



Dads4Kids
Fatherhood Foundation

Newsletter

12th February 2018 - Inspiring Fathers - Encouraging Families - Issue 814



Dear Warren

Welcome to the Dads4Kids' newsletter and email information service for fathers and families as we present The Boy Crisis.

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Every now and again an article is written that just has to be reprinted in full. [Professor Paul Kengor](#) has written a brilliant expose called "[Fatherless Shooters ... as Liberals Push for Fatherless Families](#)" on the tragic outworking on of the Boy crisis. Of course, as broken men we must share part of the blame as all these things have happened on our watch.

The term "Liberal" in American speak is best translated as radical left-wing group-think or cultural Marxism but I am sure you will get the drift.



Watch [Warren Farrell's video](#) about Fatherlessness and School Shootings.

A fascinating fact has emerged in the aftermath of the Parkland, Florida mass shooting: 26 of the 27 deadliest mass shooters in American history all happened to share one thing in common. What might that be? Your favorite liberal might pipe up with anything and everything from casting a vote for Donald Trump to NRA membership to a seat in the local megachurch. Nope.

All but one of the 27 was raised without his biological father.

The [list of 27](#) was compiled by CNN. Suzanne Venker, a marriage-family expert, went through the family backgrounds of the 27 shooters, [where she found](#) only one "raised by his biological father since childhood."

"Indeed, there is a direct correlation between boys who grow up with absent fathers and boys who drop out of school, who drink, who do drugs, who become delinquent and who wind up in

prison," observes Venker, adding: "And who kill their classmates."

Obviously, this doesn't mean that boys raised in fatherless families are likely to become mass shooters. (Do I really need to say that?) But it's yet further affirmation of what we already know: boys need dads. Just as daughters need dads. [Children need fathers](#). They also need mothers.

No surprise. We all know this. Liberals once knew it, until they started pushing for fatherless families.

Wait ... repeat that, please. Liberals have started pushing for fatherless families?

Oh, yes. Of course. Liberals are now fanatically pushing for fatherless families. Actually, they're also fanatically pushing for motherless families. Think about it: Liberals are on fire for same-sex "marriage" and same-sex parenting, and what is same-sex "marriage" and same-sex parenting than-by very definition-a form of "marriage" and parenting that's either fatherless or motherless?

Take a depressing gander at any silly liberal website (the [Huffington Post](#) on any given day will do, especially the ["Queer Voices" section](#)) and you'll encounter piles of drivel from pompous progressives prattling about how the best parental relationship they've invented is two lesbians as moms. They're asserting this in their [newspapers](#) and ["studies."](#) They're claiming it with a sense of authority inspired by little more than their New York Times and a grande skim latte at Starbucks. This fatuousness flies in the face of what all human beings know in their hearts, and what even liberals conceded until the dawning of Obergefell, namely: the optimal situation for a child is a mom and dad.

Normal people uncorrupted by poisonous ideology inherently understand this. Common sense and rudimentary observation tell us. Studies have long affirmed that kids who grow up with a mother and father are less likely to be poor, to end up in prison, to get addicted to drugs, and are generally healthier and stronger and more successful.

The most common denominator among men in prisons is not income or class distinction, not a high school or college diploma, not ethnic or racial background, but whether they grew up with a father.

Well, now we can add yet another dubious correlation, a downright frightening one: The most common denominator among males who commit mass shootings is the absence of a biological father in the home. Wow.

But again, we've all known this, including liberals.

In a speech for Father's Day 2008, Senator Barack Obama was emphatic: "We need fathers." He explained: "We know the statistics-that children who grow up without a father are five times more likely to live in poverty and commit crime; nine times more likely to drop out of schools and 20 times more likely to end up in prison. They are more likely to have behavioral problems, or run away from home, or become teenage parents themselves. And the foundations of our community are weaker because of it." Obama added: "Of all the rocks upon which we build our lives ... family is the most important. And we are called to recognize and honor how critical every father is to that foundation." If "we are honest with ourselves," said Obama, "we'll admit that ... too many fathers" are missing-they are "missing from too many lives and too many homes."

Yes, if we're honest with ourselves we'll admit this. But that's the problem. The modern secular-progressive project cannot be honest with itself. In seeking to fundamentally transform human nature, it must deny human nature. In seeking to fundamentally transform reality, it must deny reality. These denials, for the liberal/progressive, are applied to marriage, family, sexuality, and on and on. It's fundamental to the fundamental transformation. And ironically, our President of Fundamental Transformation, one Barack Hussein Obama, spearheaded the insanity, illuminating the new White House in rainbow colors and aggressively looking to renovate everything from school bathrooms to the definition of gender and marriage and family.

In that process, the progressive project must reject the notion that the best model for a child is a home with a mom and dad.

And that's a recent shift. Go back further from Barack Obama. Go back to Daniel Patrick Moynihan. Go back to Bill Clinton in the 1990s, when he and other Democrats championed the National Fatherhood Initiative. For a while, this was a rare, precious consensus among liberals and conservatives. There are few things that liberals and conservatives have agreed upon, but this was one. Kids need dads.

That law of reality remains unchanged, of course. Call it the natural law. But what has changed is the putrid politics, courtesy of the rotten madness of liberal-progressive ideology. In their militant advancement and forced acceptance of "gay marriage," liberals are jettisoning this national consensus on fathers, explicitly demanding a category of parenting that excludes fathers. As for those who disagree with this new paradigm, they are reflexively derided as cruel, thoughtless, backward bigots, with no possible legitimate reason for their unenlightened position. Suggest a mere pause before this grand push forward by the left and you're smeared as nothing but a vile hater.

And again, what today's liberals are advocating is actually far worse than fatherless families, as they are agitating for motherless ones as well. Thanks to the nature-redefining left, there will be a new generation of children deliberately raised without dads and moms and with the sanction and celebration and coercion of the state and culture and the leftist forces of "tolerance" and "diversity."

And for what? What has prompted this mass shift? It's so that liberals can accommodate their ideological marriage to same-sex "marriage." Such is the depths of the secular-progressive descent from common sense to the pit of political depravity. Reject natural law and biblical law, and this is where it ultimately goes. The social-moral consequences of this fundamental transformation will careen in directions we cannot yet begin to fathom.

Lovework

Love your children but at the same time tell the world about the importance of fathers and the high cost of Fatherlessness.

Yours for Children
Warwick Marsh

PS. Watch [Warren Farrells Brilliant Ted Talk](#) on the Boy Crisis.

Warwick Marsh has been married to Alison for 42 years. He is the grandfather of seven grandchildren and father of five children, four boys and one girl, ranging in age from 36 years to 25 years. Warwick is a musician, writer, producer and public speaker who likes to think he can still laugh at himself.

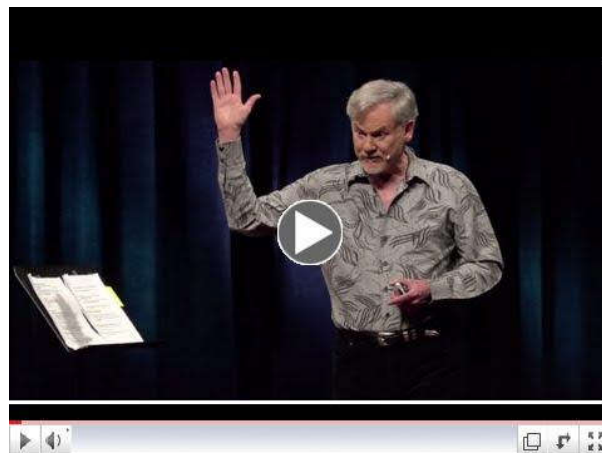
Thought of the Week



**Boys who hurt
will be the ones most likely to hurt us.**

Warren Farrell

[Link of the Week](#)



[The Boy Crisis](#)

Grandfathers



Men want a battle to fight, an adventure to live, and a beauty to rescue.

**That is what is written in their hearts.
That is what little boys play at.
That is what men's movies are about.**

**You just see it.
It is undeniable.**

John Eldredge

Laughter



A police officer called the station on his radio.
"I have an interesting case here. An old lady
shot her husband for stepping on the floor she
just mopped."
"Have you arrested the woman?"
"Not yet. The floor's still wet."

Single Dads



Boys in Crisis: An Interview with Warren Farrell

by Alysse ElHage,

** When we discount a gender's contribution, it's easier to make them an afterthought.*

** Boys who hurt will be the ones most likely to hurt us.*

When IFS (Institute for Family Studies) contacted Warren Farrell, Ph.D., to request an interview for Family-Studies about his forthcoming book, *The Boy Crisis* he not only said yes but graciously provided us with the book's first draft to review. Dr. Farrell is an award-winning educator, speaker, and activist, who chairs the Coalition to Create a White House Council on Boys and Men. The author of seven books on men's and women's issues, he is probably best known for his 1993 book, *The Myth of Male Power*. He has been described as the "intellectual father of the men's rights movement," but his 30-year focus on the issues facing men and boys actually began with the women's liberation movement, where he played a key leadership role.

In the following interview, Dr Farrell talks about the journey that led to his focus on men's issues and to his deep concern for today's boys, who often struggle with a sense of hopelessness and a lack of purpose, which he links (at least in part) to family breakdown and dad-deprivation. Note: this interview will run in two parts and has been edited for clarity.

Alysse ElHage: You went from playing a key role in the women's liberation movement and being a leader of NOW, to being deeply concerned about family breakdown and what you saw happening to men, especially fathers. How did that journey come about?

Warren Farrell: When the women's movement surfaced in the late sixties, I felt it was so important that I changed my Ph.D. dissertation (at NYU) to focus on it; formed some 300 men's and women's "consciousness-raising" groups (one of which was joined by John Lennon); and was elected three times to the Board of NOW in NYC. This led to my traveling the world trying to get the sexes to understand each other. I soon discovered that getting the sexes to understand each other made Don Quixote look pragmatic, but was at least a formula for perpetual full employment!

But as divorces became common in the 1970s, and I saw families suffering from fatherlessness, I beseeched NOW to support the equal involvement of dads after divorce. But NOW feared losing the support of women who wanted the option of having primary custody.

As the women's movement went mainstream, I loved the options for women it created, but also felt there was a demonizing men, an undervaluing of the family, and a blindness to how boys and men were being harmed that would have profound effects on families, boys, addiction, careers, women wanting children without the involvement of failure-to-launch dads, male unemployment, the global economy, and so on. When I uncovered reasons that were not part of the public consciousness, I felt I had something to contribute-which led to *The Boy Crisis*.

AE: You've argued that boys are basically a "national afterthought" compared to our focus on girls. Why don't we focus more on boys, and how has this lack of focus contributed to the boy crisis you describe?

WF: It starts with how we've used our sons historically. Every society that has survived has done so by training its boys to be disposable - disposable in war, in work (coal mines, oil rigs, firefighting). This means the survival of our sons conflicts with our survival. And it is hard to become psychologically attached to someone we might lose. And to train our sons to forfeit their lives in war and hazardous jobs (92 percent of workplace deaths are male), we had to train them to act tough and not express feelings. We don't pay attention to the wheel that doesn't squeak. And women can't hear what men don't say. Which is also why boys and men's weakness is their façade of strength.

Second, we've assumed males had the power and made the rules, so if they had a problem, they could just change the rules. The Boy Crisis explains a different type of powerlessness boys and men often experience. For example, a boy's dream to be an actor, writer or mountain climber often becomes, if he has children, a reality of selling product X that he doesn't believe in-or, in brief, feeling obligated to earn money his family spends while he dies sooner. We've cast men's higher pay as privilege and power, as opposed to understanding that the road to high pay is a toll road. When we discount a gender's contribution - as we used to when women said "I'm just a housewife" - it's easier to make them an afterthought.

All of this contributes to our caring less about boys, and the closer they get to becoming men, the less we care. What we care little about can easily become an afterthought. And it isn't just a national afterthought. The boy crisis exists in the 61 largest developed countries.

We've cast men's higher pay as privilege and power, as opposed to understanding that the road to high pay is a toll road.

AE: You argue that the number one cause of the boy crisis is dad deprivation. And you write that the gap between dad-deprived boys and the dad-enriched boys will "become the single biggest predictor of the gap between boys who become economically poor versus economically rich." What happens when boys do not have their father in their life, for whatever reason?

WF: Boys with minimal or no father involvement often look to their dads as role models, but because they don't have much time with their dads, their role models are more "straw men" or "straw dads." These boys don't benefit from overnights, hang-out time, and the many hours it takes for boys to bond with their dads, and trust that their feelings won't be dismissed. Dads tend to build bonds with their sons by, for example, playing games and rough-housing, and then use the resulting bond as leverage for their sons to "get to bed on time" lest there be "no playing tomorrow night." This boundary enforcement teaches boys postponed gratification. Boys with minimal or no father involvement more frequently suffer from an addiction to immediate gratification. For example, with minimal or no father involvement there is a much greater likelihood of video game addiction, more ADHD, worse grades in every subject, less empathy, less assertiveness (but more aggression), fewer social skills, more alienation and loneliness, more obesity, rudderlessness, anger, drugs, drinking, delinquency, disobedience, depression and suicide.

[Read full article here:](#)

All You Need is Love



The Perfect Gift

By [Focus on the Family](#)

What is it about your spouse that you love the most? Why not let them know?

True intimacy in marriage begins by learning to express your feelings to your spouse. That means being willing to share your heart with your husband or wife, and then encouraging them to do the same.

The next time a special occasion rolls around, instead of buying an expensive gift, why not take out a pen and piece of paper and spend some time writing. Think about those qualities in your spouse that really touch your heart. This might be a bit of a challenge for some of you guys but make the effort, your wife will love it you for it.

Give specific examples. Write about the times your spouse was there for you when you needed support, or the things they do that make you smile.

Then share the letter with them over a quiet dinner. You'll be amazed at what a simple note can do to strengthen your marriage.

For more healthy advice go to www.families.org.au

Special Feature



Dr Warren Farrell Explains the Boy Crisis by Rachel Alexander

In recent years, society has focused more on issues affecting girls and women than on those related to boys and men. But now, in all 63 of the largest developed nations, boys are falling behind girls in all academic subjects - especially the biggest predictors of success, reading and writing, in their mental health (depression, suicides), physical health (lower sperm counts), IQ, ability to create friends, and so on.

Dr Warren Farrell, who has written extensively on men and family, just released a book with co-author John Gray, the bestselling author of *Men are From Mars, Women are From Venus*. The *Boy Crisis* goes over a long list of afflictions plaguing boys, affecting their development into men, and offers solutions to turn the problem around. He spoke with me in an interview about the book.

Farrell observes, "Whenever only one sex wins, both sexes lose." For every girl who turns out well, she'll have a boyfriend or son whose issues she must deal with. Even if you do not have children, you are paying for the boy crisis in taxes - boys on welfare, in prison, unemployed, joining ISIS, doing school shootings. As Farrell puts it, "Boys who hurt, hurt us." A big part of the problem is boys are growing up without fathers. Mothers are usually awarded primary custody of children when parents split up.

Farrell brings out some fascinating insights from studies that most people are unaware of. Not only do boys do better with fathers than mothers, but girls do better with fathers too. This is true at all ages, even when the dad has no advantage in income.

Farrell, a former board member in NYC of the National Organization of Women, says the women's movement did a great job expanding the options for women in the last half century, framing discrimination as women not being able to be equally involved in the workplace. But no one changed the public consciousness about the discrimination being faced by men desiring to enter the world of their children, the home place. Especially after divorce. And no one confronted the 53 percent of women under 30 who have children without being married as to their denial of the rights of the children to have both parents.

We gave boys what Farrell calls "social bribes" to be disposable in war - calling them heroes. And by women "marrying up" we got men to associate making sacrifices at work with being loved. The feminists portrayed the male as oppressor and the female as oppressed - acknowledging the mother's sacrifice of a career, but not the dad's sacrifice in his career.

Feminists cast men's high pay as privilege and power, discrimination in favour of men - but did not understand that the expectation of men to earn money was actually discrimination against men. The road to high pay is a toll road. Currently, feminists are trying to have it both ways: "I am woman, I am strong; I am woman, I was wronged." Affirmative consent - requiring our sons in college to ask a woman for consent before he reaches out to hold her hand lest he be sued for sexual harassment - infantilizes women by not asking women to share accountability for the changing male-female tango. He says that when women respond romantically to sensitive men, men will become more sensitive.

Farrell observes that few romance novels are titled, "He stopped when I said 'no.'" Women are still falling in love with successful men, not men who stop at the first "no." The sexes need a dialogue, not a monologue. Farrell feels we've turned the battle of the sexes into a war in which only one sex has shown up - our sons are putting their head in the sand and hoping the bullets will miss. We have to ask girls to share the risk of sexual rejection, not just blame boys when they do it too much and ignore them when they don't do it enough. He concludes that feminism damages our daughters by honing victim power as a fine art.

Farrell says that convincing people to treat boys and girls slightly differently - without looking like an insult to girls - can be accomplished, because it's not a positive or a negative. For example, boys tend to enjoy rough housing more, girls find it easier to sit without fidgeting in class. We can help both sexes grow effectively by acknowledging those differences and doing some combination of being conscious of them without catering to them and enabling them. It's a balancing act. Boys have greater challenges sitting in the classroom. But they are fine getting up and doing a project, a play or chemistry experiment. And from the success that both sexes have from excelling at these differences, they'll gain incentives to push themselves further - such as girls engaging in risk, boys sitting still.

Currently, thousands of fathers across the country are jailed for getting behind on child support. It's like a modern-day debtors' prison - something the U.S. supposedly got rid of years ago. Farrell says we need to change this. We have to redefine everything that child support means.

The data shows that children need dad's time more than they need dad's dime. We need to require dads to contribute time first. We also need to punish moms that prevent dads from contributing time.

One of the biggest solutions is to decrease divorce. Farrell teaches couples' communications workshops all over the country. He's discovered that the main source of conflict in marriage is the inability of spouses to take criticism from each other without becoming defensive. So the other person starts walking on eggshells. They feel less and less heard by the person they love the most. Then children arrive, and the parents have even less time to communicate their frustrations with each other. Their parenting styles are different, but they don't know how to communicate the value of their differences. They are legally married but psychologically divorced, in "minimum-security marriages."

Farrell has spent his life trying to get men and women to understand each other. He attempts to get men to understand the everyday "beauty contests" of regular life that women live in. He gets women to understand the risk of up to 100 romantic rejections men regularly get approaching women. By understanding these, the sexes can develop an emotional compassion for each other. Then he gets both spouses to realize that being criticized does not mean they will be rejected.

When the couples do that, they feel so much more loved by each other, and then they realize they can do that with their kids, parents, conservatives and liberals, Israelis and Palestinians, employer and employees. It's the beginning of creating the world peace we all talk about. Which has always been elusive for us.

Vast majority of mass shooters from broken homes

The subject of "[The Desperate Cry of America's Boys](#)" is a difficult one. To point out that boys need their fathers is to shine a spotlight on divorce and single mothers; and that is, admittedly, uncomfortable. But there's no way to address fatherlessness comfortably.



Dad's Prayer



Dear God

*John Gray said,
"When men and women accept
and respect their differences
then love has a chance to blossom".
Help me understand what my children need
and how they are different.
Help me treat my daughter as a woman
and my son as a man.
When I treat them as such they have a chance to grow
into who they need to become.
Just as You said,
"This is my beloved Son
in whom I am well pleased".*

*Help me say the same about my son
because the future is formed in my words as a father.
Help me speak well about the next generation.
Men and women are different, as are boys and girls.
When we understand that,
love blossoms and so do our children.*

Help Us!

If you would like to give financially to the Fatherhood Foundation Public Fund and receive tax deductibility:

Fatherhood Foundation Public Fund

(Name, address and amount details must be emailed for a receipt for tax deductibility)

Westpac Branch Wollongong

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Or mail cheque and address details to:

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The Fatherhood Foundation is a Harm Prevention Charity. Fatherlessness and inadequate fathering has been proven to be a source of harm. The Fatherhood Foundation helps children by promoting excellence in fathering. Excellent fathers are in word and deed: responsible, involved, protective, loving and committed to the well-being of their children and their children's mother.