

ROLE OF FATHERS IN THE FAMILY:

THE ABSENT FATHER

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What We Are Going to Talk About?

- Who is a father?
- The role of the father in the home?
- Benefits of the available father
- Consequences of the absent father
- Personality traits & qualities of a good father
- How to be a good and faithful father
- Conclusion

OBJECTIVES

- To educate, encourage & motivate men, to hear the call to battle on behalf of their children;
- The importance of fathers' visibility in the home
- **To also appreciate the works of good fathers on Father's Day**

Who Is A Father?

- **A father is the male parent of a child**
- The father has
- **Parental**
- **Legal**
- **Social &**
- **Spiritual** responsibilities
& relationship with his child/children



Roles Of Fathers In The Home

To contribute to development of his
child/children

Spiritually (Church)

Intellectually (School)

Emotionally (Behaviour)

Physically (Healthy)

Socially (Connect with people)



Who Is A Good Father?

Anybody can be a father, but it takes a real man to be a **DADDY**.

Daddy's works are thankless & endless

Daddies make sure that all his children are well-adjusted in all dimensions of life.

- He is the family's
- Pillar of strength
- Pillar of support
- Instils discipline



Qualities Of A Father

- He is open-minded
- He accepts that his children are exactly not like him
- He leads by example/open door policy
- Spends quality time with his children
- Very supportive and loyal
- Protects his family
- Gives unconditional love to all members of his family

The Good Father

- Loves his children unconditionally
- Give his children good education
- Provides good accommodation for the family
- He assist in the development of mental and physical strength of the children
- He is protective and also affectionate
- He listens non-judgmentally
- **He respects his wife; the mother of his children**

Good Father

1. Starts when his wife is pregnant, he cares for the physical, emotional & financial needs of the wife & unborn baby
2. When child is toddler,
3. School age
4. Teenager –
5. Adolescents –
6. Young adults



ABSENT FATHER

- The **ABSENT FATHER** is father who has abandoned his or her child, and failed to maintain contact with the child
- **ABSENT FATHER** - one with non-custodial of his child but obligated to pay partial child support
- **FATHERS** who are present in the home but are physically and emotionally detached from the children

CAUSES

- Tension between the parents;
- lack of maturity,
- Psychological or mental health issues,
- Nagging wife/Sick wife
- Incarceration,
- Separation or divorce
- Poor communication between parents



Absent Father

- Absent fathers are likely to
- Spends money recklessly
- Always getting drunk
- Adultery
- Irresponsible



Types of Absent Fathers

Busy bee father - Are too busy with their jobs to take part raising their children. They may give money for upkeep but they remain emotionally detached from their children

Invisible father- They play no role at all in the lives of his children.

Authoritarian father - Fathers are authoritarian because they were raised by authoritarian parents.

Pessimistic and unhappy father - They complain about everything about their children all the time. Children find it difficult to please them or even get their approval.

Consequences

- The absent father can bring about:
- Psychological pain to his children
- Children became paranoid & untrusting as adults
- Low self-concept (confidence/esteem/perception)
- Promiscuity, prostitution & teen pregnancy
- Psychiatric problems such as depression and anxiety
- Poor relationships & suicidal ideations
- Such children tend to enter partnerships earlier, more likely to divorce, more likely to have children outside marriage.

Consequences

Diminished self-concept (low self-esteem/self confidence)

Truancy, delinquency and poor academic performance in school

Join cults, commit violent crimes

Contracts Sexually transmitted infection including HIV/AIDS

Girls yearn for male relationships due to lack of father figure in their lives; they become susceptible to exploitation by adult men

Drug and alcohol abuse - children are more likely to smoke, drink alcohol, and abuse drugs in childhood

Consequences

Homelessness (90% of runaway children have an absent father)

- Risk of physical, emotional, and sexual abuse
- Physical health problems - emotional pain, asthma,
- **Mental health disorders - anxiety, depression and suicide**
- Reduced life chances (as adults, they are likely to experience unemployment, have low incomes, and homelessness)
- Mortality - children are more likely to die earlier compared to others

The Faithful Father

- Faithful Father is home when supposed to be at home, engaged with his children and is very present in their lives.
- He loves his wife and demonstrates this love too - best thing a father can do for his children is show them that he loves their mother
- He is a fan of his children, he punishes with caution & seeks to build a long-lasting relationship with his children.
- **We need many more Faithful Fathers today!**
- **What type of father are you?**

How To Be A Faithful Father

- **Treat your child way you wanted to be treated when you were a child**
- Look back at how your father showed, or didn't show, his love for you.
- How he disciplined you, encouraged you, criticized you, and molded you.
- If you had a wonderful father, it's your turn to take everything he showed you and show it to your children

Treat your child the way you wanted to be treated when you were a child

- If your father wasn't good to you, now, it's your turn to make up for your father's limitations.
- Do the good things your father didn't do
- Shower your children with plenty of love, patience, understanding, and affection

How To Be A Faithful Father

- **Sons are influenced by their fathers**
- Good fathers don't abuse their children
- He ask what the children want from him
- Fathers develop common interests with their children
He puts their hobbies first
- He develops his children spiritually
- **They listen to their children more to improve communication**

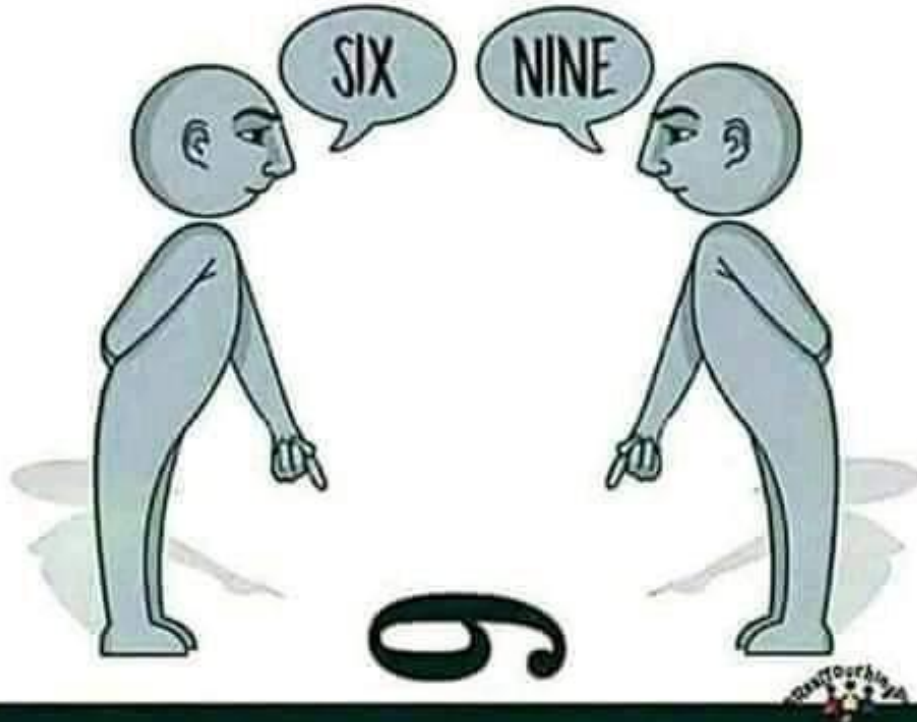
Sources of Conflict between Fathers and Children

What is the Age of this Girl/Woman



Sources of Conflict between Fathers and Children

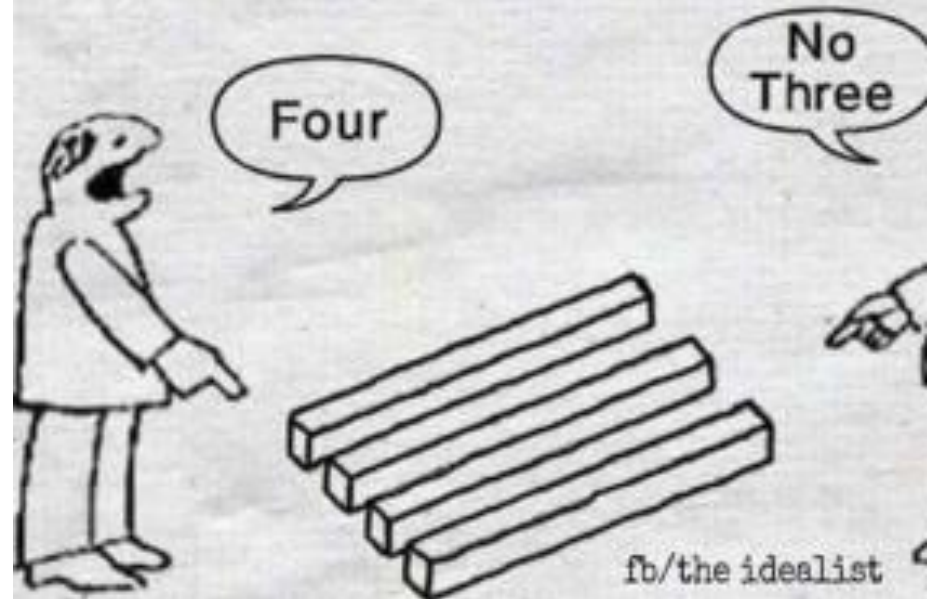
This is one of the realist things I've read...



Just because you are right, does not mean, I am wrong. You just haven't seen life from my side.

"Everything we hear is an opinion, not a fact. Everything we see is a perspective, not the truth."

- Marcus Aurelius



fb/the idealist

How To Be A Faithful Father

- Read stories to the child, reading is affection, conversation and discussion.
- Spend time with children - They want your time (not money)
- Hug your children more, play more with them
- Teach them self-esteem
- Teach them about finances



How To Be A Faithful Father

- Pay attention to **non-verbal messages** (80% of communication)
- Children communicate through non-verbal behavior
- **Posture, facial expressions, gestures, and tone of voice will tell you what he is feeling.**
- Fathers must interpret non-verbal behavior and to ask for clarification
- Also be aware of impact of your own non-verbal messages
- An angry glance may have the same impact as a harsh word.

How To Be A Good Father

- Teach your children difficult household chores
- Talk to your children about anything and everything
- Correct your children calmly (don't shout) and explain your reasons.
- **You need to affirm your children:**
 - “I love you,”
 - “I’m proud of you,”
 - “You are fantastic & amazing,”
 - “I know you can do it,”
 - “That was an amazing, you made!”
 - “You messed up, but I know you’ll bounce back.”
- Your children need regular encouragement from you





How To Be A Faithful Father

- **Dedicate One Hour (Ritual dad time)** - with your child, let him decide what you will do together.
- Play a video-game, wrestle together, watch movie, read a book, bake a cake.
- For that one hour, let him get your undivided attention
This is how to discover the inner life of your child
- In this era of Internet -important learning comes from what is passed down from father to son.

How To Be A Faithful Father

- You are your child's role model.
- Teach him/her about your passions - football, cars, clothes, how to set and achieve goals.
- When you over-react and shout at your child, do not hesitate to apologise; tell him you don't mean to spoil your relationship
- This will teach him invaluable lesson about responsibility and humility.
- Can he share his emotions with you?

HAPPY FAMILY



FATHER AND SON BLENDING



DADDY AND MUMMY DANCING



The Faithful Father

- Love & respect their mother & speak positively always about her
- **You cannot hate your wife and love your children**
- **Becoming an expert about your children's lives – knowing what a certain look on their face means, what causes them stress**
- Let your children know you - through storytelling is a great way to strengthen your bond.
- What were you like at your child's age?
- What mistakes did you make?

What does the Bible say About Fathers

- **Proverbs 22: 6** – Train your child in the way he should go, and when he is old, will not depart from it.
- **Proverbs 23:22** - Listen to your father, who gave you life...
- **1 Chronicles 29:19** – Fathers pray for their children - King David prayed for his son, Solomon.
- **Luke 15:20-24** - Story of “The Prodigal Son” Father never gives up on his children

Fathers Must Develop Their Children Spiritually, Mentally, Physically and Socially



Happy Father's Day

any MAN CAN BE A

FATHER,

BUT IT TAKES

A *special* PERSON TO BE A

DAD

HAPPY *father's* DAY

What Type of Father Are You?

- Responsible Father
- Irresponsible Father
- Legitimate Father
- Illegitimate Father
- Area Father
- Run Away Fathers
- Full Time Father
- Part Time Fathers
- Church Father
- Religious Father
- Father of the Universe
- Rich Father
- Run Away Father
- Weekend Father
- Shrine Father
- School Father
- Frowning Father
- Smiling Father
- Club Father
- Family Father
- Baba Awon Boys
- Visiting Father
- Office Father
- Poor Father

Conclusion

- This talk is to meant to empower fathers to be more loving, knowledgeable, active, and emotionally engaged with their children
 - **Your children need your leadership**
- The four dimensions of health that make people grow and become well-adjusted as adults are initially learnt at home.
- It is the responsibility of **DADDY** to provide them.
 - **CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME**

Whatever Father You Are, HAPPY FATHER'S Day



THANK YOU

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