

A portrait of David Sheff, a middle-aged man with short, graying hair, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light blue shirt. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is a blurred outdoor scene.

Keynote for 2019 NJPN ANNUAL ADDICTION CONFERENCE

David Sheff

Bestselling Author & Advocate on US Drug Crisis, Prevention & Treatment of Addiction David Sheff is the author of *Clean: Overcoming Addiction and Ending America's Greatest Tragedy*, the follow-up to his New York Times #1 best seller, *Beautiful Boy: A Father's Journey Through His Son's Addiction*. *Clean* is the result of the years Sheff spent investigating the disease of addiction and America's drug problem, which he sees as the greatest public health challenge of our time. In 2009, Sheff was named to the Time 100, Time Magazine's list of the World's Most Influential People. The Partnership for Drug-Free Kids honored him with a Special Tribute Award "in recognition of his voice and leadership for families who are struggling with addiction." He was also awarded the 2013 College of Problems on Drug Dependence (CPDD) Media Award, 2017 American College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ACNP) Media Award, and 2017 American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Media Award "to recognize his compelling portrayal of addiction and its personal effects on families and society as a whole." Sheff's *Beautiful Boy*, published in 2008, was based on his article, "My Addicted Son," which appeared in the New York Times Magazine. The article won a special award from the American Psychological Association for "outstanding contribution to the understanding of addiction." *Beautiful Boy* was named the year's Best Nonfiction Book by Entertainment Weekly, an Amazon "Best Books of 2008," and it won first place in the Barnes and Noble Discover Award in nonfiction. In 2018 *Beautiful Boy* was made into a film directed by Felix Van Groeningen starring Steve Carell and Timothée Chalamet. Sheff also contributed to HBO's *Addiction: Why Can't They Just Stop*. His new book is *HIGH: Everything You Want To Know About Drugs*, a book for young adults written with Nic Sheff. He is currently working on his next book, *The Buddhist on Death Row: Finding Light in the Darkest Place*.

David is on the advisory boards of the The Jed and Clinton Health Matters Campus Program "designed to help colleges and universities promote emotional well-being and mental health programming, reduce substance abuse and prevent suicide among their students," and the International Bipolar Foundation. He graduated from the University of California, Berkeley. David lives with his family in Northern California.

