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NON-RESIDENT FATHERS AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Definitions.....	2
Infants and Toddlers (0-2)	3
• Cognitive Development	
• Social Development	
• Emotional Development	
• Infant health	
• Motor Development	
Early Childhood (2-6)	5
• Cognitive Development	
• Social Development	
• Emotional Development	
• Externalizing Behavior Problems	
Middle Childhood (7-10).....	9
• Academic Achievement/ Performance	
• Social Development	
• Externalizing Behavior Problems	
Early Adolescence (11-14).....	14
• Externalizing Behavior Problem	
• Internalizing Behavior Problems	
• Academic Performance	
• Social Development	
Late Adolescence (15-18)	21
• Externalizing Behavior Problems	
• Internalizing Behavior Problems	
• Academic Performance	
• Social Development	

Take Time to Be a Dad Today

Definitions

- **Non-Resident fathers** are men who do not co-reside with their children.
- **Academic achievement/performance** refers to school-age children's and adolescents' grades, test scores, cognitive abilities, and overall school performance and functioning.
- **Cognitive development** refers to an infant's ability to explore objects, babble, problem solve, and use words.
- **Emotional development** refers to children's ability to be expressive, regulate their emotions, and control their behavior.
- **Externalizing behavior problems** include antisocial conduct such as fighting, non-compliance, poor performance in school, delinquent behavior, and substance use.
- **Father-Child Contact** refers to non-resident fathers' direct contact with their children (including visits), and indirect social contact (such as phone calls or mail correspondence).
- **Father Engagement** refers to fathers' demonstration of warmth, use of authoritative (demanding and responsive) parenting, sensitivity, and participation in activities with the child.
- **Financial Support** refers to child support payments or the provision of other forms of informal support and child-related resources.
- **Infant health** refers to infants' prenatal care, birth weight, and mortality.
- **Internalizing behavior problems** refer to lower psychological well-being and emotional distress such as depression, irritability, and somatic concerns.
- **Motor development** refers to infants' hand-eye coordination and ability to sit, crawl, walk independently, and balance.
- **Social development (adolescents)** refers to adolescents' self-efficacy, feelings of self-worth, and development of positive relationships with peers and other adults outside the family.
- **Social development** refers to the ability of children to meet the societal expectations within daily routines (i.e., independently dressing, eating, using the restroom, and communicating), maintain a spontaneous interest in learning (i.e., participating in self-initiated activities), and developing interpersonal relationships (i.e., interaction with caregivers).

Infants and Toddlers (0-2)

Cognitive Development

Father-Child Contact

- When communicating with their infant children, non-resident fathers are less direct when giving orders, presenting a greater cognitive challenge for infants to understand and respond to their fathers. The study sampled 146 families, with 18 percent of the fathers being non-resident fathers.
Source: Rowe, Coker, & Pan. (2004). A comparison of fathers' and mothers' talk to toddlers in low-income families. *Social Development*, 13(2), 278-291.
- Infrequent, short, and/or irregularly scheduled child visits by non-resident fathers are associated with greater delays in infants' language development. The study examined 45 infants that were under the age of 3 and in post-divorce homes.
Source: Hodges, W., Landis, T., Day, E., & Oderberg, N. (1991). Infant and toddlers and post-divorce parental access: an initial exploration in Everett, C. (ed). *The Consequences of Divorce: Economic and Custodial Impact on Children and Adults*. Philadelphia, PA: Haworth Press, Inc.

Father Engagement

- A study of 679 infants between 8-12 months found no significant associations between non-resident fathers' attachment formation with their child and their infant's cognitive performance.
Source: Ko, B. (2006). Nonresident father involvement and child well-being. A thesis submitted to Faculty of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences of Georgetown University. Washington, D.C.: author.

Financial Support

- A study of 679 infants between 8-12 months found no significant associations between non-resident fathers' financial support and infants' cognitive performance.
Source: Ko, B. (2006). Nonresident father involvement and child well-being. A thesis submitted to Faculty of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences of Georgetown University. Washington, D.C.: author.

Social/ Emotional Development

Father-Child Contact

- Infrequent, short, and/or irregularly scheduled child visits by non-resident fathers are associated with greater delays in infants' personal and social development. The study examined 45 infants that were under the age of 3 in post-divorce homes.
Source: Hodges, W., Landis, T., Day, E., & Oderberg, N. (1991). Infant and toddlers and post-divorce parental access: an initial exploration in Everett, C. (ed). *The Consequences of Divorce: Economic and Custodial Impact on Children and Adults*. Philadelphia, PA: Haworth Press, Inc.

Infant Health

Financial Support

- Infants of mothers who receive financial support from non-resident fathers during their pregnancy are less likely to be born with a low birth weight. The study included 4,700 newborns and their families.

Source: Padilla, Y. and Reichman, N. (2001). Low birthweight: do unwed fathers help? *Children and Youth Services Review*, 23(4-5), 427-452.

- Non-resident fathers' financial contributions positively influence mothers' receipt of early prenatal care and the adoption of healthy pregnancy behaviors, such as refraining from alcohol, drug use, and smoking, which results in better health outcomes for infants as measured by their birth weight.

Source: Teitler, J. (2001). Father involvement, child health and maternal health behavior. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 23(4-5), 403-425.

Motor Development

Father-Child Contact

- A study of 679 infants between 8-12 months found no significant associations between non-resident fathers' physical caretaking and infants' motor performance.

Source: Ko, B. (2006). Nonresident father involvement and child well-being. A thesis submitted to Faculty of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences of Georgetown University. Washington, D.C.: author.

Father Engagement

- A study of 679 infants between 8-12 months found no significant associations between non-resident fathers' attachment formation with their infants and infants' motor performance.

Source: Ko, B. (2006). Nonresident father involvement and child well-being. A thesis submitted to Faculty of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences of Georgetown University. Washington, D.C.: author.

Financial Support

- A study of 679 infants between 8-12 months found no significant associations between non-resident fathers' financial support and infants' motor performance.

Source: Ko, B. (2006). Nonresident father involvement and child well-being. A thesis submitted to Faculty of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences of Georgetown University. Washington, D.C.: author.

Early Childhood (2-6)

Cognitive Development

Father-Child Contact

- More frequency father visitation among nonresidential fathers is not associated with improved cognitive development for children four years old or older. The study examined the math and reading aptitude of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Nonresident Father Involvement and Child Well-being: Can Dads Make a Difference? *Journal of Family Issues*, 15(1), 79-96.
- For black children, more frequent nonresident father visitation is associated with children's lower math aptitude. The study examined the cognitive development of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Variation in the Consequences of Nonresident Father Involvement for Children's Well-being. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 56, 963-972.
- A study of 175 three year old children from low-income black families found that there is no association between greater amounts of nonresident father contact and children's improved receptive language skills.
Source: Black, M.M., Dubowitz, H. and Starr, R.H.Jr. (1999). African American Fathers in Low Income, Urban Families: Development, Behaviors, and Home Environment of Their Three year old Children. *Child Development*, 70(4), 967-978.

Father Engagement

- A study of 175 three year old children from low-income black families found that higher levels of non-resident father warmth and nurturing are associated with children's improved cognitive development as measured by their receptive language skills. This association, however, is small.
Source: Black, M.M., Dubowitz, H. and Starr, R.H.Jr. (1999). African American Fathers in Low Income, Urban Families: Development, Behaviors, and Home Environment of Their Three year old Children. *Child Development*, 70(4), 967-978.

Financial Support

- Non-resident fathers' greater financial support is associated with their child's improved reading recognition and math performance, and a better home intellectual environment as measured by the Peabody Individual Achievement Test and the Home Observation for Measurement of the Environment Inventory. The study included 1,290 children between the ages of 5-10.
Source: Knox, V. (1996). The effects of child support payments on developmental outcomes for elementary school-age children. *The Journal of Human Resources*, 31(4), 816-840.
- Non-resident fathers' provision of child support is associated with children's improved cognitive ability as measured by the Peabody Individual Math and Reading Recognition achievement tests, which measure number recognition, geometry, trigonometry, word recognition, and pronunciation ability. The study included children, ages 5-8, of 845 divorced or never married mothers.
Source: Argys, L., Peters, E., Brooks-Gunn, J., and Smith, J. (1998). The impact of child support on cognitive outcomes of young children. *Demography*, 35(2), 159-173.
- Children of non-resident fathers who voluntarily provide financial support have higher verbal ability, as measured by the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test, than their counterparts whose non-resident fathers are court-ordered to provide child support. The study included children, ages 5-8, of 845 divorced or never married mothers.
Source: Argys, L., Peters, E., Brooks-Gunn, J., and Smith, J. (1998). The impact of child support on cognitive outcomes of young children. *Demography*, 35(2), 159-173.

- Greater amounts of financial support received from nonresidential fathers are associated with children's improved math and reading aptitude. The study examined the cognitive abilities of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Nonresident Father Involvement and Child Well-being: Can Dads Make a Difference? *Journal of Family Issues*, 15(1), 79-96.
- A study of 175 three year old children from low-income black families found that greater amounts of nonresident father financial support are associated with improved cognitive development as measured by children's receptive language skills.
Source: Black, M.M., Dubowitz, H. and Starr, R.H.Jr. (1999). African American Fathers in Low Income, Urban Families: Development, Behaviors, and Home Environment of Their Three year old Children. *Child Development*, 70(4), 967-978.

Social/Emotional Development

Father-Child Contact

- Nonresident fathers' participation in a wide range of daily activities with their children including reading, watching TV, attending entertainment events, doing homework, visiting, and shopping is associated with children's improved psychological well-being measured by their adjustment to divorce, positive mood, and lower levels of depression. These results are based on a study of 115 children of divorce ages 5 to 13 living apart from their biological fathers in Southern California.
Source: Clarke-Stewart, K. & Hayward, C. (1996). Advantages of father custody and contact for the psychological well-being of school-age children. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 17, 239 – 270.
- More frequent non-resident father visitation is not associated with children's increased feelings of self-worth. The study examined the social and emotional development of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Nonresident Father Involvement and Child Well-being: Can Dads Make a Difference? *Journal of Family Issues*, 15(1), 79-96.
- A study of 175 three year old children from low-income black families found that there is no association between greater amounts of nonresident father contact and young children's reduced behavior problems as measured by behaviors such as feeling afraid, disobedient, crying, and fighting.
Source: Black, M.M., Dubowitz, H. and Starr, R.H.Jr. (1999). African American Fathers in Low Income, Urban Families: Development, Behaviors, and Home Environment of Their Three year old Children. *Child Development*, 70(4), 967-978.
- A study of 1,172 households of children ages 5-18 found that higher levels of nonresident father visitation are associated with children's improved adjustment measured by items such as their willingness to try new things, feelings of happiness, cheerfulness, sadness or depression, and whether or not they get along with other kids, but only if mothers are satisfied with the non-resident fathers' level of involvement.
Source: King, V. and Heard, H. (1999). Nonresident father visitation, parental conflict, and mother's satisfaction: what's best for child well-being? *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 61(2), 385-396.
- A study of 1,172 households of children ages 5-18 found that higher levels of nonresident father visitation are associated with higher levels of children's well-being measured by how well their mother feels their life is going, but only if mothers are satisfied with the non-resident fathers' level of involvement.
Source: King, V. and Heard, H. (1999). Nonresident father visitation, parental conflict, and mother's satisfaction: what's best for child well-being? *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 61(2), 385-396.

- Daughters of non-resident fathers with regular child contact are less likely to have seen a doctor or therapist for emotional or behavioral problems. The study included 1,285 children between the ages of 5 and 18.

Source: Amato, P. and Rezac, S. (1994). Contact with nonresident parents, interparental conflict, and children's behavior. *Journal of Family Issues*, 15(2), 191-207.

Father Engagement

- A study of 1,431 children between 3 and 12 years old found that greater warmth from nonresident fathers is associated with children's positive pro-social development as measured by children's health, friendships, prospects for the future, and feelings of self-worth.

Source: Harper, S.E. and Fine, M.A. (2006). The Effects of Involved Nonresidential Fathers' Distress, Parenting Behaviors, Inter-Parental Conflict, and the Quality of Father-Child Relationships on Children's Well-Being. *Fathering*, 4(3), 286-311.

Financial Support

- For Hispanic children, greater amounts of financial support received from nonresidential fathers are associated with fewer child problem behaviors as measured by the Behavior Problem Index. The study measure of social and emotional development of 1,501 children ages children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.

Source: King, V. (1994). Variation in the Consequences of Nonresident Father Involvement for Children's Well-being. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 56, 963-972.

Externalizing behaviors

Father-Child Contact

- Nonresident fathers' greater participation in a wide range of daily activities with their children including reading, watching TV, attending entertainment events, doing homework, visiting, and shopping is associated with children's engagement in fewer problem behaviors including kicking or hitting, complaining, ignoring parents, and acting defiant. These results are based on a study of 115 children of divorce ages 5 to 13 living apart from their biological fathers in Southern California.

Source: Clarke-Stewart, K. & Hayward, C. (1996). Advantages of father custody and contact for the psychological well-being of school-age children. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 17, 239 – 270.

- A study of 188 black three and four year old children of low-income single mothers found that, among children living with employed mothers, more frequent nonresident father contact was associated with fewer child problem behaviors including fighting, hitting, demanding attention, restlessness, and an inability to sit still. There was no association between more frequent nonresident father contact and fewer problem behaviors among children living in households with unemployed mothers.

Source: Jackson, A.P. (1999). The Effects of Nonresident Father Involvement on Single Black Mothers and Their Young Children. *Social Work*, 44(2), 156-166.

- For black children, more frequent nonresident father visitation is associated with increased problem behaviors for children as measured by the Behavior Problem Index. The study examined the problem behaviors of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.

Source: King, V. (1994). Variation in the Consequences of Nonresident Father Involvement for Children's Well-being. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 56, 963-972.

- Daughters of non-resident fathers with regular child contact are less likely to have behavior problems, as measured by children's in-school behavior and criminal behavior. The study included 1,285 children between the ages of 5 and 18.
Source: Amato, P. and Rezac, S. (1994). Contact with nonresident parents, interparental conflict, and children's behavior. *Journal of Family Issues*, 15(2), 191-207.

Financial Support

- For Hispanic children, but not black and white children, greater amounts of financial support received from nonresidential fathers are associated with fewer child problem behaviors as measured by the Behavior Problem Index. The study measure of social and emotional development of 1,501 children ages children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Variation in the Consequences of Nonresident Father Involvement for Children's Well-being. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 56, 963-972.

Middle Childhood (7-10)

Academic Achievement/ Performance

Father-Child Contact

- Children of non-resident fathers who are involved in their schooling are more likely to receive A's and less likely to repeat a grade or be suspended or expelled than their counterparts with non-resident fathers who are not involved in their child's schooling. The study included 5, 064 children in 1st through 12th grade with a nonresident father.
Source: Nord, C. and W., Jerry. (2001). *Fathers' and mothers' involvement in their schools by family type and resident status*, NCES 2001-032. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.
- Among children living with a single mother, sons and daughters that spent a greater number of days with their nonresident father in the prior year had higher academic performance measured by their GPA. This study consisted of 136 children ages 9 to 12.
Source: Bronstein, P., Frankel Stoll, M.F., Clauson, J., Abrams, C.L., & Briones, M. (1994). *Fathering after separation or divorce: Factors predicting children's adjustment*. *Family Relations*, 43, 469-479.
- Among children living with a stepparent, sons and daughters that spent a greater number of days with their nonresident father in the past year had better classroom behavior measured by teachers' assessments of their social, emotional, and academic functioning in the classroom. This study consisted of 136 children ages 9 to 12.
Source: Bronstein, P., Frankel Stoll, M.F., Clauson, J., Abrams, C.L., & Briones, M. (1994). *Fathering after separation or divorce: Factors predicting children's adjustment*. *Family Relations*, 43, 469-479.
- More frequent visitation among nonresidential fathers is not associated with children's improved math and reading aptitude. The study examined the cognitive abilities of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). *Nonresident Father Involvement and Child Well-being: Can Dads Make a Difference?* *Journal of Family Issues*, 15(1), 79-96.
- For black children, more frequent nonresident father visitation is associated with children's lower math aptitude. The study examined the cognitive development of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). *Variation in the Consequences of Nonresident Father Involvement for Children's Well-being*. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 56, 963-972.

Father Engagement

- Children who have warm and responsive interactions with their non-resident fathers perform better academically, as measured by the school-administered Metropolitan Achievement Test and the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test. Warm and responsive interactions were measured by teaching, disciplining, and participating in leisure activities with children. The study included 111 third and fourth grade children.
Source: Coley, R. (1998). *Children's socialization experiences and functioning in single-mother households: the importance of fathers and other men*. *Child Development*, 69(1), 219-230.

- Higher levels of non-resident father control are associated with greater academic achievement for children, as measured by the school-administered Metropolitan Achievement Test and the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test. Warm and responsive interactions were measured by teaching, disciplining, and participating in leisure activities with children. The study included 111 third and fourth grade children.

Source: Coley, R. (1998). Children's socialization experiences and functioning in single-mother households: the importance of fathers and other men. *Child Development*, 69(1), 219-230.
- A more positive relationship with non-resident fathers is associated with children's greater originality and independent learning abilities, and improved reading grades. The study included 341 children from first, third, and fifth grades.

Source: Guidubaldi, J., Cleminshaw, H., Perry, J., and Nastasi, B., and Lightel, J. (1986). The role of selected family environment factors in children's post-divorce adjustment. *Family Relations*, 35(1), 141-151.
- Among children living with a single mother, sons and daughters that participated in more activities with their nonresident father including celebrating holidays together, attending school or church events, and participating in leisure activities together had higher academic performance measured by their GPA. This study consisted of 136 children ages 9 to 12.

Source: Bronstein, P., Frankel Stoll, M.F., Clauson, J., Abrams, C.L., & Briones, M. (1994). Fathering after separation or divorce: Factors predicting children's adjustment. *Family Relations*, 43, 469-479.
- Among children living with a stepparent, sons and daughters that participated in more activities with their nonresident father including celebrating holidays together, attending school or church events, and participating in leisure activities together had better classroom behavior measured by teachers' assessments of their social, emotional, and academic functioning in the classroom. This study consisted of 136 children ages 9 to 12.

Source: Bronstein, P., Frankel Stoll, M.F., Clauson, J., Abrams, C.L., & Briones, M. (1994). Fathering after separation or divorce: Factors predicting children's adjustment. *Family Relations*, 43, 469-479.

Financial Support

- Non-resident fathers' greater financial support is associated with their child's improved reading recognition and math performance, and a better home intellectual environment as measured by the Peabody Individual Achievement Test and Home Observation for Measurement of the Environment Inventory. The study included 1,290 children between the ages of 5-10.

Source: Knox, V. (1996). The effects of child support payments on developmental outcomes for elementary school-age children. *The Journal of Human Resources*, 31(4), 816-840.
- Non-resident fathers' provision of child support is associated with their child's improved cognitive ability as measured by the Peabody Individual Math and Reading Recognition achievement test, which measures number recognition, geometry, trigonometry, word recognition, and pronunciation ability. The study included children, ages 5-8, of 845 divorced or never married mothers.

Source: Argys, L., Peters, E., Brooks-Gunn, J., and Smith, J. (1998). The impact of child support on cognitive outcomes of young children. *Demography*, 35(2), 159-173.
- Children of non-resident fathers who voluntarily provide financial support have a higher verbal ability, as measured by the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test, than their counterparts whose non-resident fathers are court-ordered to provide child support. The study included children, ages 5-8, of 845 divorced or never married mothers.

Source: Argys, L., Peters, E., Brooks-Gunn, J., and Smith, J. (1998). The impact of child support on cognitive outcomes of young children. *Demography*, 35(2), 159-173.

- Greater amounts of financial support received from nonresidential fathers are associated with children's improved math and reading aptitude. The study examined the cognitive abilities of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Nonresident Father Involvement and Child Well-being: Can Dads Make a Difference? *Journal of Family Issues*, 15(1), 79-96.
- Children of non-resident fathers who paid child support in the prior year are more likely to receive A's and less likely to repeat a grade or be suspended or expelled than their counterparts with non-resident fathers who did not pay child support. The study included 5, 064 children in 1st through 12th grade with a nonresident father.
Source: Nord, C. and W., Jerry. (2001). *Fathers' and mothers' involvement in their schools by family type and resident status*, NCES 2001-032. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.

Social Development

Father-Child Contact

- Regular contact with non-resident fathers is associated with better quality parent-child relationships in terms of parent-child conflict, time spent together, affection, discipline and parents' love and interest. The study included 2,279 children between the ages of 7 and 11.
Source: Furstenberg, F. and Nord, C. (1985). Parenting apart: patterns of childrearing after marital disruption. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 47(4), 893-904.
- More frequent non-resident father visitation was not associated with children's positive feelings of self-worth. The study examined the social and emotional development of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Nonresident Father Involvement and Child Well-being: Can Dads Make a Difference? *Journal of Family Issues*, 15(1), 79-96.
- A study of 1,172 households of children ages 5-18 found that higher levels of nonresident father visitation are associated with children's higher levels of well-being measured by how well their mother feels their life is going, but only if mothers are satisfied with the non-resident fathers' level of involvement.
Source: King, V. and Heard, H. (1999). Nonresident father visitation, parental conflict, and mother's satisfaction: what's best for child well-being? *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 61(2), 385-396.
- Nonresident fathers' greater participation in a wide range of daily activities with their children including reading, watching TV, attending entertainment events, doing homework, visiting, and shopping is associated with children's improved psychological well-being measured by their adjustment to divorce, positive mood, and lower levels of depression. These results are based on a study of 115 children of divorce ages 5 to 13 living apart from their biological fathers in Southern California.
Source: Clarke-Stewart, K. & Hayward, C. (1996). Advantages of father custody and contact for the psychological well-being of school-age children. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 17, 239 – 270.
- Daughters of non-resident fathers with regular child contact are less likely to have seen a doctor or therapist for emotional or behavioral problems. The study included 1,285 children between the ages of 5 and 18.
Source: Amato, P. and Rezac, S. (1994). Contact with nonresident parents, interparental conflict, and children's behavior. *Journal of Family Issues*, 15(2), 191-207.

- Among children living with a single mother, daughters that spent a greater number of days with their nonresident father in the prior year exhibited more popularity with their peers. This study consisted of 136 children ages 9 to 12.

Source: Bronstein, P., Frankel Stoll, M.F., Clauson, J., Abrams, C.L., & Briones, M. (1994). Fathering after separation or divorce: Factors predicting children's adjustment. *Family Relations*, 43, 469-479.

Father Engagement

- A study of 111 third and fourth grade children found that non-resident father warmth is not associated with children's improved self-esteem, more positive social behaviors, or fewer misbehaviors. Father warmth was measured by teaching, disciplining, and participating in leisure activities with children.
Source: Coley, R. (1998). Children's socialization experiences and functioning in single-mother households: the importance of fathers and other men. *Child Development*, 69(1), 219-230.
- Among children living with a single mother, daughters that participated in more activities with their nonresident father including celebrating holidays together, attending school or church events, and participating in leisure activities together exhibited more popularity with their peers. This study consisted of 136 children ages 9 to 12.
Source: Bronstein, P., Frankel Stoll, M.F., Clauson, J., Abrams, C.L., & Briones, M. (1994). Fathering after separation or divorce: Factors predicting children's adjustment. *Family Relations*, 43, 469-479.
- Children who have a more positive relationship with their non-resident fathers are more likely to demonstrate more productive interactions with peers, have less irrelevant talk, are less socially over-involved, and have better peer relationships. The study included 341 children from first, third, and fifth grades.
Source: Guidubaldi, J., Cleminshaw, H., Perry, J., and Nastasi, B., and Lightel, J. (1986). The role of selected family environment factors in children's post-divorce adjustment. *Family Relations*, 35(1), 141-151.
- Children who have a more positive relationship with their non-resident fathers are more likely to be better adjusted after divorce than their counterparts with a less positive father-child relationship. The study included 341 children from first, third, and fifth grades.
Source: Guidubaldi, J., Cleminshaw, H., Perry, J., and Nastasi, B., and Lightel, J. (1986). The role of selected family environment factors in children's post-divorce adjustment. *Family Relations*, 35(1), 141-151.
- Among children living with a stepparent, sons and daughters who participated in more activities with their nonresident father including celebrating holidays together, attending school or church events, and participating in leisure activities together experienced fewer psychological problems such as restlessness, jumpiness, and trouble sleeping. This study consisted of 136 children ages 9 to 12.
Source: Bronstein, P., Frankel Stoll, M.F., Clauson, J., Abrams, C.L., & Briones, M. (1994). Fathering after separation or divorce: Factors predicting children's adjustment. *Family Relations*, 43, 469-479.
- Among children living with a stepparent, sons and daughters who participated in more activities with their nonresident father including celebrating holidays together, attending school or church events, and participating in leisure activities together had higher ratings of self-worth. This study consisted of 136 children ages 9 to 12.
Source: Bronstein, P., Frankel Stoll, M.F., Clauson, J., Abrams, C.L., & Briones, M. (1994). Fathering after separation or divorce: Factors predicting children's adjustment. *Family Relations*, 43, 469-479.
- A study of 1,431 children between 3 and 12 years old found that greater warmth from nonresident fathers is associated with children's positive pro-social development as measured by children's health, friendships, prospects for the future, and feelings of self-worth.
Source: Harper, S.E. and Fine, M.A. (2006). The Effects of Involved Nonresidential Fathers' Distress, Parenting Behaviors, Inter-Parental Conflict, and the Quality of Father-Child Relationships on Children's Well-Being. *Fathering*, 4(3), 286-311.

Financial Support

- For Hispanic children, greater amounts of financial support received from nonresidential fathers are associated with fewer child problem behaviors as measured by the Behavior Problem Index. The study measure of social and emotional development of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Variation in the Consequences of Nonresident Father Involvement for Children's Well-being. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 56, 963-972.

Externalizing Behaviors

Father-Child Contact

- A study of 1,172 households of children ages 5-18 found that higher levels of nonresident father visitation are associated with reductions in children's behavior problems measured by items such as whether or not the child has been suspended or expelled, ran away from home, or is difficult to raise, but only if mothers are satisfied with the non-resident fathers' level of involvement.
Source: King, V. and Heard, H. (1999). Nonresident father visitation, parental conflict, and mother's satisfaction: what's best for child well-being? *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 61(2), 385-396.
- Daughters of non-resident fathers with regular child contact are less likely to have behavior problems, as measured by children's in-school behavior and criminal behavior. The study included 1,285 children between the ages of 5 and 18.
Source: Amato, P. and Rezac, S. (1994). Contact with nonresident parents, interparental conflict, and children's behavior. *Journal of Family Issues*, 15(2), 191-207.
- Nonresident fathers' greater participation in a wide range of daily activities with their children including reading, watching TV, attending entertainment events, doing homework, visiting, and shopping is associated with children's engagement in fewer problem behaviors including kicking or hitting, complaining, ignoring parents, and acting defiant. These results are based on a study of 115 children of divorce ages 5 to 13 living apart from their biological fathers in Southern California.
Source: Clarke-Stewart, K. & Hayward, C. (1996). Advantages of father custody and contact for the psychological well-being of school-age children. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 17, 239 – 270.
- For black children, more frequent nonresident father visitation is associated with children's engagement in more problem behaviors as measured by the Behavior Problem Index. The study examined the problem behaviors of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Variation in the Consequences of Nonresident Father Involvement for Children's Well-being. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 56, 963-972.

Father Engagement

- Higher levels of non-resident father contact and involvement are associated with children's improved classroom behavior, as measured by teacher ratings on the Inferred Self-Concept Scale. The study included 136 fifth grade children between the ages of 9 and 12.
Source: Bronstein, P., Stoll, M., Clauson, J., Abrams, C., and Briones, M. (1994). Fathering after separation or divorce: factors predicting children's adjustment. *Family Relations*, 43(4), 469-479.
- Children who have a more positive relationship with their non-resident fathers are more likely to have a better grade in conduct and are less likely to blame others for their actions. The study included 341 children from first, third, and fifth grades.
Source: Guidubaldi, J., Cleminshaw, H., Perry, J., and Nastasi, B., and Lightel, J. (1986). The role of selected family environment factors in children's post-divorce adjustment. *Family Relations*, 35(1), 141-151.

Early Adolescence (11-14)

Externalizing behavior problems

Father-Child Contact

- A study of 647 10–14 year olds found that more regular contact and conversations with nonresident fathers and nonresident fathers' greater responsibility for their children's daily care and basic needs are associated with children's lower engagement in delinquent and problem behavior.
Source: Levine Coly, R. & Medeiros, B.L. (2007). Reciprocal longitudinal relations between nonresident father involvement and adolescent delinquency. *Child Development, 78 (1)*, 132 – 147.
- For black children, more frequent nonresident father visitation is associated with more child problem behaviors as measured by the Behavior Problem Index. The study examined the problem behaviors of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Variation in the Consequences of Nonresident Father Involvement for Children's Well-being. *Journal of Marriage and the Family, 56*, 963-972.
- A study of 1,172 households of children ages 5-18 found that higher levels of nonresident father visitation are associated with fewer child behavior problems measured by items such as whether or not the child has been suspended or expelled, ran away from home, or is difficult to raise, but only if mothers are satisfied with the non-resident fathers' level of involvement.
Source: King, V. and Heard, H. (1999). Nonresident father visitation, parental conflict, and mother's satisfaction: what's best for child well-being? *Journal of Marriage and the Family, 61(2)*, 385-396.
- Adolescents who stay overnight with their nonresident fathers more often are less likely to smoke regularly. The study consisted of 1,932 adolescents in grades 7-12.
Source: Menning, C.L. (2006). Nonresident fathers' involvement and adolescents' smoking. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior, 47*, 32-46.
- Daughters of non-resident fathers with regular child contact are less likely to have behavior problems, as measured by children's in-school behavior and criminal behavior. The study included 1,285 children between the ages of 5 and 18.
Source: Amato, P. and Rezac, S. (1994). Contact with nonresident parents, interparental conflict, and children's behavior. *Journal of Family Issues, 15(2)*, 191-207.

Father Engagement

- Nonresident fathers' greater participation in a wide range of daily activities with their children including reading, watching TV, attending entertainment events, doing homework, visiting, and shopping is associated with adolescents engaging in fewer externalizing problem behaviors including kicking or hitting, complaining, ignoring parents, and acting defiant. These results are based on a study of 115 children of divorce ages 5 to 13 living apart from their biological fathers in Southern California.
Source: Clarke-Stewart, K. & Hayward, C. (1996). Advantages of father custody and contact for the psychological well-being of school-age children. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology, 17*, 239 – 270.

- A study of 189 adolescents ages 10 to 18 with a nonresident father and living with a stepfather found that higher levels of nonresident father-adolescent relationship quality are associated with reduced externalizing behaviors including acting impulsive, acting without thinking, and feeling restless.
Source: White, E., & Gilbreth, J. G. (2001). When children have two fathers: Effects of relationships with stepfathers and noncustodial fathers on adolescent outcomes. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 63, 155-167.
- Greater nonresident father-child relationship quality is associated with adolescents engaging in fewer externalizing behaviors including bullying others, disobeying at home, a strong temper, and acting impulsive. This study examined 453 adolescents ages 10 – 18 who were living apart from their biological fathers. Father-child relationship quality was measured by whether or not the child would talk to their father if they were unhappy or needed advice, how much they admired their father, whether or not they received praise or complements from their father, and the quality of the overall father-child relationship.
Source: King, V. & Sobolewski, J.M. (2006). Nonresident fathers' contributions to adolescent well-being. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 68, 537-557.
- More responsive parenting by nonresident fathers is associated with adolescents engaging in fewer externalizing behaviors including bullying others, disobeying at home, a strong temper, and acting impulsive. This study examined 453 adolescents ages 10 – 18 who were living apart from their biological fathers.
Source: King, V. & Sobolewski, J.M. (2006). Nonresident fathers' contributions to adolescent well-being. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 68, 537-557.
- Nonresident fathers that talk to their adolescent children about things going on at school have children with lower levels of delinquency. This study was based on 1,535 adolescents in grades 7 – 12 who were living apart from their biological fathers.
Source: Stewart, S. D. (2003). Nonresident parenting and adolescent adjustment: The quality of nonresident father-child interaction. *Journal of Family Issues*, 24, 217-244.
- Adolescents who feel close to their nonresident fathers are less likely to smoke regularly. The study consisted of 1,932 adolescents in grades 7-12.
Source: Menning, C.L. (2006). Nonresident fathers' involvement and adolescents' smoking. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, 47, 32-46.
- Adolescents who engage in more shared activities such as going shopping, going to a movie, and working on a school project with their nonresident fathers are less likely to smoke regularly. The study consisted of 1,932 adolescents in grades 7-12.
Source: Menning, C.L. (2006). Nonresident fathers' involvement and adolescents' smoking. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, 47, 32-46.

Financial Support

- For Hispanic children, the amount of financial support received from nonresident fathers is associated with fewer child problem behaviors as measured by the Behavior Problem Index. The study measure of social and emotional development of 1,501 children ages children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Variation in the Consequences of Nonresident Father Involvement for Children's Well-being. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 56, 963-972.

Internalizing Behaviors

Father-Child Contact

- Among children living with a stepparent, sons and daughters that spent a greater number of days with their nonresident father in the prior year experienced fewer psychological problems such as restlessness, jumpiness, and trouble sleeping. This study consisted of 136 children ages 9 to 12. Source: Bronstein, P., Frankel Stoll, M.F., Clauson, J., Abrams, C.L., & Briones, M. (1994). Fathering after separation or divorce: Factors predicting children's adjustment. *Family Relations*, 43, 469-479.
- Daughters of non-resident fathers with more regular contact are less likely to have seen a doctor or therapist for emotional or behavioral problems. The study included 1,285 children between the ages of 5 and 18. Source: Amato, P. and Rezac, S. (1994). Contact with nonresident parents, interparental conflict, and children's behavior. *Journal of Family Issues*, 15(2), 191-207.

Father Engagement

- Nonresident fathers' greater participation in a wide range of daily activities with their children including reading, watching TV, attending entertainment events, doing homework, visiting, and shopping is associated with children's improved psychological well-being measured by their adjustment to divorce, positive mood, and lower levels of depression. These results are based on a study of 115 children of divorce ages 5 to 13 living apart from their biological fathers in Southern California. Source: Clarke-Stewart, K. & Hayward, C. (1996). Advantages of father custody and contact for the psychological well-being of school-age children. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 17, 239 – 270.
- Among children living with a stepparent, sons and daughters that participated in more activities with their nonresident father including celebrating holidays together, attending school or church events, and participating in leisure activities together experienced fewer psychological problems such as restlessness, jumpiness, and trouble sleeping. This study consisted of 136 children ages 9 to 12. Source: Bronstein, P., Frankel Stoll, M.F., Clauson, J., Abrams, C.L., & Briones, M. (1994). Fathering after separation or divorce: Factors predicting children's adjustment. *Family Relations*, 43, 469-479.
- A study of 189 adolescents ages 10 to 18 with a nonresident father and living with a stepfather found that higher levels of nonresident father-adolescent relationship quality are associated with fewer internalizing behaviors including feeling unhappy, sad, depressed, and worthless. Source: White, E., & Gilbreth, J. G. (2001). When children have two fathers: Effects of relationships with stepfathers and noncustodial fathers on adolescent outcomes. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 63, 155-167.
- Higher levels of nonresident father-child relationship quality are associated with fewer adolescent internalizing behaviors such as feeling worthless, inferior, unhappy, depressed or nervous. This study examined 453 adolescents ages 10 – 18 who were living apart from their biological fathers. Father-child relationship quality was measured by whether or not the child would talk to their father if they were unhappy or needed advice, how much they admired their father, whether or not they received praise or complements from their father, and the quality of the overall father-child relationship. Source: King, V. & Sobolewski, J.M. (2006). Nonresident fathers' contributions to adolescent well-being. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 68, 537-557.

- More responsive parenting by nonresident fathers is associated with fewer adolescent internalizing behaviors such as feeling worthless, inferior, unhappy, depressed or nervous. This study examined 453 adolescents ages 10 – 18 who were living apart from their biological fathers. Source: King, V. & Sobolewski, J.M. (2006). Nonresident fathers' contributions to adolescent well-being. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 68, 537-557.
- Adolescents who feel close to their nonresident fathers have lower levels of emotional distress. This study was based on 1,535 adolescents in grades 7 – 12 who were living apart from their biological fathers. Source: Stewart, S. D. (2003). Nonresident parenting and adolescent adjustment: The quality of nonresident father-child interaction. *Journal of Family Issues*, 24, 217-244.
- Nonresident fathers that talk to their adolescent children about things going on at school have children with lower emotional distress. This study was based on 1,535 adolescents in grades 7 – 12 who were living apart from their biological fathers. Source: Stewart, S. D. (2003). Nonresident parenting and adolescent adjustment: The quality of nonresident father-child interaction. *Journal of Family Issues*, 24, 217-244.

Academic achievement/ performance

Father-Child Contact

- Among children living with a single mother, sons and daughters that spent a greater number of days with their nonresident father in the prior year had higher academic performance measured by their GPA. This study consisted of 136 children ages 9 to 12. Source: Bronstein, P., Frankel Stoll, M.F., Clauson, J., Abrams, C.L., & Briones, M. (1994). Fathering after separation or divorce: Factors predicting children's adjustment. *Family Relations*, 43, 469-479.
- Among children living with a stepparent, sons and daughters that spent a greater number of days with their nonresident father in the past year had better classroom behavior measured by teachers' assessments of their social, emotional, and academic functioning in the classroom. This study consisted of 136 children ages 9 to 12. Source: Bronstein, P., Frankel Stoll, M.F., Clauson, J., Abrams, C.L., & Briones, M. (1994). Fathering after separation or divorce: Factors predicting children's adjustment. *Family Relations*, 43, 469-479.
- More frequent visitation among nonresident fathers is not associated with children's improved math and reading aptitude. The study examined the cognitive abilities of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988. Source: King, V. (1994). Nonresident Father Involvement and Child Well-being: Can Dads Make a Difference? *Journal of Family Issues*, 15(1), 79-96.
- For black children, more frequent nonresident father visitation is associated with lower math aptitude for children. The study examined the cognitive development of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988. Source: King, V. (1994). Variation in the Consequences of Nonresident Father Involvement for Children's Well-being. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 56, 963-972.
- More frequent contact with nonresident fathers is associated with higher grade point averages for sons. This study included 50 white middle class males ages 14 to 17. Source: Jones, K. (2004). Assessing psychological separation and academic performance in nonresident-father and resident-father adolescent boys. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*, 21, 333-354.

Father Engagement

- Among children living with a single mother, sons and daughters that participated in more activities with their nonresident father including celebrating holidays together, attending school or church events, and participating in leisure activities together had higher academic performance measured by their GPA. This study consisted of 136 children ages 9 to 12.
Source: Bronstein, P., Frankel Stoll, M.F., Clauson, J., Abrams, C.L., & Briones, M. (1994). Fathering after separation or divorce: Factors predicting children's adjustment. *Family Relations*, 43, 469-479.
- Among children living with a stepparent, sons and daughters that participated in more activities with their nonresident father including celebrating holidays together, attending school or church events, and participating in leisure activities together had better classroom behavior measured by teachers' assessments of their social, emotional, and academic functioning in the classroom. This study consisted of 136 children ages 9 to 12.
Source: Bronstein, P., Frankel Stoll, M.F., Clauson, J., Abrams, C.L., & Briones, M. (1994). Fathering after separation or divorce: Factors predicting children's adjustment. *Family Relations*, 43, 469-479.
- Higher quality relationships with nonresident fathers are associated with higher grade point averages for sons. This study included 50 white middle class boys ages 14 to 17.
Source: Jones, K. (2004). Assessing psychological separation and academic performance in nonresident-father and resident-father adolescent boys. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*, 21, 333-354.
- Children of non-resident fathers who are involved in their schooling are more likely to receive A's and less likely to repeat a grade or be suspended or expelled than their counterparts with non-resident fathers who are not involved in their child's schooling. The study included 5, 064 children in 1st through 12th grade with a nonresident father.
Source: Nord, C. and W., Jerry. (2001). *Fathers' and mothers' involvement in their schools by family type and resident status*, NCES 2001-032. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.
- Higher levels of nonresident father-child relationship quality are associated with better grades for sons. This study examined 453 adolescents ages 10 – 18 who were living apart from their biological fathers. Father-child relationship quality was measured by whether or not the child would talk to their father if they were unhappy or needed advice, how much they admired their father, whether or not they received praise or complements from their father, and the quality of the overall father-child relationship.
Source: King, V. & Sobolewski, J.M. (2006). Nonresident fathers' contributions to adolescent well-being. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 68, 537-557.
- Higher nonresident father-child relationship quality is associated with less acting out at school for sons. This study examined 453 adolescents ages 10 – 18 who were living apart from their biological fathers. Father-child relationship quality was measured by whether or not the child would talk to their father if they were unhappy or needed advice, how much they admired their father, whether or not they received praise or complements from their father, and the quality of the overall father-child relationship.
Source: King, V. & Sobolewski, J.M. (2006). Nonresident fathers' contributions to adolescent well-being. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 68, 537-557.
- Nonresident fathers that talk to their adolescent children about their school work or grades have children with higher academic performance as measured by their GPA. This study was based on 1,535 adolescents in grades 7 – 12 who were living apart from their biological fathers.
Source: Stewart, S. D. (2003). Nonresident parenting and adolescent adjustment: The quality of nonresident father-child interaction. *Journal of Family Issues*, 24, 217-244.

- Nonresident fathers' involvement in a variety of activities with their adolescent children including playing sports together, discussing school and grades, going shopping, and working on school projects, and increases in fathers' involvement in such activities over time, are associated with children's lower likelihood of dropping out of high school. This study included approximately 2,500 adolescents in grades 7-12 who were living apart from their biological fathers.
Source: Menning, C.L., (2006). Nonresident fathering and school failure. *Journal of Family Issues*, 27, 1356-1382.
- A study of adolescents living with their biological mother and a stepfather found that closeness to nonresident fathers is associated with better grades. Adolescents are even less likely to have failing grades if they are close to both their nonresident father and their stepfather. The study examined of 1, 152 adolescents in grades 7 – 12.
Source: King, V. (2006). The antecedents and consequences of adolescents' relationships with stepfathers and nonresident fathers. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 68, 910-928.

Financial Support

- Increasing amounts of financial support received from nonresident fathers are associated with children's improved math and reading aptitude. The study examined the cognitive abilities of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Nonresident Father Involvement and Child Well-being: Can Dads Make a Difference? *Journal of Family Issues*, 15(1), 79-96.
- Nonresident fathers' payment of child support is associated with adolescents' lower likelihood of dropping out of high school. This study included approximately 2,500 adolescents in grades 7-12 who were living apart from their biological fathers.
Source: Menning, C.L., (2006). Nonresident fathering and school failure. *Journal of Family Issues*, 27, 1356-1382.
- Children of non-resident fathers who paid child support in the prior year are more likely to receive A's and less likely to repeat a grade or be suspended or expelled than their counterparts with non-resident fathers who did not pay child support. The study included 5, 064 children in 1st through 12th grade with a nonresident father.
Source: Nord, C. and W., Jerry. (2001). *Fathers' and mothers' involvement in their schools by family type and resident status*, NCES 2001-032. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.

Social Development

Father-Child Contact

- Among children living with a single mother, daughters that spent a greater number of days with their nonresident father in the prior year exhibited more popularity with their peers. This study consisted of 136 children ages 9 to 12.
Source: Bronstein, P., Frankel Stoll, M.F., Clauson, J., Abrams, C.L., & Briones, M. (1994). Fathering after separation or divorce: Factors predicting children's adjustment. *Family Relations*, 43, 469-479.
- Among children living with a stepparent, sons and daughters that spent a greater number of days with their nonresident father in the prior year had higher ratings of self-worth. This study consisted of 136 children ages 9 to 12.
Source: Bronstein, P., Frankel Stoll, M.F., Clauson, J., Abrams, C.L., & Briones, M. (1994). Fathering after separation or divorce: Factors predicting children's adjustment. *Family Relations*, 43, 469-479.

- A study of 1,172 households of children ages 5-18 found that higher levels of nonresident father visitation are associated with children's improved adjustment measured by items such as their willingness to try new things, feelings of happiness, cheerfulness, sadness or depression, and whether or not they get along with other kids, but only if mothers are satisfied with the non-resident fathers' level of involvement.
Source: King, V. and Heard, H. (1999). Nonresident father visitation, parental conflict, and mother's satisfaction: what's best for child well-being? *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 61(2), 385-396.
- A study of 1,172 households of children ages 5-18 found that higher levels of nonresident father visitation are associated with children's higher levels of well-being measured by how well their mother feels their life is going, but only if mothers are satisfied with the non-resident fathers' level of involvement.
Source: King, V. and Heard, H. (1999). Nonresident father visitation, parental conflict, and mother's satisfaction: what's best for child well-being? *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 61(2), 385-396.
- Frequency of non-resident father visitation was not associated with children's more positive feelings of self-worth. The study examined the social and emotional development of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Nonresident Father Involvement and Child Well-being: Can Dads Make a Difference? *Journal of Family Issues*, 15(1), 79-96.

Father Engagement

- Among children living with a single mother, daughters that participated in more activities with their nonresident father including celebrating holidays together, attending school or church events, and participating in leisure activities together exhibited more popularity with their peers. This study consisted of 136 children ages 9 to 12.
Source: Bronstein, P., Frankel Stoll, M.F., Clauson, J., Abrams, C.L., & Briones, M. (1994). Fathering after separation or divorce: Factors predicting children's adjustment. *Family Relations*, 43, 469-479.
- Among children living with a stepparent, sons and daughters that participated in more activities with their nonresident father including celebrating holidays together, attending school or church events, and participating in leisure activities together had higher ratings of self-worth. This study consisted of 136 children ages 9 to 12.
Source: Bronstein, P., Frankel Stoll, M.F., Clauson, J., Abrams, C.L., & Briones, M. (1994). Fathering after separation or divorce: Factors predicting children's adjustment. *Family Relations*, 43, 469-479.
- A study of 1,431 children between 3 and 12 years old found that greater warmth from nonresident fathers is associated with children's improved pro-social development as measured by children's health, friendships, prospects for the future, and feelings of self-worth.
Source: Harper, S.E. and Fine, M.A. (2006). The Effects of Involved Nonresidential Fathers' Distress, Parenting Behaviors, Inter-Parental Conflict, and the Quality of Father-Child Relationships on Children's Well-Being. *Fathering*, 4(3), 286-311.

Financial Support

- For Hispanic children, the amount of financial support received from nonresident fathers is associated with children's reduced problem behaviors as measured by the Behavior Problem Index. The study measure of social and emotional development of 1,501 children ages children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Variation in the Consequences of Nonresident Father Involvement for Children's Well-being. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 56, 963-972.

Late Adolescence (15–18)

Externalizing Behaviors

Father-Child Contact

- A study of 1,172 households of children ages 5-18 found that higher levels of nonresident father visitation are associated with fewer behavior problems for children measured by items such as whether or not the child has been suspended or expelled, ran away from home, or is difficult to raise, but only if mothers are satisfied with the non-resident fathers' level of involvement.
Source: King, V. and Heard, H. (1999). Nonresident father visitation, parental conflict, and mother's satisfaction: what's best for child well-being? *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 61(2), 385-396.
- For black children, higher levels of non-resident father visitation are associated with more problem behavior for children as measured by the Behavior Problem Index. The study examined the problem behaviors of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Variation in the Consequences of Nonresident Father Involvement for Children's Well-being. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 56, 963-972.
- Daughters of non-resident fathers with regular child contact are less likely to have behavior problems, as measured by children's in-school behavior and criminal behavior. The study included 1,285 children between the ages of 5 and 18.
Source: Amato, P. and Rezac, S. (1994). Contact with nonresident parents, interparental conflict, and children's behavior. *Journal of Family Issues*, 15(2), 191-207.
- Adolescents who stay overnight more often with their nonresident fathers are less likely to smoke regularly. The study consisted of 1,932 adolescents in grades 7-12.
Source: Menning, C.L. (2006). Nonresident fathers' involvement and adolescents' smoking. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, 47, 32-46.

Father Engagement

- Higher levels of nonresident father support are associated with fewer delinquent behaviors for adolescent sons in white single-mother families. This study consisted of 600 adolescents ages 15 to 18.
Source: Thomas, G., Farrell, M.P., & Barnes, G.M. (1996). The effects of single-mother families and nonresident fathers on delinquency and substance abuse in Black and White adolescents. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 58, 884-894.
- A study of 189 adolescents ages 10 to 18 with a nonresident father and living with a stepfather found that higher nonresident father-adolescent relationship quality was associated with reduced externalizing behaviors including acting impulsive, acting without thinking, and feeling restless.
Source: White, E., & Gilbreth, J. G. (2001). When children have two fathers: Effects of relationships with stepfathers and noncustodial fathers on adolescent outcomes. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 63, 155-167.
- Higher quality nonresident father-child relationships are associated with fewer externalizing behaviors for adolescents including bullying others, disobeying at home, a strong temper, and acting impulsive. This study examined 453 adolescents ages 10 – 18 who were living apart from their biological fathers. Father-child relationship quality was measured by whether or not the child would talk to their father if they were unhappy or needed advice, how much they admired their father, whether or not they received praise or complements from their father, and the quality of the overall father-child relationship.
Source: King, V. & Sobolewski, J.M. (2006). Nonresident fathers' contributions to adolescent well-being. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 68, 537-557.

- More responsive parenting by nonresident fathers is associated with fewer adolescent externalizing behaviors including bullying others, disobeying at home, a strong temper, and acting impulsive. This study examined 453 adolescents ages 10 – 18 who were living apart from their biological fathers.
Source: King, V. & Sobolewski, J.M. (2006). Nonresident fathers' contributions to adolescent well-being. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 68, 537-557.
- Nonresident fathers that talk to their adolescent children about things going on at school have children with lower levels of delinquency. This study was based on 1,535 adolescents in grades 7 – 12 who were living apart from their biological fathers.
Source: Stewart, S. D. (2003). Nonresident parenting and adolescent adjustment: The quality of nonresident father-child interaction. *Journal of Family Issues*, 24, 217-244.
- Adolescents who feel close to their nonresident fathers are less likely to smoke regularly. The study consisted of 1,932 adolescents in grades 7-12.
Source: Menning, C.L. (2006). Nonresident fathers' involvement and adolescents' smoking. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, 47, 32-46.
- Adolescents who engage in more shared activities such as going shopping, going to a movie, and working on a school project with their nonresident fathers are less likely to smoke regularly. The study consisted of 1,932 adolescents in grades 7-12.
Source: Menning, C.L. (2006). Nonresident fathers' involvement and adolescents' smoking. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, 47, 32-46.
- Higher levels of nonresident father support are associated with less heavy drinking and illicit drug use among white adolescent males in single-mother families. This study consisted of 600 adolescents ages 15 to 18.
Source: Thomas, G., Farrell, M.P., & Barnes, G.M. (1996). The effects of single-mother families and nonresident fathers on delinquency and substance abuse in Black and White adolescents. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 58, 884-894.

Financial Support

- For Hispanic children, nonresident fathers' financial support is associated with fewer child problem behaviors as measured by the Behavior Problem Index. The study examined the social and emotional development of 1,501 children ages children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Variation in the Consequences of Nonresident Father Involvement for Children's Well-being. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 56, 963-972.

Internalizing Behaviors

Father-Child Contact

- Nonresident fathers that visit their children frequently have adolescent children with lower levels of depression compared to children of nonresident fathers that visit their children infrequently or never visit their children. This study was based on a sample of 895 12th grade respondents who were living with a divorced single mother.
Source: Barber, B.L. (1994). Support and advice from married and divorced fathers: Linkages to adolescent adjustment. *Family Relations*, 43, 433-438.

- Non-resident fathers who have more regular contact with their children have daughters that are less likely to have seen a doctor or therapist for emotional or behavioral problems. The study included 1,285 children between the ages of 5 and 18.
Source: Amato, P. and Rezac, S. (1994). Contact with nonresident parents, interparental conflict, and children's behavior. *Journal of Family Issues*, 15(2), 191-207.

Father Engagement

- A study of 189 adolescents ages 10 to 18 with a nonresident father and living with a stepfather found that higher levels of nonresident father-adolescent relationship quality are associated with fewer internalizing behaviors including feeling unhappy, sad, depressed, and worthless.
Source: White, E., & Gilbreth, J. G. (2001). When children have two fathers: Effects of relationships with stepfathers and noncustodial fathers on adolescent outcomes. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 63, 155-167.
- More positive nonresident father-child relationship quality is associated with fewer adolescent internalizing behaviors such as feeling worthless, inferior, unhappy, depressed or nervous. This study examined 453 adolescents ages 10 – 18 who were living apart from their biological fathers. Father-child relationship quality was measured by whether or not the child would talk to their father if they were unhappy or needed advice, how much they admired their father, whether or not they received praise or complements from their father, and the quality of the overall father-child relationship.
Source: King, V. & Sobolewski, J.M. (2006). Nonresident fathers' contributions to adolescent well-being. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 68, 537-557.
- More responsive parenting by nonresident fathers is associated with fewer adolescent internalizing behaviors such as feeling worthless, inferior, unhappy, depressed or nervous. This study examined 453 adolescents ages 10 – 18 who were living apart from their biological fathers.
Source: King, V. & Sobolewski, J.M. (2006). Nonresident fathers' contributions to adolescent well-being. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 68, 537-557.
- Adolescents who feel close to their nonresident fathers have lower levels of emotional distress. This study was based on 1,535 adolescents in grades 7 – 12 who were living apart from their biological fathers.
Source: Stewart, S. D. (2003). Nonresident parenting and adolescent adjustment: The quality of nonresident father-child interaction. *Journal of Family Issues*, 24, 217-244.
- Nonresident fathers that talk to their adolescent children about things going on at school have children with lower emotional distress. This study was based on 1,535 adolescents in grades 7 – 12 who were living apart from their biological fathers.
Source: Stewart, S. D. (2003). Nonresident parenting and adolescent adjustment: The quality of nonresident father-child interaction. *Journal of Family Issues*, 24, 217-244.

Academic Achievement/ Performance

Father-Child Contact

- The frequency of nonresident father visitation is not significantly associated with children's math and reading aptitude. The study examined the cognitive abilities of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Nonresident Father Involvement and Child Well-being: Can Dads Make a Difference? *Journal of Family Issues*, 15(1), 79-96.

- For black children, nonresident fathers' more frequent visitation is associated with lower math aptitude for children. The study examined the cognitive development of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Variation in the Consequences of Nonresident Father Involvement for Children's Well-being. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 56, 963-972.
- Adolescent boys that have more frequent contact with their nonresident fathers have higher grade point averages. This study included 50 white middle class males ages 14 to 17.
Source: Jones, K. (2004). Assessing psychological separation and academic performance in nonresident-father and resident-father adolescent boys. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*, 21, 333-354.

Father Engagement

- Children of non-resident fathers who are involved in their schooling are more likely to receive A's and less likely to repeat a grade or be suspended or expelled than their counterparts with non-resident fathers who are not involved in their child's schooling. The study included 5,064 children in 1st through 12th grade with a nonresident father.
Source: Nord, C. and W., Jerry. (2001). *Fathers' and mothers' involvement in their schools by family type and resident status*, NCES 2001-032. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.
- Higher nonresident father-child relationship quality is associated with better grades for sons. This study examined 453 adolescents ages 10 – 18 who were living apart from their biological fathers. Father-child relationship quality was measured by whether or not the child would talk to their father if they were unhappy or needed advice, how much they admired their father, whether or not they received praise or complements from their father, and the quality of the overall father-child relationship.
Source: King, V. & Sobolewski, J.M. (2006). Nonresident fathers' contributions to adolescent well-being. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 68, 537-557.
- Higher nonresident father-child relationship quality is associated with less acting out at school for sons. This study examined 453 adolescents ages 10 – 18 who were living apart from their biological fathers. Father-child relationship quality was measured by whether or not the child would talk to their father if they were unhappy or needed advice, how much they admired their father, whether or not they received praise or complements from their father, and the quality of the overall father-child relationship.
Source: King, V. & Sobolewski, J.M. (2006). Nonresident fathers' contributions to adolescent well-being. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 68, 537-557.
- Nonresident fathers that talk to their adolescent children about their school work or grades have children with higher academic performance as measured by their GPA. This study was based on 1,535 adolescents in grades 7 – 12 who were living apart from their biological fathers.
Source: Stewart, S. D. (2003). Nonresident parenting and adolescent adjustment: The quality of nonresident father-child interaction. *Journal of Family Issues*, 24, 217-244.
- Nonresident fathers' greater involvement in a variety of activities with their adolescent children including playing sports together, discussing school and grades, going shopping, and working on school projects, and increases in fathers' involvement in such activities over time, are associated with children's lower likelihood of dropping out of high school. This study included approximately 2,500 adolescents in grades 7-12 who were living apart from their biological fathers.
Source: Menning, C.L., (2006). Nonresident fathering and school failure. *Journal of Family Issues*, 27, 1356-1382.

- A study of adolescents living with their biological mother and a stepfather found that higher levels of closeness to nonresident fathers are associated with better grades. Adolescents are even less likely to have failing grades if they are close to both their nonresident father and their stepfather. The study examined of 1, 152 adolescents in grades 7 – 12.
Source: King, V. (2006). The antecedents and consequences of adolescents' relationships with stepfathers and nonresident fathers. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 68, 910-928.

Financial Support

- Nonresident fathers' payment of child support is associated with children's increased math and reading aptitude. The study examined the cognitive abilities of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Nonresident Father Involvement and Child Well-being: Can Dads Make a Difference? *Journal of Family Issues*, 15(1), 79-96.
- Adolescent children with nonresident fathers that pay child support are less likely to drop out of high school. This study included approximately 2,500 adolescents in grades 7-12 who were living apart from their biological fathers.
Source: Menning, C.L., (2006). Nonresident fathering and school failure. *Journal of Family Issues*, 27, 1356-1382.
- Children of non-resident fathers who paid child support in the prior year are more likely to receive A's and less likely to repeat a grade or be suspended or expelled than their counterparts with non-resident fathers who did not pay child support. The study included 5, 064 children in 1st through 12th grade with a nonresident father.
Source: Nord, C. and W., Jerry. (2001). *Fathers' and mothers' involvement in their schools by family type and resident status*, NCEs 2001-032. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.

Social Development

Father-Child Contact

- A study of 1,172 households of children ages 5-18 found that higher levels of nonresident father visitation are associated with children's improved adjustment measured by items such as their willingness to try new things, feelings of happiness, cheerfulness, sadness or depression, and whether or not they get along with other kids, but only if mothers are satisfied with the non-resident fathers' level of involvement.
Source: King, V. and Heard, H. (1999). Nonresident father visitation, parental conflict, and mother's satisfaction: what's best for child well-being? *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 61(2), 385-396.
- A study of 1,172 households of children ages 5-18 found that higher levels of nonresident father visitation are associated with higher levels of children's global well-being measured by how well their mother feels their life is going, but only if mothers are satisfied with the non-resident fathers' level of involvement.
Source: King, V. and Heard, H. (1999). Nonresident father visitation, parental conflict, and mother's satisfaction: what's best for child well-being? *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 61(2), 385-396.
- Frequency of non-resident father visitation was not significantly associated with children's feelings of self-worth. The study examined the social and emotional development of 1,501 children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.
Source: King, V. (1994). Nonresident Father Involvement and Child Well-being: Can Dads Make a Difference? *Journal of Family Issues*, 15(1), 79-96.

Financial Support

- For Hispanic children, the amount of financial support received from nonresident fathers is associated with fewer child problem behaviors as measured by the Behavior Problem Index. The study examined the social and emotional development of 1,501 children ages children ages 4 – 18 in 1988.

Source: King, V. (1994). Variation in the Consequences of Nonresident Father Involvement for Children's Well-being. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 56, 963-972.