

THE  
**BOY**  
CRISIS



**WARREN FARRELL, PhD**

*Author of *The Myth of Male Power**



**AMPLIFYING**  
Fatherhood

TN Fatherhood Conference

# Gloria Steinem with Hippie

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# Overview

Evidence

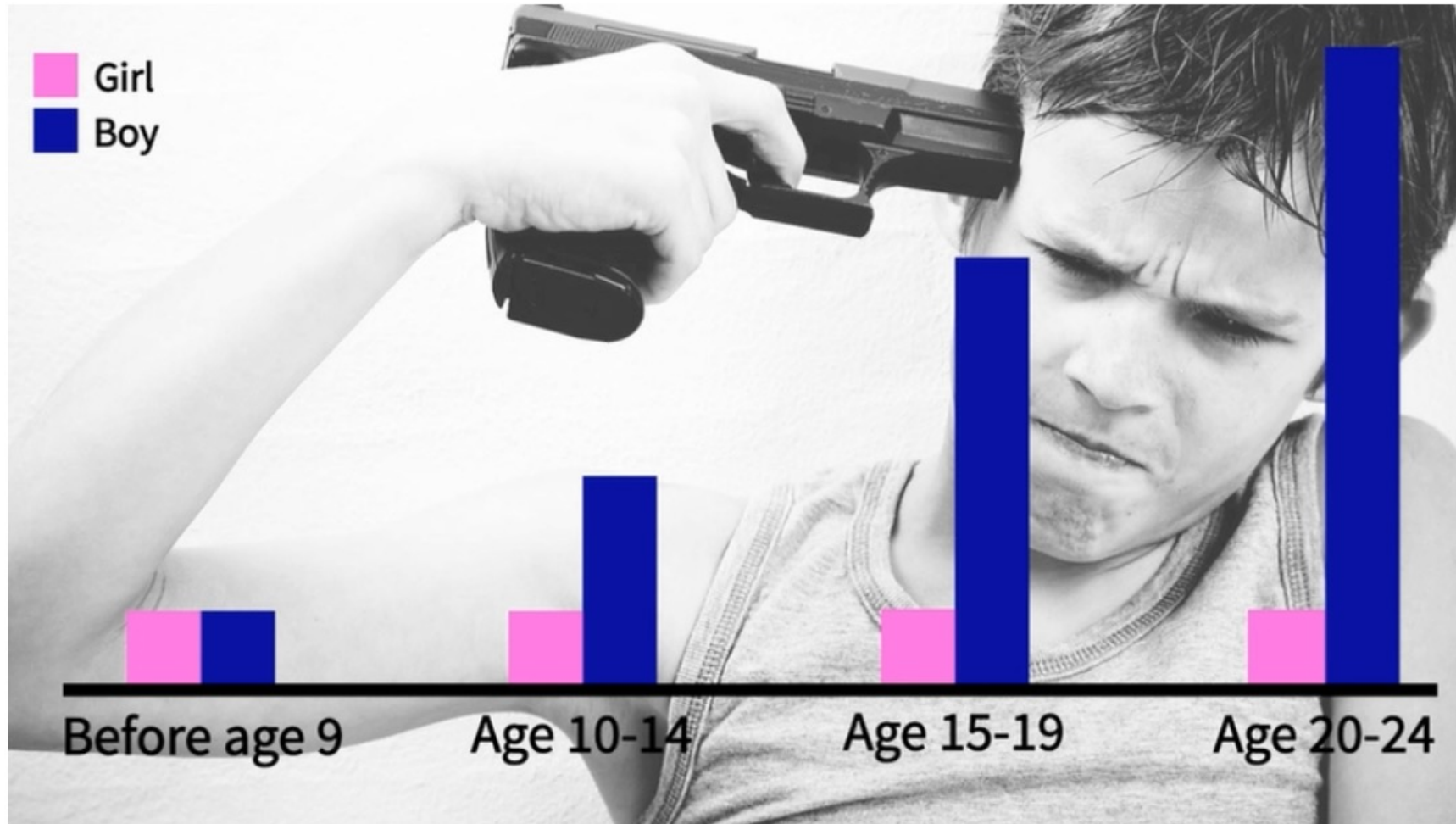
Causes

Solutions

**Disclaimer:** The Tennessee Statewide Crisis Line, available 24 hours a day/365 days a year, is a resource for anyone experiencing a mental health crisis. All calls are routed to a trained crisis counselor in your area, who will provide you support and guidance, and work to connect you with appropriate community supports. **This service is free! Call 855-CRISIS-1 (855-274-7471).**

# Evidence of U.S. Crisis

# Evidence U.S.: Mental Health

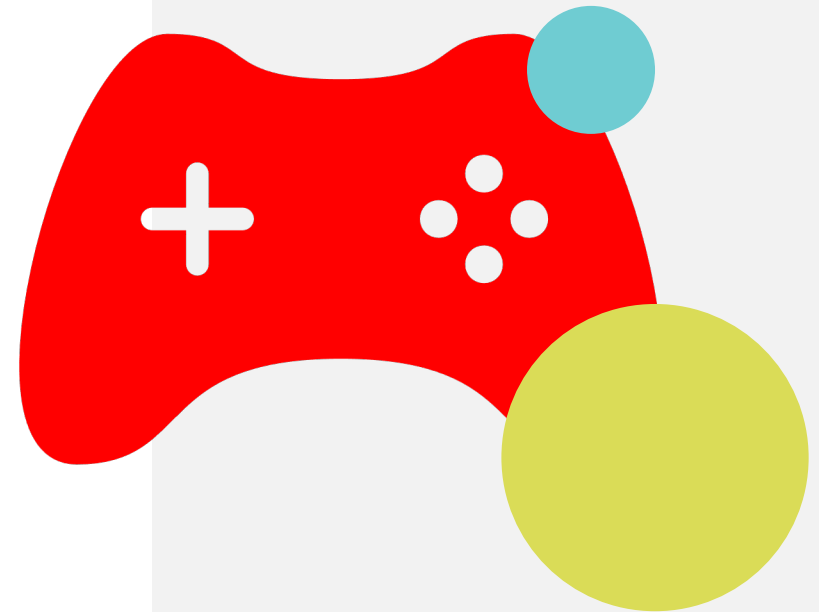


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# Boys Today

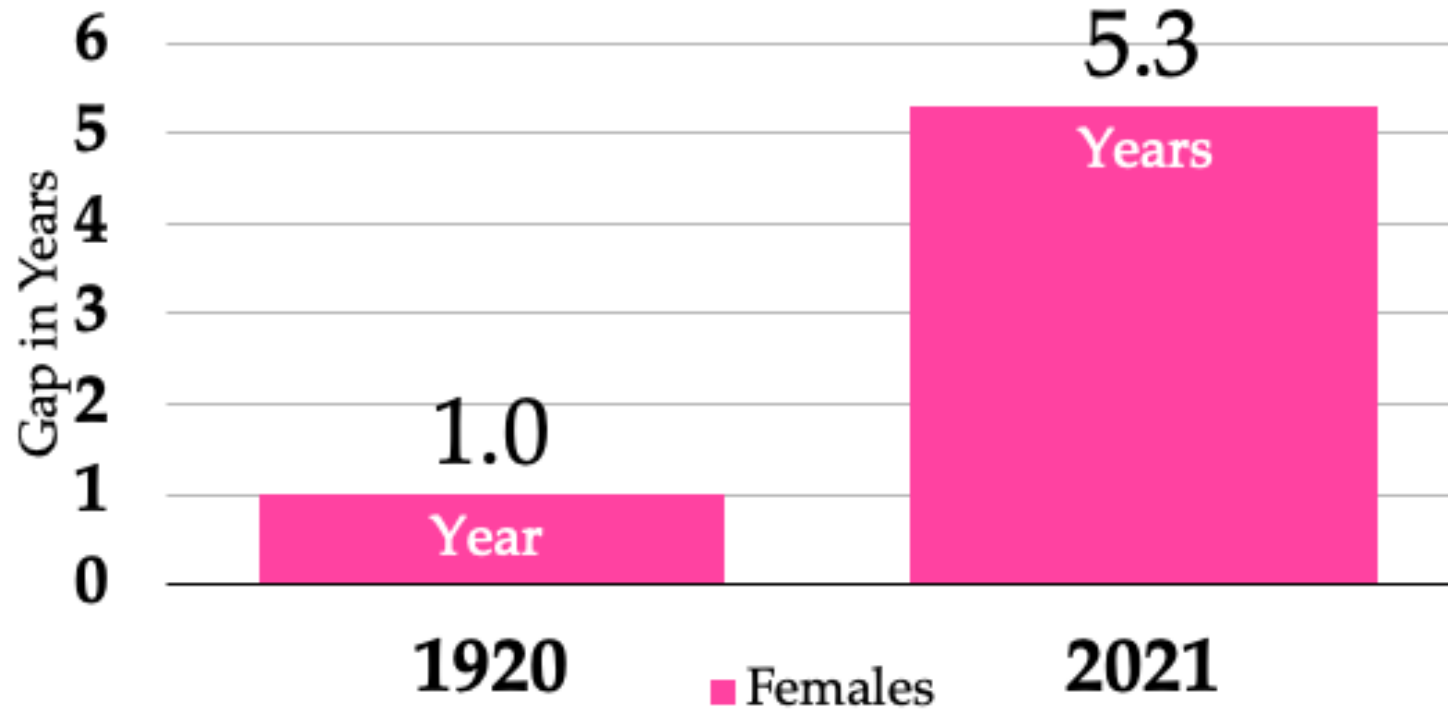
Age 21, Boys Average **14,000**  
**Hours** of Gaming

Bachelor's Degree in **1/3 The**  
**Time**



# Evidence U.S.: Physical Health

Female-Male Life Expectancy GAP in the U.S. 1920 vs 2021









First Time in U.S.  
History

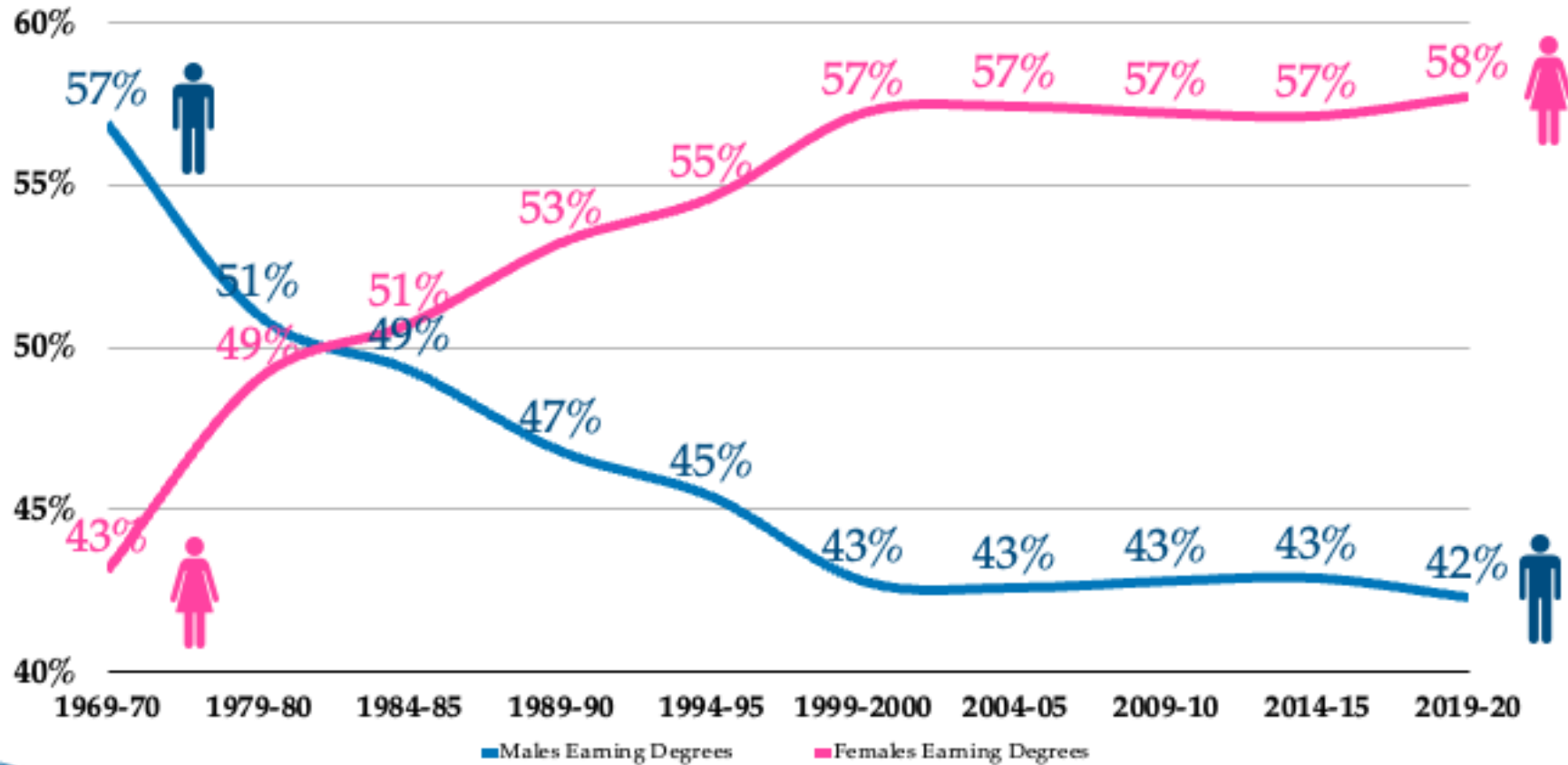
**Our Sons**

Will Have *Less*  
*Education* Than

**Their Dads**

# Evidence U.S.: Education

## Bachelor Degrees Conferred in U.S. by Sex from 1969-2020



# Fewer Bachelors Degrees... More Bachelors



Image source: <https://www.istockphoto.com/photo/hes-been-suffering-from-depression-lately-gm471726977-26247307>

# IQs:

Boys Who Are Nearly  
**12 Years Old** Today

Doing Only as Well as  
**8-9 Year Old's** in the 70's



# Evidence of Global Crisis

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# Global Terms for Boy Crisis

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- **China**, “women up”, “men down”
- **Japan**, “herbivores” and “socially isolated”
- **Europe**, **NEET**, “Not in Education, Employment, or Training”
- **Sweden**, “boy crisis”

“From Carnivores to Herbivores: How Men Are Defined in Japan.” *Japan Today*, February 16, 2012, <http://www.japantoday.com/category/lifestyle/view/from-carnivores-to-herbivores-how-men-are-defined-in-japan>.  
William Kremer and Claudia Hammond, “Hikikomori: Why Are So Many Japanese Men Refusing to Leave Their Rooms?” BBC News, July 5, 2013, <http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-23182523>.  
Massimiliano Mascherini, Lidia Salvatore, Anja Meierkord, and Jean-Marie Jungblut, *NEETs—Young People Not in Employment, Education or Training: Characteristics, Costs and Policy Responses in Europe*, Eurofound, (Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union, 2012), [http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/sites/default/files/ef\\_files/pubdocs/2012/54/en/1/EF1254EN.pdf](http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/sites/default/files/ef_files/pubdocs/2012/54/en/1/EF1254EN.pdf).



# UK: Deaths by Suicide

## More Than Deaths in

## All Wars

Since 1945

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Image Source: Finlay Young, "The Trouble with Men: Why Men are Killing Themselves," *Newsweek*, February 12, 2015, <http://www.newsweek.com/2015/02/20>



UNITED  
KINGDOM



# Global Education

Boys Behind Girls in  
*Every One* of the **Largest 70**  
Developed Nations





# Causes

# **Five Causes of the Boy Crisis**

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**1. Dad-Deprived Boys**

**2. Half Century of Belief:** Girls & Women Powerless vs.  
“Male Toxicity”; “Male Privilege”; “Male Power”

**3. “Purpose Void”**

# **Five Causes of the Boy Crisis**

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**4. Fear of Psychological Attachment to Someone**

**We May Lose**

**5. Our Repulsion for Males Who Complain**

# Cause #1: Dad- Deprived Boys

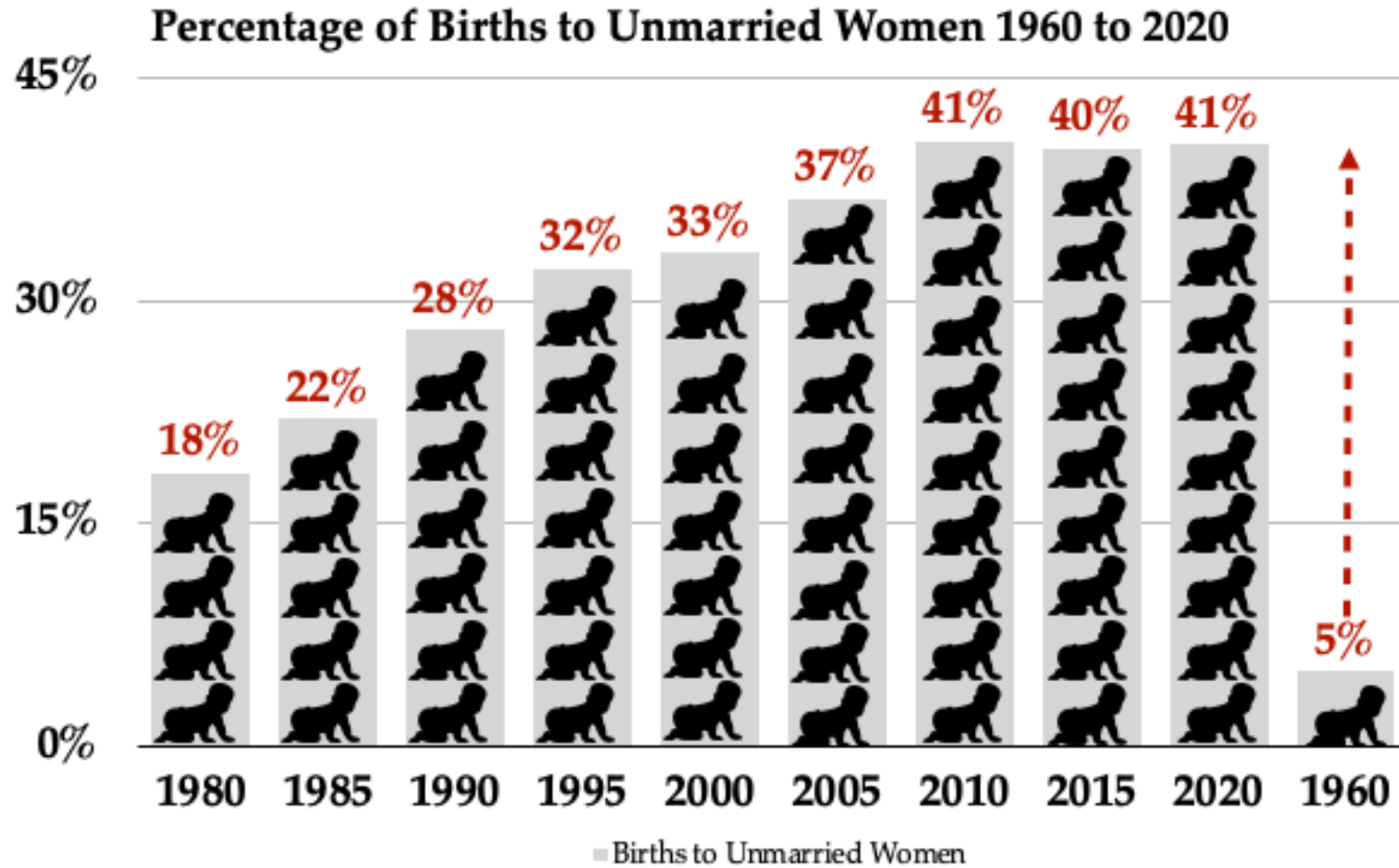
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# Divorce



# Single Moms

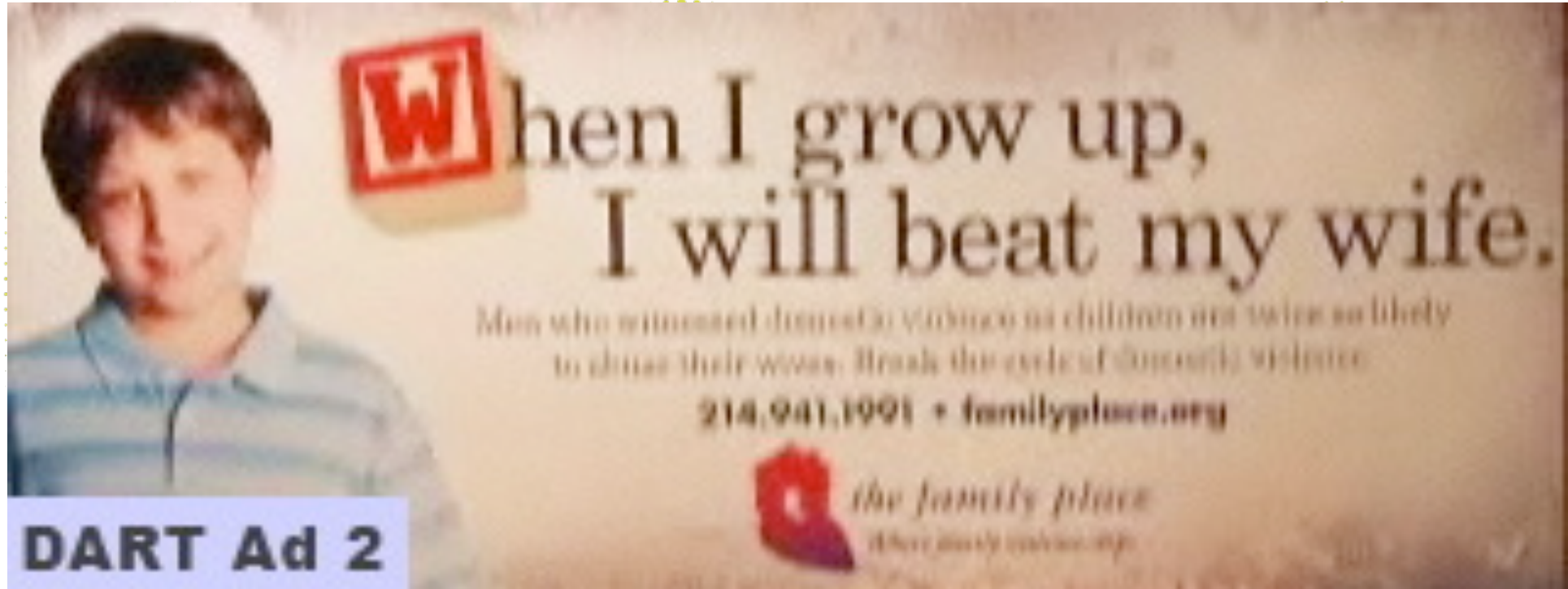


Prepared by Sean Kullman (Source: Statista)

<https://www.statista.com/statistics/276025/us-percentage-of-births-to-unmarried-women/>

# Discrimination Against Dads

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**Above:** Advertisement on DART (Dallas Area Rapid Transit) Buses

**1965 Moynihan Report**

**Inner City Violence & Dad Deprivation**





# Dad-Deprivation: The Damage

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- Lack of:
  - Postponed Gratification
  - Empathy
  - Social Skills
  - Motivation
  - Identity...
- Increase in
  - Depression
  - Suicide

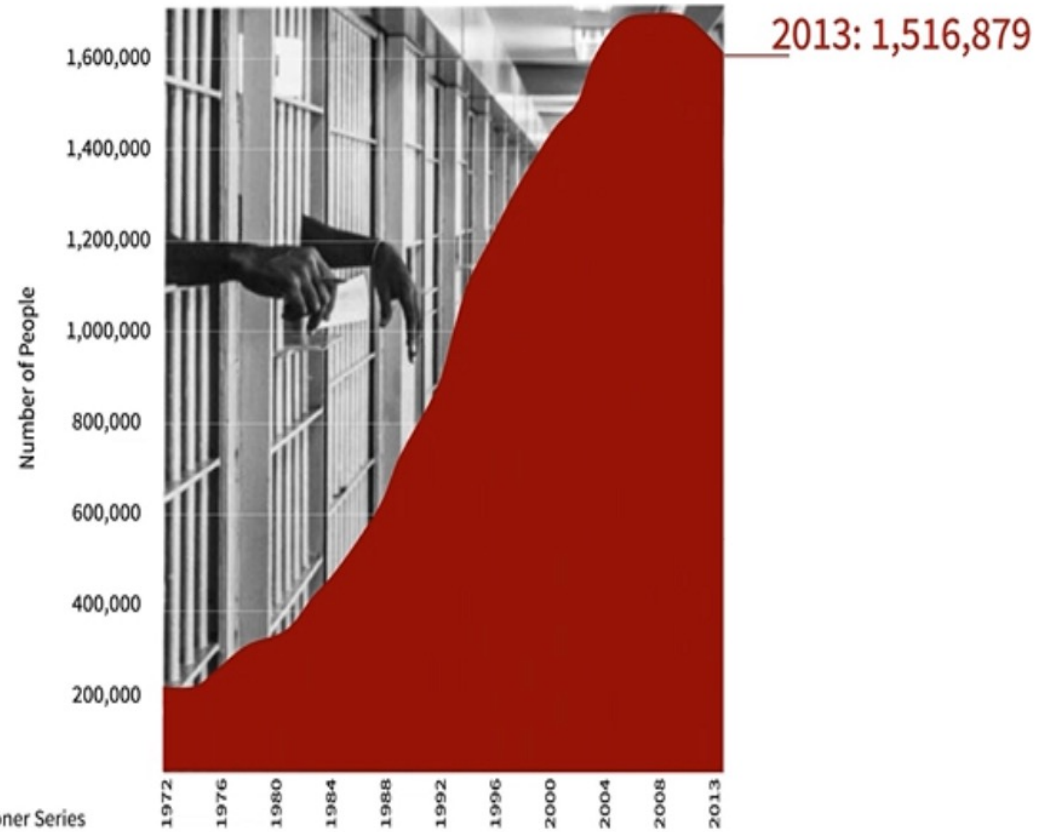


# Addiction

- Alcohol
- Drugs
- Video Games
- Porn...



## 700% Increase in Prison Population (93% Male) 1972-2013



Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics Prisoner Series

# Dad-Deprived Boys Miss

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# **Dad-Deprived Boys Miss**

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**Boundary *Enforcement***

**(vs. Boundary *Setting*)**

# Dad: Different Strokes

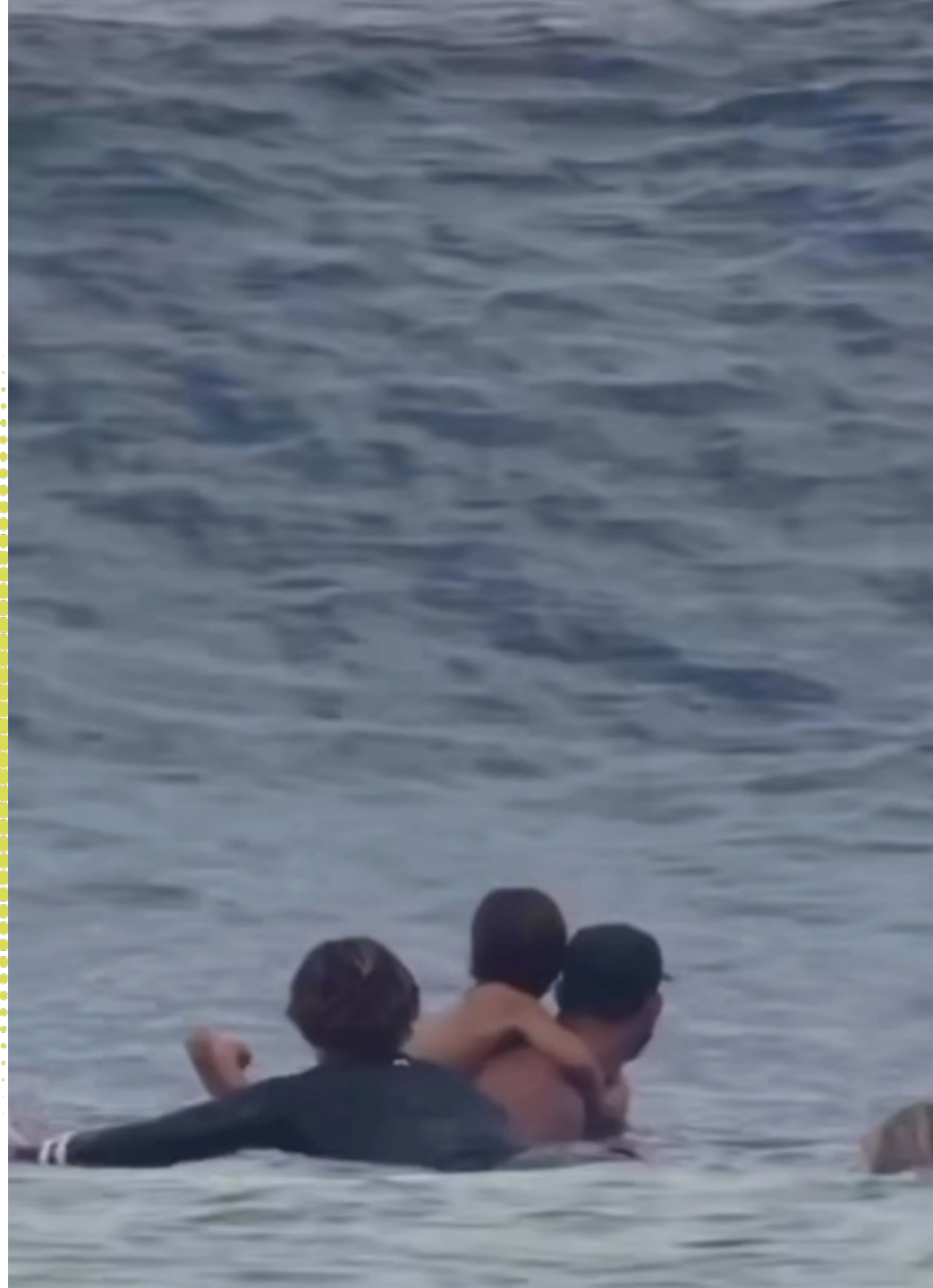
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Video source: <https://www.facebook.com/reel/2130992383757709>

# Creating the Surfer Son

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Video source: <https://www.facebook.com/reel/742089264218272>

# Driving Me Crazy

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# Dad-deprived Boys are Boys Who Hurt

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# Dad-Deprived Boys: How They Hurt Us

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Commit Crimes

Drug Dealings

Bullying

Mass Shootings



**School Shootings**  
**Nov 2012 - Dec 2014**

**Boys Who Hurt Us  
Are  
Boys Who Hurt**

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# Cause #2: Half Century of Belief

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- Girls and Women *Powerless*
- Boys' problems can be *ignored*..., they'll soon have the *power* as *men*.

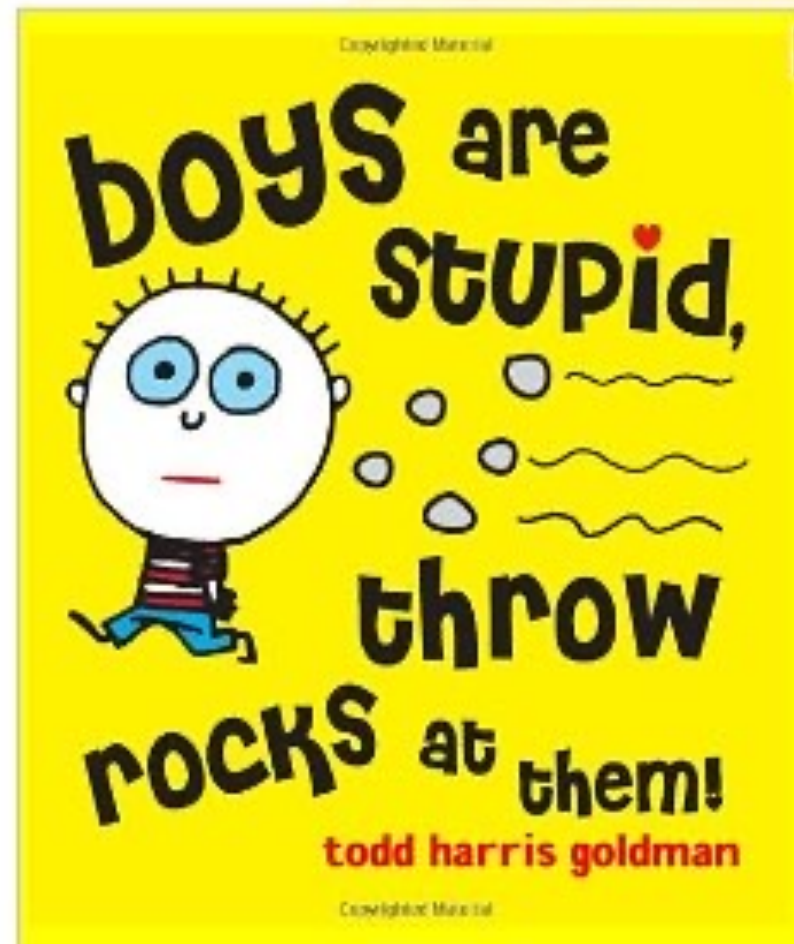
# **When Teacher *Doesn't Know* it's a Boy...**

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**the Boy is one-third**

*more likely to be graded higher on a reading  
test*

Click to **LOOK INSIDE!**



Woman's  
Child

Woman's  
Choice

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**Mom: *Right***  
to Children

**Dad: *Fight***  
for Children

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# Dad Involvement...

Misinterpreted as

*Insult*

Not

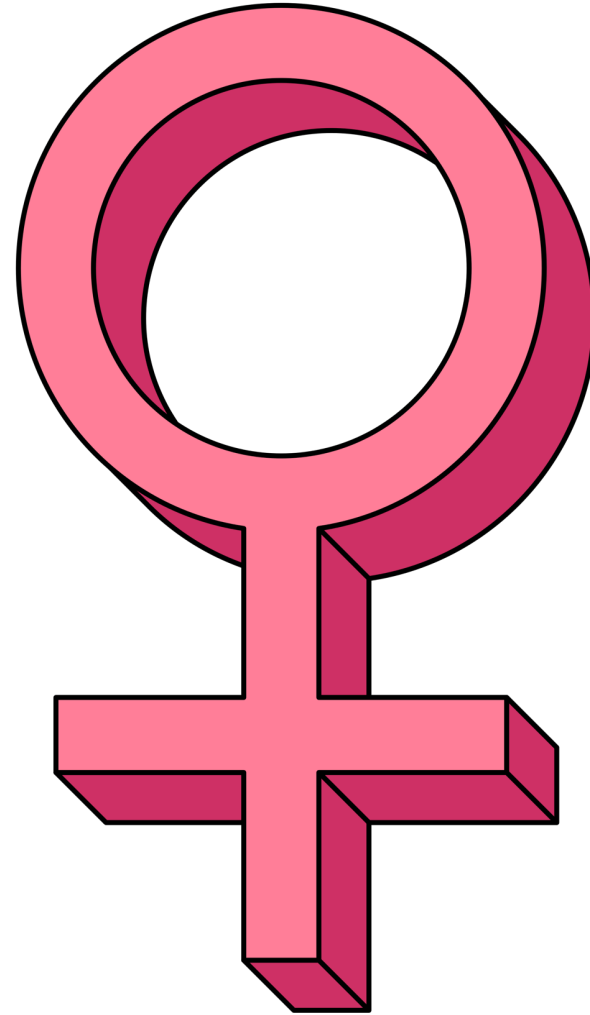
*Support*

To Single Moms



# A Mom's 3 Options

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Option 1:

***Work Full  
Time***

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Option 2:

# *Children* **Full Time**

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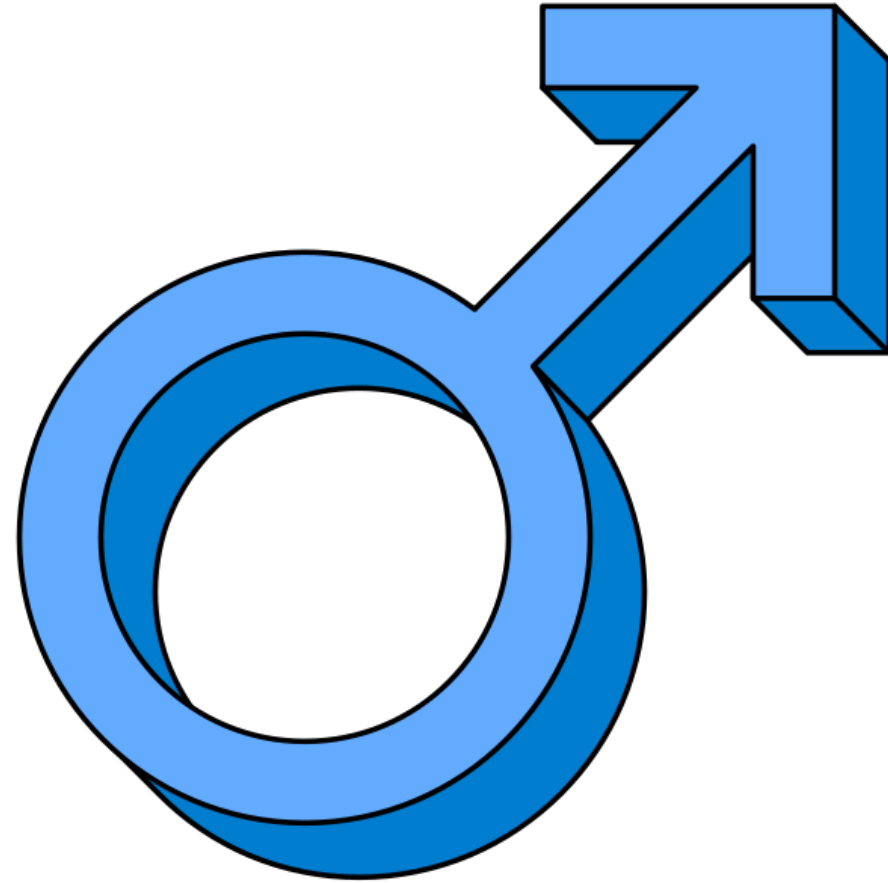
Option 3:

**Some  
*Combination*  
of Both**

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# **A Dad's 3 Options**

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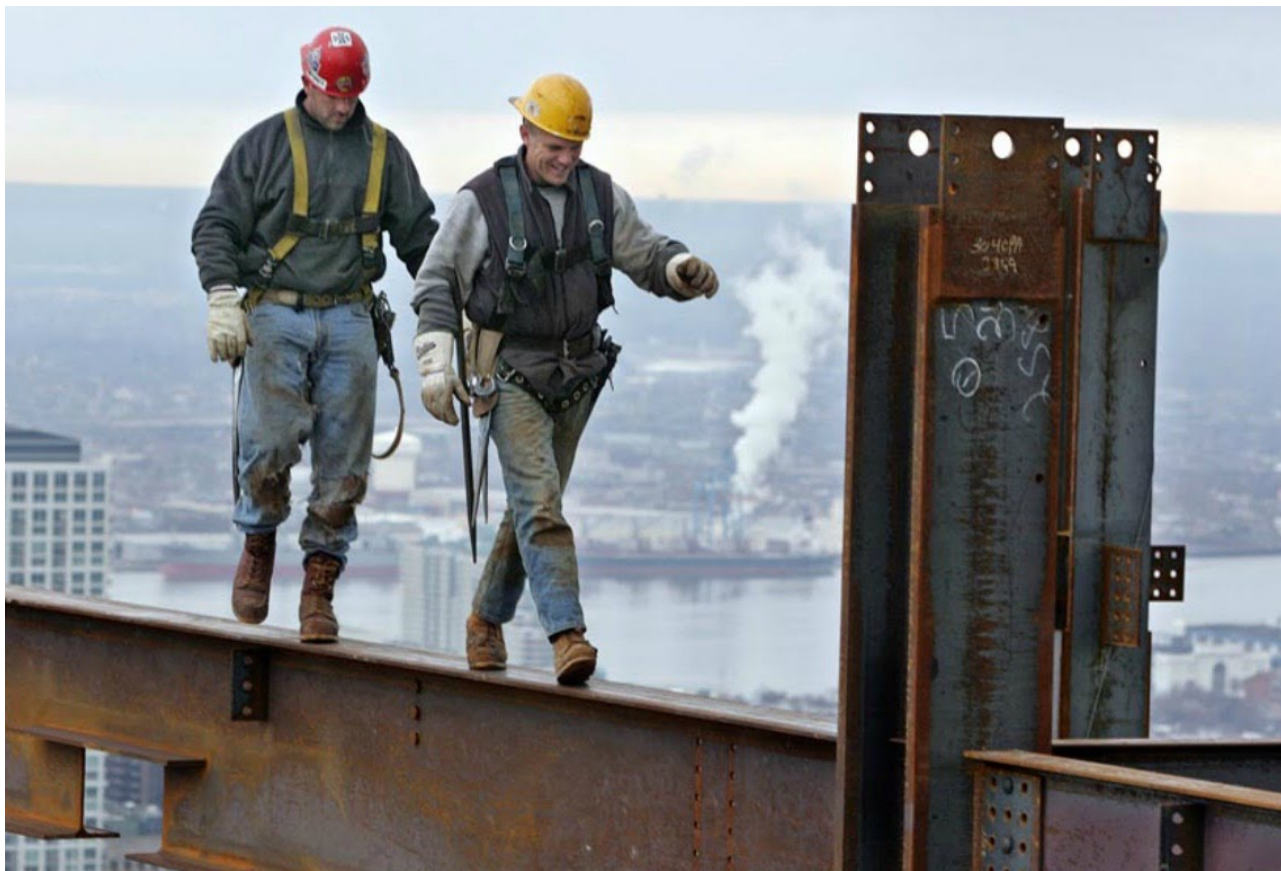


Option 1:

***Work Full  
Time***

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Option 2:

***Work Full  
Time***

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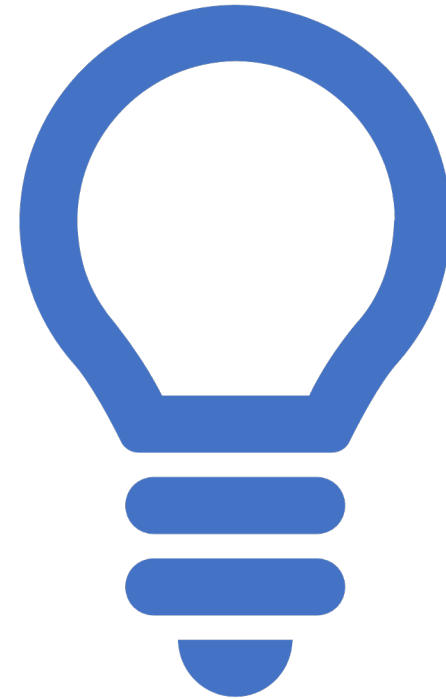
Option 3:

***Work Full  
Time***

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# **Solutions**

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# Dads: Children vs. Work

49% of Working  
Dads Say

“I’d *Prefer* to be  
*Home* with my  
Children”





Dad's **Time**  
Vs.  
Dad's **Dime**

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# **Dad-Enriched Boys are...**

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**warmer**

**more mature**

**more empathetic**

**more independent**

**have higher self-esteem**

# More Dad, Less Drugs

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# Fathering: A New Sense of Purpose

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- Careers Rarely Last a Lifetime
- Being a **Dad** Lasts a **Lifetime**





# Surrogate Dads

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# Scouting, Boys' Clubs

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# A Solution to the “Purpose Void”?

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Prepare boys for the  
“**Caring Professions**”

- Elementary school teacher
- Social worker
- Healthcare professional
- Full-time dad



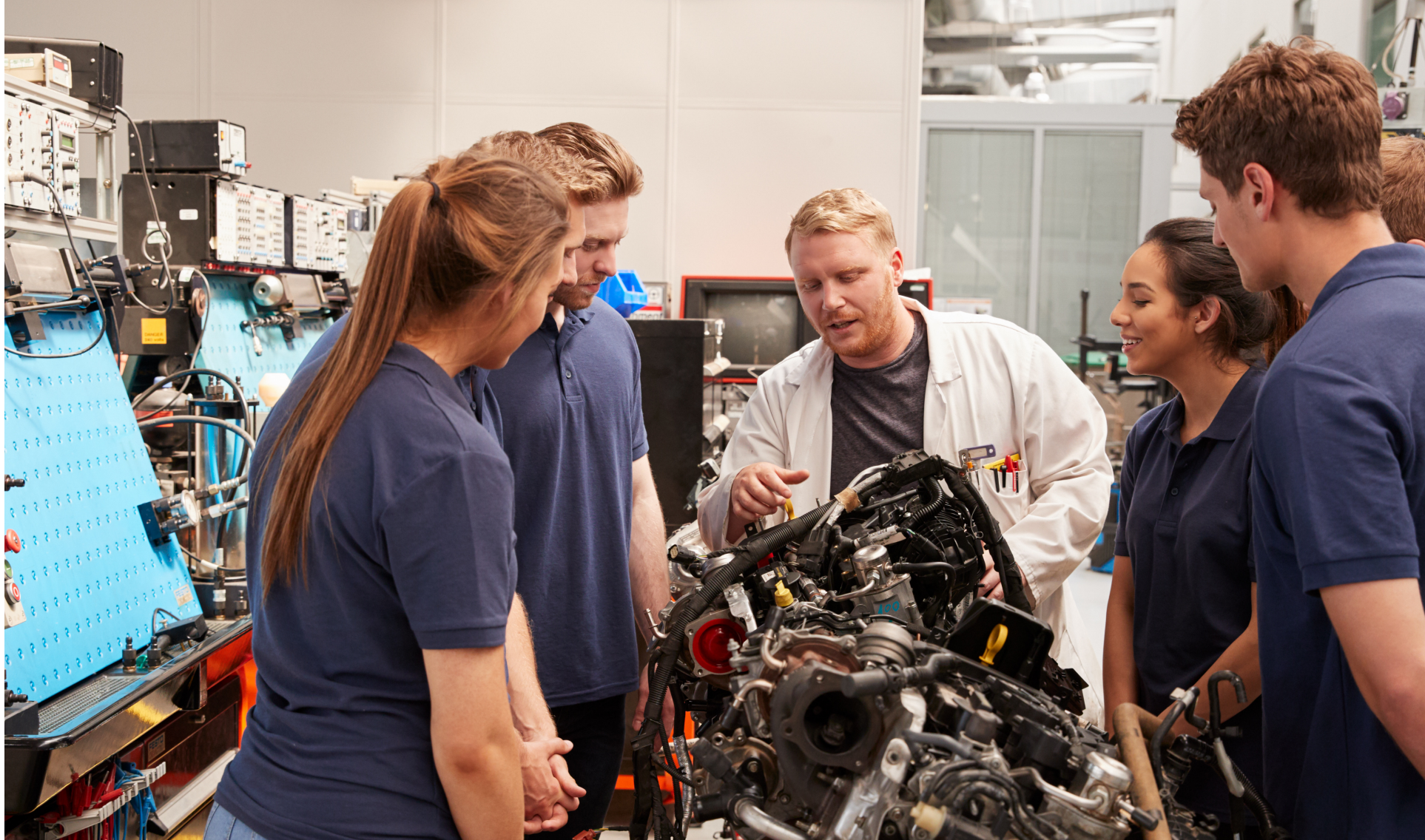
# Reviving Recess

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# Reviving Vocational Education

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# Checks and Balances Parenting

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Mom-Style Parenting  
+  
Dad-Style Parenting



# Family Dinner Nights

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# **Communication Skills**

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## Humans' Achilles Heel:

The inability to handle personal criticism without becoming defensive





# Laws Inspiring Fathers

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# 4 “Must Do’s” After Divorce”

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1. Equal Shared Parenting

2. Max twenty minutes drive time

3. No bad-mouthing

4. Couples’ Communication

# Rowing the Family Boat

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Coalition to  
Create  
**White House  
Council on  
Boys and  
Men**

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# Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Resources

Please call **855-CRISIS-1 (855-274-7471)** or visit <https://www.tn.gov/behavioral-health/need-help.html> if you are experiencing a mental health emergency