

* Importance of Male Figures in Children's Lives!

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- * **70.1 Million Estimated Number of Fathers across the Nation.**
- * **24.7 Million Number of Fathers who are part of a married couple Family Household.**
 - * **2.0 Million Single Fathers**
 - * **214,000 Stay at Home Dads**
- * **18% of Preschool or Younger Children being regularly cared for by Fathers during Mothers working hours.**
- * **57.6% of black children, 31.2% of Hispanic children, and 20.7% of white children are living absent their biological fathers.**
- * **72.2 % of the U.S. population, fatherlessness is the most significant family or social problem facing America.**



Just the Numbers

- * Males are the perpetrators of 90% of physical abuse, 97% of sexual abuse, 74% of emotional abuse, and 82% of educational neglect.
- * In America, 23.6% of children lived in father-absent homes in 2014. Consequently, there is a “father factor” in nearly all of the societal issues facing America today.
- * Bureau of Justice Statistics from 2000 revealed that all victims sexual assault reported to law enforcement agencies, of offenders who victimized children under age 6, 40% were age 18 and male. 96% were known to their victims 50% were acquaintances or friends 20% were fathers 16% were 4% were strangers
- * Males made up 90 percent of adult child sexual assault perpetrators, while 3.9 percent of perpetrators were female, with a further 6 percent classified as 'unknown gender' (McCloskey & Raphael, 2005).

*The Ugly Numbers



- * They're less likely to be criminals.
- * They're more likely to delay sex.
- * They stay at their job longer.
- * They're less likely to gender stereotype.
- * They're less likely to have adolescent behavior problems.
- * They're more likely to attain higher levels of education.
- * Developmental milestones are more attainable with the help/influence of a male/father figure.
- * Greatly influence future relationships both personally and professionally.



* Male Figure Influence Effects

- * In Scripture the word “father” is found more than 1,100 times.
- * Psalm 103:13 As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him.
- * Luke 15:20-24 So he got up and went to his father. “But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.
- * Proverbs 4:1-4 Listen, my sons, to a father’s instruction; pay attention and gain understanding. I give you sound learning, so do not forsake my teaching. For I too was a son to my father, still tender, and cherished by my mother. Then he taught me, and he said to me, “Take hold of my words with all your heart; keep my commands, and you will live.

* Wisdom of Fatherhood from the Bible



- * 1983 Ford Foundation (Cleveland, Ohio) was the first and leading organization to start outreach programs for Fathers. It began as a teen program but, grew to encompass all ages of fathers.
- * 1990 a pilot project for Fatherhood Development was federally and privately sponsored to follow, father's and the obstacles presented by: Complicated personal history, Organizational policies and attitudes that do not embrace father engagement. Failures of public policy and services to engage with fathers.
- * 1994 saw the development of the NPNFF (National Practitioners Network for Fathers and Families) lead by Al Gore. This development focused on "encouraging father involvement in fragile/poverty families and support communication among all local and federal father focused programs.
- * 2010 the Administration for Children and families contracted for further research and development of new and interactive programs for fathers, with a strong focus on the early childhood relationship.
- * A vast amount of earlier programs like Boys and Girls Club as well as YMCA programs have a strong background and major influence in the developing of not only children but, pioneering programs that influence and encourage positive father/male role modeling.
- * "Be the best father you can be to your children. Because nothing is more important."- Barack Obama Commencement Address May 19,2013



* What is being done to help further
Positive Male Influence?

- * Follow effective program models.
- * Have supportive, trained and selective staff.
- * Allow participants adequate time to complete activities.
- * Use incentives to engage and recruit father involvement.
- * Ensure programs are time and father-friendly.
- * Implement methods appropriate for the populations served.
- * Form strong partnerships and recruit at various establishments, that are predominate/appropriate male establishments.

* How can Father Initiative Programs Succeed?



- * Become an advocate for fathers rights through local Department of Health and Human Services.
- * Offer your time and/or money to Boys and Girls Club, YMCA and/or Reconnecting Homeless Veterans with Their Children.
- * Research the various organizations like, Fatherhood Buzz, Building Assets for Fathers & Families, and WIC (women infant children).

WIC offers a variety of different programs to engage and collaborate with fathers.

- * Continue to make a consciences effort to know the value of fatherhood as much as you would motherhood. Fathers are fundamentally, spiritually, and lovingly needed just as much.



* How can you help?

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