Fathers tend to interact differently with their daughters compared to their sons. Jennifer Mascaro et al (2017), studied the interactions of fathers with their children as well as their brain activity as they interacted. She found that fathers tend respond more attentively to their daughters and respond more strongly to their emotions. In contrast, fathers of sons were more likely to engage in “rough and tumble play” and have stronger responses to neutral face reactions. Others have found that fathers react more positively to their daughters’ submissive behavior (Chaplin, et al, 2005), spend money differently on their sons compared to their daughters (Lambrianos, et al, 2017), and even decide to work more or fewer hours depending on the gender of their newborns (Lundberg, Rose, 2002). While others have reported some have reported surprisingly few differences in the way fathers treat sons versus daughters (Endendijk, 2016).

There is also evidence to suggest that sons and daughters *respond* differently to the quality of presence from their father. Sons, for example, are more likely to be suspended from school, have more trouble paying attention, generally perform worse than girls in academia, and will even tend to acquire their gender role differently (Stevenson, Black, 1998; Lundberg, 2017). Daughters with absent fathers as children in the US tend to alter their social behavior in ways that are unique to men. In a meta-analysis, Lynda Boothroyd and Catherine Cross (2017) conclude that “…father absence may predispose women to greater sensitivity to, and negative reactivity towards, the social environment in general.” There is little research on how adult sons compared to adult daughters continue to respond to the quality of the presence of a father; the research that exists suggests that fathers continue to play a role well into adulthood (Rostad, Silverman, McDonald, 2014, Quinlan, 2003; Ellis, et all, 2003; TenEyck, Knox, Sayed, 2021).