

Unix Assignment6

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Implementation

```
6      pid_t pid = fork();
7
8      // Check if fork() returns an error
9      if (pid < 0) {
10         perror("Fork failed");
11         exit(1);
12     }
13
14     // Child process
15     if(pid == 0) {
16         printf("Child process pid: %d\n", getpid());
17         exit(0);
18     }
19     // Parent process
20     else {
21         printf("Parent process pid: %d\n", getpid());
22         // Parent hangs for a while to make sure that child is finished
23         // and can be seen as zombie
24         sleep(3);
25         // Execute 'ps' command, 'Z' state indicates a zombie process
26         char command[100] = {};
27         sprintf(command, "ps -o pid,ppid,state -p %d", pid);
28         system(command);
29     }
```

To create a zombie process, the first step is to initiate a child process by invoking the `fork()` function. If the return value of `fork()` is 0, it signifies that the current process is the child process. In this case, we print its PID (Process ID) and promptly exit. On the other hand, if the return value of `fork()` is greater than 0, it indicates that the current process is the parent process, and the value returned is the PID of the newly created child process.

Then, we call the `sleep()` function to hang for a while to make sure that child is finished and can be seen as a zombie process. Afterward, we utilize the `ps` command to inspect the state of the child process. We can see the output of `ps` command show the child process is a zombie process.

Result

```
ccyang@ccyang: ~/Desktop/Unix/NTHU-2023-Advanced-UNIX-Programming/assignment6 1
Apple ~ /De/U/NTHU-2023-Advanced-UNIX-Programming/assignment6 main ?1 > ls 14:01:33
Makefile assignment6.c
Apple ~ /De/U/NTHU-2023-Advanced-UNIX-Programming/assignment6 main ?1 > make 14:01:36
gcc -o assignment6 -std=c11 -O2 -Wall assignment6.c
Apple ~ /De/U/NTHU-2023-Advanced-UNIX-Programming/assignment6 main ?1 > ./assignment6 14:01:38
Parent process pid: 4176
Child process pid: 4177
PID PPID STAT
4177 4176 Z+
Apple ~ /De/U/NTHU-2023-Advanced-UNIX-Programming/assignment6 main ?1 > 4s 14:01:43
```