; March 30, 2010; Paperback; \$16.00).**

***THE AUTHOR IS DONATING ALL OF HIS NET PROCEEDS
FROM THIS BOOK TO HOMEBOY INDUSTRIES***

To learn more about Father Greg Boyle and his work, please visit

www.Homeboy-Industries.org

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About the Author

Gregory Boyle is a Jesuit priest and the founder and executive director of Homeboy Industries. He makes approximately two hundred speaking appearances per year and has received numerous humanitarian awards, among them the California Peace Prize. He lives in Los Angeles.

About the Book

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