**Father’s Day**

**For God said, Honor your father and your mother.  
*(St. Matthew 15:4)***

**I am my Father are one.**

***(St. John 10:30)***

**Do you not believe that I am with my Father**

**and my Father is with me?**

**The words that I speak, I do not speak of myself;**

**but my Father who abides with me does these works.**

***(St. John 14:10)***

**See what love the father has given us,**

**that we should be called children of God;**

**and that is what we are.**

***(1 John 3:1)***

**When a father, absent during the day, returns home at six, his children receive only his temperament, not his teaching. *(Robert Bly)***

**Photographer Ansel Adams as a fidgety child who had difficulty adjusting to traditional schools. His father decided to teach him at home, and the next years were extremely fruitful. Learning experiences were always tapped into the young boy’s intrinsic interests and ranged from playing the piano to visiting an exposition. Years later, after he had become internationally known for his creative photography, Adams paid tribute to the courage of a father who was willing to take risks, to listen to that “different drummer” unique to each child. In his autobiography, Adams wrote: “I am certain he established the positive direction of my life that otherwise, given my native hyperactivity, could have been confused and catastrophic. I trace who I am and the direction of my development to those years of growing up in our house on the dunes, propelled especially by an internal spark tenderly kept alive and glowing by my father.” *(Teresa Amabile, in Growing Up Creative)***

**It is admirable for a man to take his son fishing, but there is a special place in heaven for the father who takes his daughter shopping. *(John Sinor, in San Diego Tribune)***

**An angry father is most cruel toward himself. *(Publilius Syrus, in Moral Sayings)***

**Which do you think the dad in your life would appreciate more: another necktie or recognition that he’s doing a great job? The relationship Website eHarmony.com offers these suggestion for moms who want Father’s Day to mean more: \* Chat with him about his dreams for your children -- the home he hopes to create, the experiences he’d like your children to have. \* Find out what he liked to do with his dad and help him replicate those activities with his kids. \* Help the children create a card or collage celebrating the great things about their dad. *(Rocky Mountain News, June 12, 2006)***

**My father once looked through one of my information-crammed books and asked, "How did you learn all this, Isaac?" "From you, Pappa." "From me? I don't know any of this." "You didn't have to, Pappa. You valued learning and you taught me to value it. Al the rest came without trouble. *(Isaac Asimov, in Memory Yet Green, on the power of fatherly advice)***

**Do babies prefer to be with their fathers? Such were the findings of a University of Wisconsin study sometime back. Possibly, it’s because babies tend to be curious about objects seldom seen, say analysts. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**The most important thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother. *(Henry Ward Beecher)***

**Being a good dad is all about moments -- moments to teach, moments to treasure. It's about the hard moments when we think we haven't gotten through to our kids, and the wonderful moments when we realize we have. *(Jim Daly, in The Good Dad: Becoming the Father You Were Meant To Be)***

**For his efforts in obtaining their independence from Spain, Simon Bolivar is known as “The Father” of Venezuela, Columbia, Ecuador, Panama, Peru, and Bolivia, the latter being named for the great soldier-statesman. *(Bernie Smith, in The Joy of Trivia, p. 54)***

**Don’t be a pal to your son. Be his father. What child needs a 40-year-old for a friend? *(Al Capp, cartoonist)***

**Only 8 percent of American households now are made up of the traditional career dad, homemaker mom and school-age youngsters, according to the statisticians. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**A father carries pictures where his money used to be. *(Anonymous)***

**In an eastern city of the United States, a prominent man became greatly concerned about his boy, and consequently went to the boy’s school principal and asked for suggestions. The principal gave this very significant reply: “Resign from the presidency of the chamber of commerce. Leave that position to someone whose family has grown up and is not in such great need of fatherly attention as is your boy. Your first duty during the next five years, after providing the necessities of life for your family, is at home with your boy. You should help him with his lessons; you should interest him in your business; and you should become his comrade and chum. By giving the same amount of time and attention to your boy that you now give to the chamber of commerce, you will save your boy and also probably be the means of doing just as much good for your city.” *(Morris Chalfant, in Pulpit Helps)***

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**Both “The Father of His Country,” George Washington, and “The Father of the Constitution,” James Madison, were childless. *(L. M. Boyd)***

[**Murphy, a 31-year-old**](http://www.bbc.co.uk/) **childless bald eagle at the World Bird Sanctuary in Valley Park, Missouri, was trying to hatch a rock for weeks thinking it was an egg – male bald eagles sometimes incubate their young. So when the sanctuary took in an injured orphaned baby eaglet this month, he became the ideal candidate to become a foster parent. The keepers introduced the chick, named “Eaglet 23-126,” into Murphy’s enclosure, and after a few days of getting to know each other, Murphy’s paternal drive was in full display. He answered the bird’s peeps and even tore a whole fish for him to eat. Murphy, said Dawn Griffard, the sanctuary’s chief executive, was “doing very well learning how to be a first-time dad.” *(The Week magazine, April 28, 2023)***

[***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Throughout His earthly sojourn it is moving to note how often**](http://www.bbc.co.uk/) **Christ referred to His Father. He saw Himself as here on earth completing His Father’s will, carrying on His Father’s work, complying with His Father’s wishes, conversing quietly with His Father, while all the time making His way gently toward His Father’s home. *(W. Phillip Keller)***

[**The tenderness of Christmas centers around Mary and the baby, but the world has too little regard for the love of Joseph, who cared so faithfully for Mary and their child. "When he arose, he took the young child and his mother," and fled with them to Egypt, to remain until the death of Herod, who had ordered that all sons born to Hebrew families should be killed. These evenings fathers sit in crowded stores holding babies in their arms or stand patiently looking aft6er small children while their wives shop. No much is said about fathers at Christmas time, but perhaps Joseph, who took the child and his mother to safety, has a special blessing for fathers who are kind and patient with their wives and children. *(Zula Bennington Greene, in Skimming the Cream)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**One day my father sat me down and probably gave me the best advice of my life. He said, “Whatever you do, don’t wake up at 65 years old and think about what you should have done with your life.” *(George Clooney, Academy Award nominated actor and producer)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**“I was 15 when my father died,” says singer Natalie Cole, remembering Nat King Cole, who died of lung cancer at the age of 45. “It’s a hard age for a girl to lose her dad, especially when you considered yourself to be Daddy’s little girl.” Cole has released an album, “Unforgettable With Love,” in which she sings 26 of her father’s hits, one electronically engineered to create a duet between father and daughter. “There was a time when making a record like this was the last thing I wanted to do,” says Cole. “People were always saying, ‘You’re Nat Cole’s daughter. Why don’t you sing his music?’ I was afraid I would never be allowed to be my own person, and so I took offense. This album means a lot to me. It’s a chance for me to say hello to my father, and good-by – and I miss you.” *(Stephen Holden, in New York Times)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**More collect calls are made on Father’s Day than on any other day of the year. *(Uncle John’s Bathroom Reader: Extraordinary Book of Facts, p. 104)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**I grew up to have my father's looks -- my father's speech patterns -- my father's posture -- my father's walk -- my father's opinions and my mother's contempt for my father. *(Jules Feiffer)*  
  
The fundamental and unresolvable contradiction in the male nature is that no father of 40 wants his daughter to do what he wanted other men's daughters to do when he was 20. *(Thomas LaMance, in The Saturday Evening Post)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

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[**Nothing I’ve ever done has given me more joy and reward than being a good father to my children. *(Bill Cosby)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**My father would not have been particularly interested in a book about fathering, although he did like to read. One day when he was reading in the living room, my brother and I decided that we could play basketball without breaking anything. When I took a shot that redesigned the glass table, my mother came in with a stick and said. “So help me, I’ll bust you in half.” Without lifting his head from his book, my father said, “Why would you want twice as many?” *(Bill Cosby, in Fatherhood)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Fatherhood is pretending the present you love most is soap-on-a-rope. *(Bill Cosby)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

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[**But his most important role? Being a dad to four daughters with wife Luciana Barroso. Of fatherhood, Matt Damon has said: "The only way to describe it -- it sounds stupid, but at the end of How the Grinch Stole Christmas, you know how his heart grows, like, five times its size? Everything is full; it's just full all the time." *(Sarah Elizabeth Adler, in AARP - THE MAGAZINE)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**What Depp learned from his parents: Johnny Depp is determined not to repeat his parents' mistakes, says Brian Hiatt in Rolling Stone. Although the actor split last year from Vanessa Paradis, the mother of his two children, he remains a devoted father. "With my kids, they're told 75 times a day that they're loved," he says. By contrast, Depp had what he calls "a relatively violent upbringing. If you did something wrong, you got hit. If you didn't do something wrong, you got hit." His home life was chaos, with his family constantly moving around the U. S. to escape the bailiffs. His civil engineer father and waitress mother "went into, like, a quadruple bankruptcy every Christmas." Depp, 50, is now rich enough that he need never worry about money again. But his nomadic youth still troubles him. "When it's time to pack, even to go on vacation, I'm a wreck, man," he says. "Because it reminds me so much of having to move all the time. There are films that I still haven't unpacked from. Somewhere in a storage locker I know I've got a suitcase from (1990s) Edward Scissorhands and Cry-Baby. These little time capsules just laying there because I couldn't deal with it." *(The Week magazine, August 2, 2013)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Depressed dads tend to spank: Fathers, like mothers, can suffer from postpartum depression, which negatively affects how they treat their infants. A new survey of more than 1,700 fathers of 1-year-olds found that 7 percent of them had suffered “major depression” since their child’s birth. Those fathers were four times more likely to spank their child – and half as likely to read to him or her – than fathers who were not depressed. Child-development experts say children as young as 1 are unlikely to understand spanking as a punishment and can be accidentally injured. The study authors note that more than 80 percent of all fathers attend their babies’ wellness checkups with a pediatrician, suggesting a missed opportunity for depression screening and support. “This wasn’t’ on our radar screen for a long time,” Craig F. Garfield, a professor of pediatrics at Northwestern University, tells WebMD.com. Now, because unemployment is a major risk factor for depression and a “disproportionate number of men” have lost their jobs, he says, it’s urgent that pediatricians “start to consider Dad.” *(The Week magazine, April 1, 2011)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**When dads become depressed: Mothers aren’t the only ones who get the baby blues, says a study in the Lancet. New fathers are also susceptible to postpartum depression. Over a period of 12 years, researchers studied 14,000 mothers and 13,000 fathers. Four percent of fathers reported symptoms of depression shortly after the birth of a child, including anxiety, mood swings, irritability, and feelings of hopelessness. Ten percent of mothers had similar symptoms. The dads’ depression had a striking impact on their children. They were more than twice as likely as other kids to have emotional problems of their own, such as hyperactivity, aggressive behavior, or social isolation. Boys were particularly susceptible to being affected by their dad’s depression, says researcher Paul Ramchandani. “The influence of fathers in early childhood,” he says, “might have been underestimated in the past.” *(The Week magazine, July 22, 2005)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Desire comes from a French word, desiree, meaning of the Father. *(Foster McClellan)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**My father told me a wonderful story about a father who gave his young daughter a simple locket and told her that it contained a very valuable diamond sealed inside the locket, so if at any time she was ever in need, she could crack open the locket, sell the diamond, and make it through difficulties. The daughter grew into a woman and struggled alone through terrible times of poverty, but just the mere thought of the diamond resting safely inside the locket she wore around her neck gave her enough courage to pull her through. Many years later, she had finally become a success in all areas of her life and no longer had to struggle for survival. Her curiosity had grown to the point that she had to know how much the diamond was actually worth. The woman took her precious locket to the finest jeweler in the village to have the diamond appraised. The jeweler eyed the plain, tarnished locked with a bit of disdain, raised the mallet, and with one swift blow, smashed the little locket into many pieces, releasing a small, shiny piece. The jeweler held it up to the light and said, “Why this is not a diamond, my lady, but a worthless piece of ordinary glass!” Stunned by the news, the woman laughed and cried and then laughed some more. “No, kind sir, that is the most valuable diamond in the world!” she replied, wiping the tears from her eyes. Her father had given her a priceless gem . . . the gift of hope and the belief that she would always be all right, and for this she would always be grateful. *(Michele Goild, in Gratitude, A Way of Life)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Dad didn’t tell me how to live; he lived, and let me watch him do it. *(Clarence Budington Kelland)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**"What do you call a man who doesn't believe in birth control?" "Daddy!" *(Indianapolis Star)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Do I want to be a hero to my son? No. I would like to be a very real human being. That's hard enough. (*Robert Downey, Jr., actor)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**You are in the far country, the Father is at home. *(Meister Eckhart)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**In the U.S., about 157,000 fathers -- less than 1 percent of all fathers -- have elected to stay home and take care of their kids full-time. *(The Seattle Times, as it appeared in The Week magazine, July 1, 2005)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**A father is a man who expects his son to be as good a man as he meant to be. *(Frank A. Clark, Register and Tribune Syndicate)*  
There are some extraordinary fathers, who seem, during the whole course of their lives, to be giving their children reasons for being consoled at their death. *(La Bruyere, in Characters)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Father's Day is important because, besides being the day on which we honor Dad, it's the same day of the year that Brookstone does any business. *(Jimmy Fallon)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Father’s Day is always held on the third Sunday in June. The first one was celebrated in 1910 in Spokane, Washington. It was started by Sonora Dodd. Her mother had died when Sonora was a child, and she was raised by her father. Mrs. Dodd thought there should be a special day to honor fathers. After all, there was already a special day to honor mothers. She wanted Father’s Day to be held on June 5, her father’s birthday. But the year of the first Father’s Day, the ministers in Spokane were not able to get their sermons written in time for that day. So the third Sunday in June was chosen instead. Mrs. Dodd died in 1978, but she lived to see Father’s Day become a special day across the country. *(Betty Debnam, in Rocky Mountain News)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Flamingo Fathers: Parent flamingos share all baby care. Dad even makes a milk-like fluid. Both build the nest, sit on the eggs, feed the chicks and protect the young. Flamingos live near tropical lakes. They get their bright pink color from the tiny plants and shellfish they eat. Flamingo parents, both mom and dad, feed their young a fluid they secrete from glands in their digestive system. *(Betty Debnam, in Rocky Mountain News)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**The official flower on Father's Day is the dandelion, because the more it is trampled upon, the better it grows. *(Paul Lee Tan, in Encyclopedia of 7700 Illustrations, p. 433)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**A father who encourages his boy to follow in his footsteps has probably forgotten a few. *(Quote Magazine)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**In his Autobiography, Ben Franklin wrote affectionately about his father: “He was ingenious, could draw pretty, was skilled a little in music, and had a clear, pleasing voice, so that when he played psalm-tunes on his violin and sung withal, as he sometimes did in an evening after the business of the day was over, it was extremely agreeable to hear.” *(Ben Franklin’s Almanac)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**I cannot think of any need in childhood as strong as the need for a father's protection. *(Sigmund Freud)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Americans are like a rich father who wishes he knew how to give his son the hardships that made him rich. *(Robert Frost)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**My father was a statesman. I’m a political woman. My father was a saint. I’m not. *(Indira Gandhi)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Siamang Gibbon Dads: Father Siamang gibbons help carry their babies, clean them, and watch over them with the mothers. This primate lives in the mountains of Southeast Asia. Gibbons swing from tree to tree through the forest. Families usually travel together. They don’t spend very much time on the ground. Gibbons eat mostly fruit and leaves, although sometimes they eat insects and birds’ eggs. *(Betty Debnam, in Rocky Mountain News)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**To you, O son of mine, I cannot give a vast estate of wide and fertile lands; but I can keep for you, the whilst I live, unstained hands. I have no blazoned scutcheon that insures your path to eminence and worldly fame; but longer than empty heraldry endures a blameless name. I have no treasure chest of gold refined, no hoarded wealth of clinking, glittering pelf. I give to you my hand, and heart, and mind. All of myself. I can exert no mighty influence to make a place for you in men's affairs; but lift to God in secret audience unceasing prayers. I cannot, though I would, be always near to guard your steps with the parental rod. I trust your soul to Him who holds you dear, Your father's God. *(Merrill C. Tenney)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**A young successful attorney said: “The greatest gift I ever received was a gift I got one Christmas when my dad gave me a small box. Inside was a note saying, ‘Son, this year I will give you 365 hours, an hour every day after dinner. It's yours. We’ll talk about what you want to talk about, we'll go where you want to go, play what you want to play. It will be your hour!’ My dad not only kept his promise, but every year he renewed it -- and it's the greatest gift I ever had in my life. I am the result of his time.” *(Moody Monthly)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**To watch her tumble into bed  
After she's had her story read;  
To have her climb onto my lap,  
And snuggle close to take her nap;  
To know that in her eyes I stand  
As tall and strong as any man;  
To teach her how to do what's right,  
To hear her ask how stars give light;  
To know she'll bring me all her fears,  
Because she knows I'll dry her tears;  
To watch her sleep with rumpled hair,  
To see her scold her Teddy Bear;  
To see her dressed in Mommy's clothes,  
To watch her smell her first spring rose;  
To feel her gentle, loving touch  
As she holds the hand she trusts so much;  
To share the things that make her sad,  
To hear her say, “I love you, Dad”;  
To scold and then to see her pout,  
To help her learn what's life's about;  
My lovely princess, as only she can,  
Makes me glad I'm a Father and a Man. *(J. Dennis Shields, in Sunshine magazine)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**What you have inherited from your father, you must earn over again for yourselves, or it will not be yours. *(Johann Wolfgang von Goethe)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**There’s something like a line of gold thread coming through a man’s words when he talks to his daughter, and gradually over the years it gets to be long enough for you to pick up in your hands and weave into a cloth that feels like love itself. *(John Gregory Brown)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Carrying a Father’s Day card into the dark room, Heart says: “Dad?” Janitor: “We’re closed. Who’re you looking for?” Heart: “My father, I mean, is Antonio Gallo here?” Janitor: “Sorry, kid. They shut down the show five days ago. He’s gone.” Heart: “Oh! Do you know where he went?” Janitor: “How should I know, kid. I sweep up. If I see him, I’ll say you stopped by. Who are you?” Heart: “Someone who cared.” *(Mark Tatulli, in Heart of the City comic strip)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Fatherhood is good for the heart: Becoming a dad might do far more than simply warm your heart – it might improve its condition. That’s because men with children are at a lower risk of death related to heart problems than men without kids. The study of 138,000 men was conducted by AARP, the U.S. government and several universities. The conclusion: Your children might take care of you or give you a reason to take better care of yourself. *(Margena A. Christian, in Ebony magazine)*Gorilla Dads: The gorilla dad helps clean and hold young gorillas. He breaks up fights among the young and protects them. Many primates make good fathers. Primates are mammals that usually have hands and feet they can use to grasp things. Gorillas, humans and monkeys are types of primates. Gorillas are the largest apes. A gorilla dad can be up to 6 feet tall and weigh 500 ponds. Although gorillas are strong and powerful, they are also shy and gentle. They don’t hunt other animals. Although they are mostly vegetarians, they do eat insects. Each night they build a new nest in tree branches or on the ground. Gorillas are endangered. Experts believe there might be as few as 60,000 of all kinds of gorillas living in the wild. Because they are endangered, zoos play an important part in the survival of this species. *(Betty Debnam, in Rocky Mountain News)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**My father gave me the greatest gift anyone could give another person. He believed in me. *(Jim Valvano)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**My mother died when I was eight years old. It was very sad for everyone. Six months later, my father met Cathy. She had two kids, Megan and Griffin. I loved them from the very first time I saw them. I didn’t realize how much though. A year and a half later, my father married Cathy. They were very much in love. At the wedding, I realized how much I loved Megan and Griffin. From then on, until we found a new house big enough for our new family, we kept switching back and forth between our house and Cathy’s house as we were merging our two families. One night we were at Cathy’s and we were lining up to give Cathy kisses. Griffin was last in line. After he kissed Cathy, she said, “Girl, give your step-father a kiss.” And Griffin, very angrily said, “He’s not my stepfather! He’s my dad!” *(Jane Kelley, A Cup of Chicken Soup for the Soul)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Jeni Stepien's father was murdered a decade ago, but his hear was with her when she got married last week. The Pennsylvania school teacher was walked down the aisle by Arthur Thomas, 72, who received her dad's donated heart in 2006. The two kept in touch over the years, and after Stepien got engaged last fall, she asked Thomas if he'd give her away. He accepted, and when they finally met in person, the day before the ceremony, Thomas suggested she grip his wrist and feel his pulse. "I thought that would be the best way for her to feel close to her dad," he said. "That's her father's heart beating." *(The Week magazine, August 19 / August 26, 2016)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**To be a successful father there’s one absolute rule: when you have a kid, don’t look at it for the first two years. *(Ernest Hemingway)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**One father is more than a hundred schoolmasters. *(George Herbert)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**My father was and is my hero. He never made excuses; he never looked to politicians to take care of his family. He trusted hard work. He understood the only helping hand is the one at the end of your sleeve. *(J. C. Watts, in Reader’s Digest)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**The most important thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother. *(Theodore Hesburgh)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**He was the son of a middle-class government worker. His father demanded absolute obedience from his children and was given to fits of rage with his family This boy, when he was three, witnessed his father brutally beating his mother for talking back to her husband. When the boy was four, his father physically beat him on a daily basis. At six he remembered getting thirty lashes on his back with a whip. When his father wanted him, he would whistle for him as one would call a dog. At age eleven he was almost beaten to death by his father when he attempted to run away. Before this boy was born, three of his siblings had died of diphtheria, all before they were three years old and all within one month of another. His mother, fearful of losing another child, kept her distance from this boy and never fully bonded with him. His father, often drunk, launched into long diatribes about how the Jews and other minorities were causing all the world's problems. The boy grew to hate his father, but he found no safe outlets for his feelings. He began to bully other boys, play violent war games and give speeches of hatred toward Jews and other minorities. This boy grew into a hateful man who never married or had a family of his own on whom he could act out his feelings, and instead he found a larger context for the expression of his hatred. He subjected a whole race to his hatred -- this boy grew up to be Adolph Hitler. *(Barry Weinhold)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**I got all my looks from my father. Mostly just the look of disappointment. *(@mrbigfists)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[***Santa*: “Well now, little lady, what can Santa bring you for Christmas?” Heart: “I want my Dad. Let me give ya the back story. See my Dad left me and my Mom when I was a baby. Heck, I never even saw him in real life. Just in videos and pictures, like a movie star or something. Anyway, I found this tree ornament he gave me before I was born. It says ‘Our First Christmas Together,’ and I figure it’s a sign! A sign that we’ll be together at last! And who best to make a Christmas sign come true but Santa Claus? So what do you think, big guy?” Santa: “I think I should’ve taken that job in men’s shoes.” Heart: “C’mon, Nick, you did it for Natalie Wood! She wanted a whole house! I just want a lousy Dad!” *(Mark Tatulli, in Heart Of The City comic strip)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

**Our children give us many things, but an increase in our average daily happiness is probably not among them. Rather than deny that fact, we should celebrate it. Our ability to love beyond all measure those who try our patience and weary our bones is at once our most noble and most human quality. The fact that children don’t always make us happy -- and that we’re happy to have themnonetheless -- is the fact for which Sonora Smart Dodd was so grateful. She thought we would all do well to remember it, every third Sunday in June. *(Daniel Gilbert, in Time magazine)***

[**My father used to play with my brother and me in the yard. Mother would come out and say, “You’re tearing up the grass.” “We’re not raising grass,” Dad would reply. “We’re raising boys.” *(Harmon Killebrew, hall-of-fame baseball player)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Today is Father’s Day, so everyone out there: Happy birthday! *(Ralph Kiner, baseball announcer for the New York Mets)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Police forced a pair of sisters in Texas to shut down their lemonade stand because they didn't have a permit. Andria Green, 8, and her sister Zoey, 7, were raising money to buy a Father's Day gift, but cops told them they needed to apply for a permit "because of the bacteria that can grow in the lemonade" if it is not temperature-controlled. *(The Week magazine, June 26, 2015)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**If you don't know, I'm going to be a father. The kid's first word will be Grandpa! There's one advantage to having a child at my age. When the kid turns 9, I can throw his birthday party with my first Social Security check. *(David Letterman)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Golden Lion Tamarin Dads: Father tamarins carry their babies all over the forest. Babies grab onto their dad’s fur and ride on his back as he jumps from branch to branch. A father takes his baby to the mother when it is time to eat. When the baby is older, he helps feed it by mashing and softening its food. The tamarin dad climbs with his babies. The golden lion tamarin is endangered. When the Brazilian forest it lives in is cut down, it loses its home. *(Betty Debnam, in Rocky Mountain News)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Dad, you’re someone to look up to no matter how tall I’ve grown. *(Anonymous)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Children learn from the words, attitudes, and deeds of their parents. Like tape recorders that never get turned off, their minds are constantly picking up impressions that are being dictated by our lives. And in the years to come, the playback will have a familiar sound, either for good or for evil. Among more than 3,000 Americans who have received the Congressional Medal of Honor, there is one father/son combination. The father won his medal for a single act of bravery in a crucial battle of the Civil War. By the time he retired in 1909, he was a high ranking officer in the United States Army and one of the most famous soldiers of his era. But his son rose to even greater fame. In 1941 he headed up the U.S. forces in the Philippines, and he led the gallant defense of the Bataan peninsula and the island of Corregidor. Although the battles fought there ended in defeat, the bravery displayed by the Americans and their leader provided inspiration to thousands of soldiers and sailors and to millions of workers on the homefront. This man’s name was General Douglas MacArthur, and his father was Arthur MacArthur, Jr. No doubt, the son’s greatness can be traced in part to the outstanding heritage left to him by his dad. Our children may not follow that closely in our footsteps. Yet the virtues of courage, honesty, and love for God can leave such a deep impression on their lives that whatever career they may choose, we will never forget the example set for them. “Like father, like son” is a compliment when both generations walk in the ways of the Lord. *(The Revival Evangelist)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Heart: "Sometimes I get really mad at my Dad because he left Mom and me. And I see how hard it is for her being single Mom all alone in the city. But, then I can't help it if I love my Dad because, after all, he's still my Dad and I can feel parts of him inside me! And then I feel guilty, like I'm a traitor to Mom! Isn't that crazy? Sheech! It's really weird having all these feelings over a man I never even saw!" Grandma: "Didn't your Mom ever show you any pictures?" Heart: "Only the ones she ripped him out of. For the longest time I thought Mom married a guy with half a head." *(Mark Tutilli, in Heart of the City comic strip)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Manual labor to my father was not only good and decent for its own sake, but as he was given to saying, it straightened out one’s thoughts. *(Mary Ellen Chase)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Pygmy Marmoset Dads: The mother marmoset doesn’t have to worry about day care because dad takes over. Baby pygmy marmosets spend most of the day with him. They grab onto his back as he moves from branch to branch. Her takes them back to mom at mealtime. After they’ve eaten, they go back to dad. Pygmy marmosets are the smallest true monkeys in the world. They weigh less than half a pound and are only about 6 inches to 8 inches long (15 inches with their tails). *(Betty Debnam, in Rocky Mountain News)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Every bowl of cereal I eat has an effect on the music. Everything that happens to us has an effect. And having a baby is the biggest thing you can do -- apart from a double album (Chris Martin, lead singer of Coldplay, when asked whether fatherhood has had an impact on his music. *(Rocky Mountain News, August 16, 2005)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Martin's most important audience: Steve Martin could never satisfy his dad, says Emma Brockes in the London Guardian. The comedian was a performer from an early age; as a teenager, he did magic tricks up to 12 hours a day at Disneyland, near his California home. But his father was unimpressed. In retrospect, Martin thinks he was driven to perform by a need to get his attention. "Bad psychoanalysis would say I enjoyed pleasing people, which is probably related to my father in some way," he says. Martin also thinks that his father, a frustrated actor who ended up in real estate, was secretly jealous. "I don't think I really blame him; I think he was under duress when I was an adolescent. I think he found himself in a place he didn't want to be." In the 1970s, Martin developed into the most successful stand-up comedian in the country. Still, he couldn't win the approval of his old man, who dismissed his work as silly. When one of his friends praised his performance in his first movie, The Jerk, the elder Martin replied, "Well, he's no Charlie Chaplin." On his deathbed, Martin's father finally told his son he loved and admired him. "You did everything I wanted to do," his father said. Martin replied, "I did it for you." He admits today his response was incomplete. "I didn't say the more complicated truth. I did it because of you." *(The Week magazine, December 7, 2007)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**A father carries pictures where his money used to be. *(Steve Martin)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**By the time a man realizes that maybe his father was right, he usually has a son who thinks he's wrong. *(Charles Wadsworth, pianist)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**McConaughey's family faith: Fatherhood has changed Matthew McConaughey, said Brett Martin in GQ. In his 30s, he was a bohemian playboy who spent much of his time tooling around in an RV and playing the hunky love interest in mindless romantic comedies. But after the birth of his first son, Levi, in 2008, he says, the actor changed both his life and his career, and started taking more challenging roles in critically acclaimed movies like Killer Joe and Dallas Buyers Club. "Never is a man more of a man than when he is the father of a newborn," says McConaughey, 45, who now has three children. "Whatever decisions you make in the first six months of becoming a father, double-down on them. You know what's important. Bam! And the clarity of that is like, 'Whew.' I definitely got more selfish. And at the same time, I got more compassionate." He also began going to church again. "As soon as we had children, I was like, 'You know what? That was important to my childhood.' I noticed how much I missed it and needed it." So he and the family attend a nondenominational Christian church every Sunday. "It's a time for me to take inventory, to look at what's in the future and say my thanks-yous and think about what I can work on to do better." *(The Week magazine, November 14, 2014)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**The worst misfortune that can happen to an ordinary man is to have an extraordinary father. *(Austin O’Malley)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**The modern boy would rather follow in his dad’s tire tracks than in his footprints. *(Quoted by Leo Aikman, in Atlanta Constitution)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**A father is very miserable who has no other hold on his children's affection than the need they have of his assistance, if that can be called affection. *(Montaigne, in Essays)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Who Needs Dads? Their Children Do!  
44% of mothers believe having one parent is sufficient; only 25 percent of fathers do. 20% of preschool children in two-parent families have their father as primary caregiver when the mother is at work or school or looking for work. 68% of fathers play sports or participate in outdoor activities with their children at least once a week. 61% of dads set limits on television-watching. *(Charting Parenthood, a poll conducted for Child Trends, a child-advocacy organization, as it appeared in the Rocky Mountain News, June 12, 2006)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**My 16-year-old brother, Ryan, was out late with friends one night. Suddenly he realized it was Father's Day and he had neglected to buy a card for our dad. After much searching, Ryan located an open store, but was disappointed to find only two cards left on a picked-over rack. Selecting one, he brought it home and, somewhat sheepishly, presented it to our father. Upon opening it, Dad read this message: "You've been like a father to me." He looked at Ryan, puzzled. "Well, Dad," Ryan tried to explain. "It was either that or the card that said, 'Now that I'm a father too . . .'" *(Anne Carlson, in Reader's Digest)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**When Mrs. John Bruce Dodd went to church on Mother's Day, she was not inspired. Though mothers were extolled, fathers were not even mentioned. For Mrs. Dodd, that just wouldn't do. She thought of her own father who sacrificed and worked to raise six children. Her dad, William Smart, was left with children aged three to 16 years when his wife died. Fathers deserved a special day too, she decided, and she was going to do something about it. In 1910 she spoke to the Spokane Ministerial Alliance to present her idea, and on June 19, the first Father's Day was celebrated. Local newspapers publicized the new holiday, and stores featured gifts appropriate for father. Young men wore roses to church that day, a red rose for a living father, or a white rose in memory of a deceased father. Mrs. Dodd spent the day in and out of her horse-drawn carriage as she distributed gifts to shut-in fathers. By the time Mrs. Dodd's father died in 1919, the day his daughter started in his honor was celebrated throughout the United States. By 1922, it was a nationwide observance in the U.S. and widely celebrated in Canada. *(Christian Clippings)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**If you do not have a good father, you should procure one. *(Friedrich Nietzsche)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**In Norway, all of November is Father’s Month. *(L. M. Boyd)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**When Mrs. John Bruce Dodd went to church on Mother's Day, she was not inspired. Though mothers were extolled, fathers were not even mentioned. For Mrs. Dodd, that just wouldn't do. She thought of her own father who sacrificed and worked to raise six children. Her dad, William Smart was left with children aged three to 16 years when his wife died. Father deserved a special day too, she decided, and she was going to do something about it. In 1910 she spoke to the Spokane Ministerial Alliance to present her idea, and on June 19, the first Father's Day was celebrated. Local newspapers publicized the new holiday, and stores featured gifts appropriate for father. Young men wore roses to church that day, a red rose for a living father, or a white rose in memory of a deceased father. Mrs. Dodd spent the day in and out of her horse-drawn carriage as she distributed gifts to shut-in fathers. By the time Mrs. Dodd's father died in 1919, the day his daughter started in his honor was celebrated throughout the United States. By 1922, it was a nationwide observance in the U.S. and widely celebrated in Canada. *(Christian Clippings)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Fathers now perform 4.6 more hours of child care and 4.4 more hours of housework each week than dads did in 1965, according to a new report from the White House Council of Economic Advisers. *(TheAtlantic.com, as it appeared in The Week magazine, December 12, 2014)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Ostrich Dads: Father ostrich is a real baby sitter. Mom sits on the eggs during the day, and dad has the night duty. When the chicks are in danger, the dad lets out a loud cry to scare away enemies. If this doesn’t work, both mom and dad might kick or chase away the enemies. The ostrich dad guards his nest of young hatchlings. In the wild, vultures, lions, jackals and humans are among the ostrich’s enemies. *(Betty Debnam, in Rocky Mountain News)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**There is a story that is told about a very wealthy man who had an elaborate collection of art, including original Van Gogh and Monet paintings. He had a son who shared his love for art and often while he was growing up they would attend auctions together. The son eventually left home and entered the Army, where in a heated battle, he lost his life. Upon hearing the news the father had become terribly depressed, until one day he received a package in the mail from some of the soldiers who had fought along side his son. The package had within it a description of his son’s heroics, along with a portrait of his son carrying a fellow soldier to safety at the cost of his own life. This so impacted and uplifted the father that he moved one of his most valuable paintings and put the portrait of his son in its place. He would spend hours at a time gazing at the portrait. The father eventually passed away, and an estate auction was held with buyers coming from all over. The first item up for bid was the father’s most precious portrait, which of course was of no value to the others. A kind, elderly gentleman finally bought the picture for $10. The impatient crowd was now ready to get started, when the auctioneer abruptly announced that the auction was over. The father’s will stated that everything would go to whoever takes the most precious possession he had, the portrait of his son. As we enter into this Lenten Season, I want to remind you that our Heavenly Father has done the same thing for us. First Peter 1:19 makes mention of the precious blood of Christ, and in fact, whoever takes the most precious possession that our Heavenly Father has, His Son, will also become an heir to everything God has to offer. *(Ron Lauber, in The North Platte Telegraph)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Despite the growing popularity of paternity leave policies, many American men are reluctant to take advantage. In a recent Deloitte survey, more than a third of respondents said taking time off after the birth of an infant would "jeopardize their position"; more than half said it would signal a lack of commitment at work. *(Bloomberg.com, as it appeared in The Week magazine, July 1 / July 8, 2016)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**If it wasn't for a crooked grocery man, J.C. Penney might have become the owner of a grocery store rather than the owner of a dry goods chain and the nation's leading merchandiser. When he was a teenager, Jim worked for a grocery man in Hamilton, Missouri. He liked the work and had plans to make a career of it. One night he came home and proudly told his family about his “foxy” employer. The grocer had a practice of mixing low quality coffee with the expensive brand and thus increasing his profit. Jim laughed as he told the story at the supper table. His father didn't see anything funny about the practice. “Tell me,” he said, “if the grocer found someone palming off an inferior article on him for the price of the best, do you think he would think they were just being foxy, and laugh about it?” Jim could see his father was disappointed in him. “I guess not,” he replied. “I guess that I just didn't think about it that way.” Jim's father instructed him to go to the grocer the next day and collect whatever money due him and tell the grocer he wouldn't be working for him any longer. Jobs were not plentiful in Hamilton, but Mr. Penney would rather his son be unemployed than be associated with a crooked businessman. J. C. Penney came that close to becoming a grocer. *(Paul Lee Tan, in Encyclopedia of 7700 Illustrations, p. 434)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Brad Pitt says being a father has changed his priorities. “Man I got kids now,” the 42-year-old actor said in an interview that aired Monday on NBC’s Today show. “It completely changes your perspective. And certainly takes the focus off yourself, which I’m really grateful for . . . I’m kinda sick of myself,” Pitt said. “And, man, if I can get a burp out of that (baby), that little thing,” said Pitt, referring to daughter Shiloh, “I’ll feel such a sense of accomplishment.” *(Rocky Mountain News, July 19, 2006)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**While working as a mall Santa, I had many children ask for electric trains. “If you get a train,” I would tell each one, “you know your dad is going to want to play with it too. Is that okay?” The usual answer was a quick yes. But after I asked one boy this question, he became very quiet. Trying to move the conversation along, I asked what else he would like Santa to bring him. He promptly replied, “Another train.” *(George T. Faure)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**It is impossible to please the entire world, and one’s father. *(Jean de la Fontaine)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**As I reviewed my son’s papers from school one night last week, I came across one paper with a failing grade. I almost came up out of my chair. I started to yell his name when I suddenly remembered he was in bed asleep. It didn’t matter that this was only his second year of school. At that moment I saw his academic career in ruins. I was angry. But I put the paper aside and turned to the next one. It had some pencil scribblings and at the top of the page was written, “My Dad.” It was a poem about me. His poem included the time I had to leave work to take him to the doctor because he had broken his finger. I had forgotten about that. He talked about how I wrestled with him in the evenings. And he talked about a few other things he likes that I do. That paper with the failing grade was suddenly not nearly as important as it had been just a few minutes earlier. I don’t know if he planted the poem next to the failing grade in order to soften the blow, but it worked. Instead of a severe lecture, I talked to him about the poem as well as the failed assignment. It began to make sense to me that I could include praise along with constructive criticism. I got the idea from a poem I read. *(Paul Budd, in God’s Vitamin “C”)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**It is easier for a father to have children than for children to have a real father. *(Pope John XXIII)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Comedienne Gilda Radner was very close to her father, a Detroit businessman who died when she was 14. With complimentary tickets given to him by road-company actors who stayed at a hotel he owned, father and daughter regularly attended touring-company productions of Broadway shows. “My dad was in real estate and investments,” Miss Radner recalls, “but he loved show biz. He loved to sing, and he couldn’t carry a tray of food to the table without tripping to make us kids laugh and make my mother nervous. As I perform now, I feel that some part of my father is alive in me, back doing what he always wanted to do.” *(Tracy Young, in New Times)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Why fatherhood reduces testosterone: When men become fathers, their testosterone levels plummet – and the more time they spend with their children, the lower those levels fall. That finding, from a new study of more than 600 Filipino men, suggests that “women aren’t the only ones biologically adapted to be parents,” Northwestern University anthropologist Lee Gettler tells The New York Times. The five-year study found that men with higher testosterone levels were more likely to become fathers in the first place, perhaps because they pursued potential mates more aggressively. But nurturing children – by feeding, diapering, or playing with them – reduced a father’s hormone levels, making him “a little bit more sensitive to cues from his child” and less likely to stray, says Peter Gray, an anthropologist at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. The link between fatherhood and lower testosterone likely evolved because early human families were more apt to survive when fathers took part in child-rearing. The study discredits “the idea that men were out clubbing large animals and women were staying behind with the babies,” says Gettler. “The only way mothers could have highly needy offspring every couple of years is if they were getting help.” *(The Week magazine, September 30, 2011)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Rob Reiner followed in his father’s footsteps when he went from acting to directing. From playing Archie Bunker’s son-in-law in TV’s “All in the Family,” Reiner went on to direct such films as When Harry Met Sally and Ghosts of Mississippi. Reiner says that as a boy, he admired his father so much that he wanted to have his name changed to Carl. During summer vacations the boy went every day to the set of “The Dick Van Dyke Show,” which Carl Reiner wrote and produced. “I wanted to be my father,” says the younger Reiner. “What my father taught me was that the best stories come out of your own experience and who you are.” *(Willie Morris, in The Ghosts of Medgar Evers)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Every generation revolts against its fathers and makes friends with its grandfathers. *(Lewis Mumford, historian)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**I gave my father $100 and said, "Buy yourself something that will make your life easier." So he went out and bought a present for my mother. *(Rita Rudner)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**The fundamental defect of fathers is that they want their children to be a credit to them. *(Bertrand Russell)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**New dads get sad, too: New mothers aren’t alone in their susceptibility to postpartum depression; fathers suffer from it, too, and at the same rate as women, scientists have found. Psychologists at the Eastern Virginia Medical School reviewed 43 studies, involving 28,000 dads in the U.S. and other developed countries that looked at depression during the first year of fatherhood. The rates were surprisingly high: Fourteen percent of American men exhibited signs of postpartum depression, and 25 percent did in the three to six months after childbirth. Sleep deprivation, a decline in sexual intimacy, and the stress of juggling work and new home responsibilities may combine to produce the baby blues, researchers tell the Los Angeles Times. “We are expecting dads to be more involved in parenting than we ever have before,” said university of California at Berkeley researcher Will Courtenay, a psychotherapist who studies paternal depression. “Most dads are welcoming of that, but they don’t have any models about what a dad is supposed to do. That creates uncertainty, and that uncertainty can lead to anxiety and depression.” *(The Week magazine, June 4, 2010)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**What a father says to his children is not heard by the world; but it will be heard by posterity. *(Jean Paul Richter)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**My father was a barber (like Charlie Brown’s father). Frequently in the evenings I went to the barbershop to wait for my father to finish work and then walk home with him. He loved to read the comic strips and we discussed them and worried about what was going to happen next to certain characters. On Saturday evening, I would run to the local drugstore at 9:00 when the Sunday pages were delivered and buy the two Minneapolis papers. The next morning, the two Saint Paul papers would be delivered, so we had four comic sections to read. *(Charles M. Schulz, in Peanuts: A Golden Celebration)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Sea Horse Dads: A sea horse is a most unusual dad. He’s the one who is pregnant! The male has a pouch in his lower belly, or abdomen. The female lays her eggs in his pouch. The male then carries as many as 2,000 eggs in his pouch until they are ready to be born. This may take two to seven weeks. *(Betty Debnam, in Rocky Mountain News)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**A steering wheel cover for dear old Dad? ‘Tis the season for Father’s Day shopping. But most dads can expect the same thing they get every year: second billing, says Jason Notte in TheStreet.com. Consumers will spend about $10.8 billion on the June 19 holiday, nearly $5 billion less than they spent on Mother’s Day. The gap isn’t new. “Kids of all ages have made an annual tradition of shortchanging Dad” by as much as $50, as compared with Mom. One problem: Gifts for dads are “about as exciting as watching oil drain or plaster dry.” This year gift givers will spend $470 million on automotive accessories and $1.3 million on tools and home-improvement products. *(The Week magazine, June 24, 2011)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Sonora Smart Dodd was listening to a sermon on self-sacrifice when she decided that her father, a widower who had raised six children, deserved his very own national holiday. Almost a century later, people all over the world spend the third Sunday in June honoring their fathers with ritual offerings of aftershaves and neckties. *(Daniel Gilbert, in Time)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**It doesn’t matter who my father was; it matters who I remember he was. *(Anne Sexton, in The Poet’s Story)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**It is a wise father that knows his own child. *(William Shakespeare, in The Merchant of Venice)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Father’s Day is a pleasant occasion, all right, but it’s not significant in human history. George Washington, the Father of His Country, and Alfred the Great, the Father of the English language, and Izaak Walton, the Father of Angling, not one of these got a call on Father’s Day. *(L. M. Boyd)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**A British bird expert has found evidence that male birds with the most complex and extravagant songs are more successful fathers than their less musically talented rivals. It's been known that female birds show a preference for males with the greatest song repertoires, but the new research may indicate why that talent is preferred. Ornithologist Jane M. Reid and fellow researchers studied a population of song sparrows on British Columbia's Mandarte Island. They found that male sparrows with the greatest singing ability contributed more offspring and grand-off-spring to the breeding population. This was due to those males living longer and rearing more hatched chicks to independence. *(Steve Newman, in Daily Camera)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Some 2.6 million U.S. households are run by single fathers, a ninefold increase from just 297,000 in 1960. Single father households earn a higher median income than single mother ones ($40,000, compared with $25,000), but far less than the average of $70,000 that married families collect. *(TheAtlantic.com, as it appeared in The Week magazine, July 19, 2013)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Americans, on average, spent about $88 on their dads this Father’s Day -- $40 less than what they spent on moms on Mothers Day, according to the National Retail Federation. *(CNNmoney.com, as it appeared in The Week magazine, June 30, 2006)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**There are three stages in a man's life: “My Daddy can whip your Daddy.” “Aw, Dad, you don't know anything.” “My father used to say....” *(Dwight McSmith)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**I am 17 years old. It is summer, and football practice is about to begin. I am supposed to be the starting quarterback in this, my senior year, having worked all winter and spring with the coach, reviewing films, reading defenses, diagramming formations and plays. Actually I have worked my entire life for this chance, throwing 150 passes a day through a tire my father rigged in the opening of our garage, lifting thousands of pounds of weights in our damp basement before two-a-day practices begin. I am in my room trying to figure out how to tell my father that I want to quit; that I’d rather not give up my after-school job to play yet another year of football. I know too well the old sports adage that adorns many locker-room walls: “A quitter never wins, and a winner never quits.” I know how fathers live through their sons’ accomplishments on the athletic field. And now he is in my room, and I tell him. He smiles and says, “I’m proud of you. You’ve figured out something it took me 40 years to realize – something most people never learn – to follow your heart, not other people’s expectations. Of course I’m not disappointed. I’m proud to have a son like you.” In that moment my father gave more to me than many fathers give their sons in a lifetime. *(Jim Sollisch, in Peoria, Illinois, Journal Star)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**The number of stay-at-home dads rose from 81,000 in 2001 to 176,000 in 2011. Among men aged 25 to 54, 83 percent were in the workforce last year; five years earlier, 88 percent were. *(Fortune.com, as it appeared in The Week magazine, February 15, 2013)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**98,000 fathers stayed home with their children last year compared with 76,000 a decade ago, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. But only 16 percent said they were home for child-care purposes. The rest cited illness or disability (45 percent), failure to find work, attending school or other reasons. *(Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, as it appeared in the Rocky Mountain News, December 3, 2004)  
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[**It is clear that most American children suffer too much mother and too little father. *(Gloria Steinem)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Fatherhood is great because you can ruin someone from scratch. *(Jon Stewart)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**In the 1970s, the average dad spent only about 33 percent as much time with his kids as the average mom did, the Census Bureau says. By 2000, dads’ kid time had climbed to 75 percent of moms. *(Time, as it appeared in The Week magazine, October 19, 2007)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

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[**At the White House, a writer once remarked to President Harry Truman that Truman's father was a failure. “How could he be called a failure,” Truman answered, “if his son became President of the United States?” *(David McCullough, in Truman)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**I have found the best way to give advice to your children is to find out what they want and then advise them to do it. *(Harry S Truman)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

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[**When I was a boy of 14, my father was ignorant, I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much he had learned in seven years. *(Mark Twain)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Dad taught me everything I know. Unfortunately, he didn’t teach me everything he knows. *(Al Unser, Jr.)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**If the father walks out on the family, the IQ test score of the child drops about seven points. So it was reported by Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan of New York. *(L. M. Boyd)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Denzel Washington’s message to dads: Denzel Washington wants African-American fathers to raise their game, said Michael Hainey in GQ. “One of the things that saddens me the most about my people is fathers that don’t take care of their sons and daughters,” the actor says. “And you can’t blame that on ‘the man’ or getting frisked. (Fathers need to) look in the mirror and say, ‘What can I do better?’” Washington’s relationship with his own dad, a Pentecostal preacher, deteriorated after his parents split when he was 14 years old. “I was away in private school. And my mother came and said, ‘Go get your keys, we don’t live in our house no more.’” He rarely saw his father after the separation. “I was in school. So 70 percent of the year, I was away. In the summer, I wasn’t looking to track him down. I was ready to hit the streets.” When he did visit his father, they had little in common. “The things I did, like sports, he wasn’t really (interested in). Not to say that I didn’t love him as a dad. But we didn’t play ball, those type of things.” His father died in 1991, while Washington was filming Malcolm X. “I never shed a tear for my father,” he says. “I never did all through the funeral and all that. There was no connection.” *(The Week magazine, October 12, 2012)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**George Washington, the “Father of Our Country,” had no children. *(Russ Edwards & Jack Kreismer, in The Bathroom Trivia Digest, p. 90)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Life was a lot simpler when what we honored was father and mother rather than all major credit cards. *(Robert Orben)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Three little boys were bragging about whose father made the most money. “My dad sits down, scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, and gets $100,” the first boy said. “That's nothing," said the second boy. “My dad sits down, scribbles a few words, calls it a song, and get $200!" “I got you both beat," said the third boy. “My dad sits down, scribbles a few words, calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all his money!" *(Vera Emmert Johansen)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Fathers should be neither seen nor heard. That is the only proper basis for family life. *(Oscar Wilde)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**It’s a wonderful feeling when your father becomes not a god but a man to you – when he comes down from the mountain and you see he’s this man with weaknesses. And you love him as this whole being, not as a figurehead. *(Robin Williams, in Rolling Stone)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Wolf Dads: Father wolves defend their cubs. They bring food to the cubs and even to their mom if she is unable to hunt. Adult wolves chew and swallow the meat. Then they throw up the partly digested food and feed this to their cubs. Wolves are the largest members of the dog family. They usually live in packs of about three to 20 members. Many wolves are threatened or endangered. *(Betty Debnam, in Rocky Mountain News)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**In the most poignant triumph of his storied career, Tiger Woods won the British Open this week, after registering a remarkable 5-under-par 67 in the final round. The victory, Woods’ 11th major championship, was his first since his father and mentor, Earl Woods, died on May 3. After sinking his last putt, Woods collapsed in tears in the arms of his caddie, Steve Williams. “After the last putt, I realized my dad’s never going to see this again, and I wish he could have seen this one last time,” Woods said. “He was out there today, keeping me calm.” *(The Week magazine, August 11, 2006)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**As Dad hits his finger with the hammer while hanging a Christmas decoration, Dennis says to him: “You did it wrong, Dad. It’s s’posed to be hung by the chimney with care.” *(Hank Ketcham, in Dennis The Menace comic strip)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**The teacher asks, "If you had one dollar and you asked your father for another, how many dollars would you have?" Vincent raised his hand and answered, "One dollar." The teacher shook her head. "You don't know your math." Vincent said, "You don't know my father." *(Reader's Digest)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

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[**"Dad?" - Zebra looking at a piano. *(Sam Grittner)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

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