



LAVON GRAY

Organizational Conflict Specialist

Organizational Conflict Specialist...

Award-Winning Author...

Business Owner...

Professor...

NCAA Football Referee...

These are just a few of the hats worn by Dr. Lavon Gray.

From conference rooms filled with bully bosses and passive aggressive co-workers, to college football stadiums filled with screaming coaches and out of control fans, when it comes to conflict, Lavon has seen it all. More importantly, he learned to thrive in the middle of the chaos! As a result, over the past thirty years Lavon has accumulated more than 7,000 hours of platform experience helping leaders across the United States resolve conflict, gain traction, and lead their organizations to healthier futures.

A professional member of the National Speaker's Association, Lavon holds certificates in mediation from Northwestern University and conflict resolution from Cornell University, and is a certified speaker and leadership coach with The John Maxwell Team. He has written five books, including *Never Wrestle with Pigs: A Survival Guide for Dealing with Difficult Personalities*, and developed the *Organizational Conflict Index™* to help organizations identify their internal conflict levels and develop strategies that promote organization health. In addition to his work as a professional speaker, Lavon serves as Senior Director of Organizational Development with The Bread Agency in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

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UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH ALABAMA



MISSISSIPPI
BANKERS
ASSOCIATION




SINGING RIVER
HEALTH SYSTEM



WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

"Probably one of the most entertaining corporate speakers I've heard."

BENJAMIN TEAGUE

Vice-President of Strategic Development
Biltmore Farms, LLC, Asheville, NC

"Dr. Gray used humor, storytelling, and practical examples that our members could put into practice immediately."

SHARI T. VEAZEY, Executive Director

Mississippi Municipal League – Jackson, Mississippi

"Lavon lives what he believes... convincing, convicting and contagious."

DERRIC JOHNSON

Former Creative Consultant, The Walt Disney Company – Orlando, Florida

"Lavon Gray's presentations on leadership are motivating and powerful. He challenged us to take our leadership to the next level."

– ORLANDO EXPERIENCE CONFERENCE

KEYNOTES

When it comes to hiring a keynote speaker, the ability to connect with your audience is a non-negotiable. Lavon Gray masterfully accomplishes this goal. Using humor and passion as tools, Lavon connects with audiences of all sizes sharing his unique understanding of challenges leaders face every single day. As a professional member of the *National Speaker's Association*, Lavon embraces an unwavering commitment to excellence that infuses every keynote presentation.



Never Wrestle with Pigs: Dealing with Difficult People

"I learned a long time ago to never wrestle with a pig... You both get dirty and the pig likes it." – George Bernard Shaw

During this humorous and inspiring keynote, Lavon explores the importance of relational skills in dealing with seven pig personalities that are prominent in your workplace. More importantly, audiences are challenged to identify the battles worth fighting and how to do it without smelling like a pig!



Choose to Defuse: Conflict Resolution in the Heat of the Battle

"Conflict shapes all organizations... whether it's positive or negative is up to you."

Contrary to popular belief, conflict doesn't have to be negative. In fact, when properly managed healthy conflict can lead to new ideas, new opportunities and a healthier work environment. In *Choose to Defuse*, Lavon explores principles learned on the athletic field and transfers them to the workplace, focusing on how to identify battles worth fighting, defuse conflict and restore peace in the heat of battle.

Define Your Tomorrow: Shaping Organizations and Teams for Success

"Your life is not defined by yesterday, but by how you shape tomorrow."

What does your future look like? Is it being defined by yesterday's decisions, or by how you shape the journey that lies ahead? Lavon believes the choice is yours. This mindset doesn't just happen. The *Define Your Tomorrow* Keynote focuses on the importance of vision, overcoming failure and embracing the hope of tomorrow.

Invisible No More: Building High-Impact Relationships

"Your success or failure will be primarily determined by one thing: your ability to build meaningful relationships."

Have you ever felt invisible? While this may sound like a ridiculous question, the truth is our work cultures are filled with people who are invisible, or what we more commonly refer to as lonely. This powerful keynote focuses on the power of relationships to add value to teams while providing the foundation for organizational success.

"Lavon uniquely weaves his vast experiences as a collegiate football official with his professional background to help leaders navigate challenging relationships and pick the leadership battles worth fighting. It has been my pleasure to recommend his keynote presentation "Never Wrestle with Pigs" to several of my long-standing clients—and he scores a touchdown every time! (Pun intended.) I highly recommend his leadership keynote for your next big conference or leadership retreat."

– MANDI STANLEY
Certified Speaking Professional

