PRESIDENT OBAMA'S FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE

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RESPONSIBLE FATHERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF THEIR CHILDREN

Father's Day is a great time to talk about the important roles that fathers play in the lives of their children. They are role models, caregivers, and providers who can help their children grow into happy and healthy adults.

Did you know that children who have actively involved fathers:

- have higher grade point averages, and get better achievement test scores.
- are 80% less likely to be incarcerated; and
- are less likely to abuse drugs and alcohol

Thank you for all you do!!

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK! EVERY DAY DADS ARE DOING AMAZING THINGS IN THE LIVES OF THEIR CHILDREN.

Here are just a few ideas for how we all can stay involved:

- Reading together
- Making breakfast (or lunch, or dinner)
- Coaching their sports activities
- Going to dance and piano recitals
- Checking and helping with homework

Being supportive, loving, and involved can have a positive influence on children and dads alike. You're making a difference and that's worth celebrating Father's Day and every day!

RESEARCH SOURCES:

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2. Frank Furstenberg and Kathleen Harris, "When and Why Fathers Matter: Impacts of Father Involvement on Children of Adolescent Mothers," in Young Unwed Fathers: Changing Roles and Emerging Policies, R. Lerman and T. Ooms, eds. (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1993).
3. Cynthia Harper of the University of Pennsylvania and Sara S. McLanahan of Princeton University cited in "Father Absence and Youth Incarceration," Journal of Research on Adolescence 14 (September 2004): 369-397.

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