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### Intergenerational Family Ties

Parents play a vital role in a child's development and help shape a child as they grow up. Responsible and loving parents generally will produce children that end up becoming successful people. Having both parents present in a child's life generally will produce a much better outcome than when only one parent is present. The absence of fathers is somewhat common in many parts of the world and certain people groups unfortunately. A child growing up without the presence of their father generally has negative impacts on the child's growth and maturity.

Studies show that a father who lives with his children generally will develop close bonds and a loving relationship with his children. The results of many of these studies demonstrate that a child with a father present in their life is more likely to do well in school, have a healthy mental health, and stay off drugs. Essentially, having a father in the life of a child will almost always yield positive results versus if the father wasn't present.

The presence of a father will promote physical health and safety. Studies show that when a father is present in the daily care of a child, the child will generally be healthier. Having a father around also reduces child poverty as single parenthood can be very hard on a single mother as she must support her children through working while taking care of them daily. These single mothers are generally going to be economically challenged thus having another parent

around will be very beneficial to the family as it can add another source of income to the family, thus reducing the likelihood of child poverty.

A father being present will generally reduce the amount of child abuse or emotional abuse a child receives as children living in a single parent household will be more likely neglected or abused. Father's also will reduce disciplinary problems in a child, thus improving the academic performance of a child. This directly impacts how successful a child will be in the future as academic performance generally is directly correlated in financial success in the future. Another important aspect a father's presence improves is teenage behavior. Children of both genders will be more likely to become a teenage parent without a proper father figure in their lives. On top of this, substance abuse will be reduced by the presence of a father.

Ultimately, it is pretty clear how the lack of a father in a family negatively impacts the children. It also puts additional financial strain on the mother by forcing her to work extra to support herself and her children. Filling the void of fatherlessness is very difficult because generally speaking, there isn't going to be anything that can perfectly replace a father. Some strategies families without a father can use is to incorporate help from grandparents, the parents of the single mother. This puts less of a strain financially and emotionally on the single mother as she will have help from at least one or more additional people to take care of her children. This will give the mother more time to work and less stress to deal with, ultimately leading to more financial stability and better parenting. Being a single mother is extremely difficult and there aren't many great ways to deal with having the father missing in the lives of the children. Getting help from loved ones is really the best option to fill the void of having a father figure in the lives of the children.