

Darlene Ellison

high touch alliances



Media Appearances

The Oprah Winfrey Show

20/20

Dateline NBC's "To Catch a Predator"

D Magazine

KTVT-CBS11

I used to think of myself as innovative because I could *look outside the box*. It was only through my ultimate punch in the stomach that I realized... *there is no box!*

Darlene's Speaking Topics

- **The Secret To Your Competitive Edge I...Find Your Personal Strike Zone and Succeed There! (Freshmen/Sophomores)**
- **The Secret to Your Competitive Edge II...From College Student Athlete to Businesswoman Extraordinaire! (Juniors/Seniors)**

Darlene's incomparable credentials as well as her prismatic presence make her the perfect speaker for young collegiate women. As a current undergraduate at Texas A&M, I have found myself blessed by her motivational words. Darlene is a woman of character, wisdom, and grace who has overcome the impossible and flourished. If I have learned anything from Darlene, it is the simple reminder that 'there is no box' and that we are not meant to be ordinary.

Meredith White
Student, Texas A&M University

The Secret To Your Competitive Edge **A life skills presentation for female student athletes**

What is a woman's "competitive edge?" Your female student-athletes face daily issues, such as personal relationships, relationships with coaches and teammates, finding balance between their academic and athletic expectations, just to name a few. After college, additional issues loom as these young women emerge into the business world.

Few presentations are focused exclusively on the unique and often challenging collegiate experience of female student-athletes. These talented young women must:

- Learn to balance their studies, relationships, academic and athletic expectations
- Anticipate obstacles BEFORE they occur
- Be prepared to "play the game" of life

Darlene has a powerful story and is no stranger to overcoming obstacles. She has created a very unique and tailored presentation exclusively for the female college athletes in your school's athletic program. Darlene empowers these young women to dig deep inside to find their inner strength and thrive!

The Secret to Your Competitive Edge is a two-part presentation that will move these young women through an array of examples and strategies to anticipate and deal with

adversity, while tapping into their individual potential to achieve greatness in school, in relationships, in athletics and in their "real life" court, field or track.

Darlene's presentations are woman-to-woman, energetic and motivating. Each is tailored exclusively for female student-athletes and is uniquely conversational in nature, as she fully engages with her audience. Attendees of her presentations will:

- Learn strategies to anticipate and manage obstacles/adversity to maximize performance
- Discover the secrets of achieving a greater sense of balance
- Identify clear goals on how to apply their personal "competitive edge" in all life experiences
- Be empowered to dig deep and thrive
- Create meaningful alliances now and beyond their college experience to maximize networking success
- Roar with an empowered sense of control over women's issues

Note: Darlene also offers a unique, informal presentation for your program's male coaches of female student-athletes in connecting with and maximizing the potential of their female athletes.

Darlene's Story

Darlene Ellison's gripping personal story forms the foundation of her High Touch Alliances and Betrayal Recovery concepts that she uses to inspire and compel audiences into changing their own lives.

Her charmed life as wife, mother, philanthropist and successful businesswoman spiraled out of control when she learned that the man to whom she had been married for over 10 years, and with whom she had children, was arrested as part of an FBI sting operation. He was revealed to be a long-time sexual predator of young boys both in the United States and other countries. Engulfed by a very public situation that left her emotionally paralyzed, Darlene made the choice to not just survive, but thrive! She overcame the humiliation, anger and fear to turn her experience into one that could help others. She eliminated the "elephant in the room" by talking openly and proactively about her situation. Darlene turned lemons into lemonade!

Professionally, Darlene uses her personal "punches in the stomach" as a catalyst to her business success. At Professional Bank, N.A., in Dallas, Darlene has created a unique business development strategic plan that focuses on niche positioning, High Touch customer service and building the business one relationship at a time. She is also the founder and coordinator of two award-winning "Women In Business" community organizations that assist women business owners and executives to gain personal and professional growth. As an extension of these programs, she has also created the Future Women In Business internship program for college-aged women.

Through her speaking, workshops, executive retreats and consulting, Darlene helps businesses, organizations and associations transform and empower their employees and members with High Touch Alliances™.

Darlene's book, *Predator Next Door* has been released in February, 2009 and *High Touch Woman* is due for release in 2011.

Darlene is a captivating, motivational speaker who energizes every person in the room, drawing from a tapestry of varied and inspirational experiences. Were life a box of tinker toys, she is the round connector from which all possibilities emanate.

*Jennifer Culbertson
Founder/Publisher, CityARTCal*

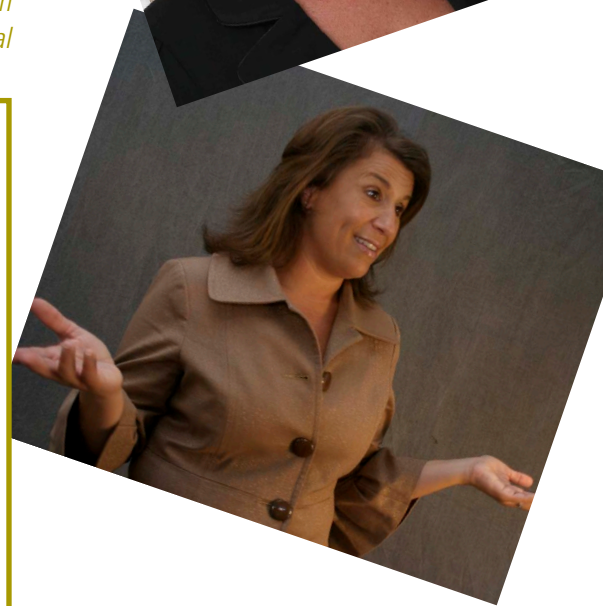
Partial List of Clients

- Dallas Children's Advocacy Center
- Dallas Needlework & Textiles Guild
- eWomen Network
- Garland Chamber of Commerce
- Garland Women's Business Initiative
- Lakewood-area Women in Business
- Lakewood Service League
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
- North Texas Women Conference
- Park Cities-area Women in Business
- Professional Bank, N.A.
- Region 10 Education Conference
- Sachse Chamber of Commerce
- US Christian Chamber of Commerce
- Women's Business Council – Southwest

Contact Darlene

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Darlene is extremely engaging and is one who can "walk the talk". She has an incredible gift to connect, help others connect and most importantly, she is sincere in her approach. She has taken her experiences, both professionally and personally to assist others in the art of building high touch alliances and create healthy relationships that last a lifetime!

*Mary Anne Wihbey
Owner, Peak Performance Solutions*

**Darlene Ellison, M.S.
High Touch Alliances™**