

Boy ⁱⁿ the Mirror Jim Bartko

with Bob Welch



“By 2019 the number of priests who have sexually abused children had grown to 6,846, according to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. They abused more than 19,000 children—and, of course, these are only the cases that were reported. The National Center for Victims of Crime estimates one in five girls and one in twenty boys has been a victim of child sexual abuse.

This book is for every one of those victims, of which I am one. I’ve seen the fallout firsthand, lived the shame, watched as my career and marriage fell apart—all because of something rooted decades ago that was not my fault. Even in the best of times, like the evening we honored Phil and Penny Knight, the haunting memories can show up in the mirror.”

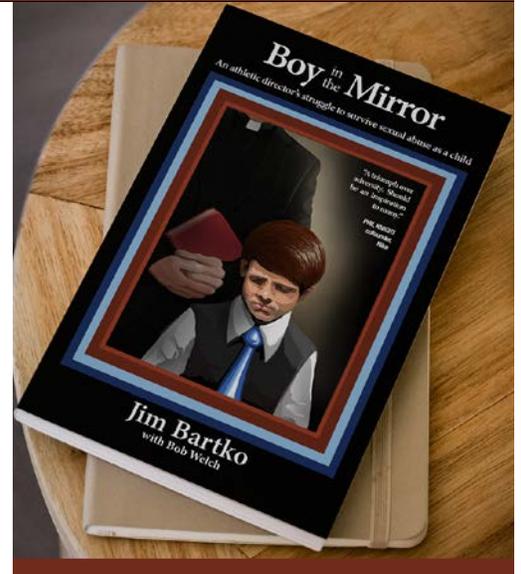
“So, this is the story of a man in the mirror who, for most of a lifetime, would look in that mirror and see only a wounded little boy looking back at him. A story with the highest of highs and the lowest of lows.

If they’re like me, some of these people have paired lives of public success with private misery, trying to live in the “now” but forever dogged by the “then.” Others have been swept away in a tsunami of addictions, broken relationships, and failure to hold a job. Still others, unable to reconcile with the hurts of the past, have killed themselves.

For those who remain, the irony is that what ultimately frees us is our willingness to stand up and bear witness to what happened to us—perhaps to family and trusted friends, to the police, to a therapist, and maybe—as I’m doing here—to the public at large. We finally share what our betrayers hoped we would take to our graves, because our silence allows them to continue to prey on those afraid to speak up.

One by one, as if bombing victims in a war not of our making, we wander out of the smoke and rubble, daring to tell our stories.

This is mine.”



“If only we all could be as brave as Jim Bartko. ‘Boy in the Mirror’ is a testament to his unflinching courage.”

– Neil Everett, ESPN

“Jim Bartko has had an incredible journey. We’re fortunate that he has chosen to share it with the world. As sad as it is on the surface, in the long run it is a triumph over adversity, and should be an inspiration to many.”

– Phil Knight, cofounder, Nike

“I’ve known Jim Bartko for more than twenty-five years. During that time, he has been a top-notch collaborator and a loyal and steady friend.

Little did any of us know that he had been, since childhood, waging a battle for his soul. When his story came out and he decided to write about it, I was honored to be asked to create an image for the cover.

– Tinker Hatfield

Available at: Amazon • The Duck Store • IngramSpark

All proceeds from the book sales will go to the scholarship fund and to 90by30.

boyinthemirror.com

The Jimmy Bartko Child Abuse & Scholarship Fund

Since the day that Jim Bartko went public with his abuse, he has dedicated himself to helping others with a similar story. Through volunteerism and speaking engagements, Jim has shared openly about his journey and used his platform as a public figure to be an inspiration to those affected by abuse. His hope is that survivors will be empowered to come out of the darkness and find the path to healing.

With the launch of his new book, Jim Bartko recently created a new scholarship at the University of Oregon College of Education, the Jimmy Bartko Child Abuse & Scholarship Fund. This fund is dedicated to students at the College of Education who choose to go into fields such as Counseling Psychology, Couples & Family Therapy and Family & Humans Services, fields that are on the front lines of working with survivors.

All proceeds from the book sales will go to the scholarship fund and to 90by30. If you'd like to support these great causes, go to the web addresses below and join our effort to help survivors overcome and prevent future abuse from occurring.

**K(NO)W
MORE** { a connected child
is a protected child }

90 by **30**
REDUCE CHILD ABUSE
90% BY 2030 IN LANE COUNTY

knowmorelanecounty.org

90by30.com

The 90by30 Initiative is a locally made, comprehensive plan to significantly reduce child abuse and neglect in one U.S. county by putting the work of prevention in the hands of all community members. K(no)w More calls on each of us to play a role in supporting families and kids.