

"The Redemption of my Soul"

one father is forgiven for not being there to raise and watch his children grow up

In 1987 I was arrested and sent to prison. I discovered that I had (2) female friends pregnant carrying my children. One never knew the full impact and scope of who will be affected by our imprisonment.

For many years I committed myself to staying in touch with the children's parents. Understanding that although I am in prison that doesn't mean stop me from being accountable if not responsible. As my children advanced in (age), our communications became regular and our bond grew. For many many years, I sat in these cells torn up inside. Carrying around a deep sense of guilt for not being there as a father should. In my letters, I always asked them did they resent or hate me.

My beautiful daughter has always been open and honest with me. She said, father, I hate being cheated out of you being there. But showing her through my actions that

(2)

I love and cherish her out weights any other thing. my son who has never seen me a day on the streets said that while he wish i was there to do what father's do with their sons. He forgave me and told me that he will never let anything prevent him from loving me. my son has devoted himself to helping me regain my freedom and bring the injustice to a end.

How Do you feel about this? Do you feel that i forfeited my right to be in the lives of my children, because i came to prison? i want to be clear on how society feels about this issue. What is your belief on the second chance philosophy? God has given everyone the opportunity to repent for his or her sins. If the Creator can forgive (us) and Grant us a second chance. Why won't you in society Do the Same. Please let me know your thoughts.

Always trying to be better,

Bro. Khalifani malik Khaldun

(Leonard McQuay) 874304 A-1205

P.O. Box 1111 Carlisle, In. 47838