

About Orrin Hudson

Orrin “Checkmate” Hudson says he owes his success in life to a teacher. As the 7th sibling of thirteen, Orrin was in and out of foster homes and involved in petty crime, but James Edge, a white teacher in an all-black high school, realized Orrin’s potential. Mr. Edge taught Orrin that his actions had consequences by teaching him the game of chess. By his senior year in high school, Orrin had moved from in trouble and at risk to being voted “Most Likely to Succeed” and “Outstanding Student”, and stepped into the world and began to immediately work on meeting and exceeding those predictions.

As an adult, Orrin served in the United States Air Force and then as an Alabama State Trooper for six years, further developing the discipline he learned in high school. He later owned and operated his own car lot, succeeding as a business and community leader. Along the way, Orrin never gave up the game of chess, and he leaned on his personal development strategy of being the best to become a two-time World Open speed chess winner.

Orrin was watching the news one night in 2000 when he saw a story about seven employees shot, execution style, for \$2,000 in the cash register. That’s when he realized evil prevails when good people do nothing. After selling his business, he founded Be Someone, a name chosen from the advice Abraham Lincoln’s mother once advised her son when he questioned running for president.

Teaching kids how to think strategically, plan effectively and build self-confidence, Orrin uses his award winning, highly effective and much lauded presentations centered on the time-tested strategies of chess as a metaphor for the game of life. He shows at risk kids the focus, discipline and patience required by the game of chess – skills that are transferrable to their current life situations.

Since then, Orrin and BeSomeone.org have touched 40,000 kids, and his goal is to pass along his message to 1 million at risk children.

The author of “[One Move At A Time](#)”, Orrin is the subject of numerous news national articles and television interviews, including Good Morning America, CNN, CBS Early Morning Show, CNN Headline News, and CNN American Stories, The Word Network, People Magazine, USA Today , Sports Illustrated for Kids and Time Magazine for Kids. Noted for sharing a winning mindset that enables his students and audiences to believe in themselves, he continues to attract community service awards, having won some of the most prestigious in the educational arena including the national 2012 Dr. Martin Luther King Award.

Website: www.besomeone.org