

The Fathering Difference

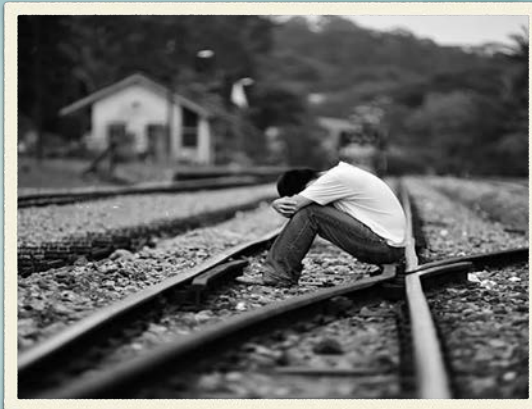
By Edwin Choy
Co-founder, Centre for Fathering
Solution Focused Therapist & Trainer
ICF Coach (PCC)



Malachi 4:5,6

5 “See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the Lord comes. 6 He will **turn the hearts of the fathers to their children,** and the hearts of the children to their parents; or else I will come and **strike the land with total destruction.**”

When I
was young..



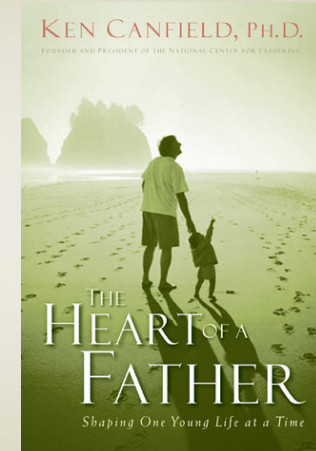
Then I became a father..



As a
graduate
student..



Dr Ken Canfield
Founder,
National Centre for Fathering



Don't let fatherlessness
affect your children.

Incarceration

70% in
Juvenile homes
& long term
prison

School Dropout

2x more likely
to be
secondary
school drop
outs

Emotional Issues

More emotional
and
behavioural
issues

Teen Pregnancy

Girls more
likely to be
unwed teenage
moms

Repeat Fatherlessness

Boys more
likely to be
unemployed,
incarcerated,
and uninvolved
with their own
children

IMPACT OF FATHERLESSNESS

Juvenile Delinquency

Troubled Teens

Authoritarian Fathers

Overly strict disciplinarian

Marriage Breakdown

Single parent or step parents

Neglectful Fathers

Abandonment, lack of involvement, absentee fathers

Ephesians 6:4

4 Fathers, do not **exasperate** your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

THE GOOD NEWS!

Journal of Marriage and Family

LESS SUSCEPTIBLE TO PEER PRESSURE

INCREASED EMPATHY

HIGHER SELF ESTEEM

INCREASED COGNITIVE COMPETENCE



INVOLVED FATHERS

Why Involve Fathers in Parenting?

Results in better outcomes for children

Mothers with kids are more stressed

Uniquely suited for play with children

Marriage under stressed when one party is.

Greater family cohesion



Founding of Centre for Fathering (2000)

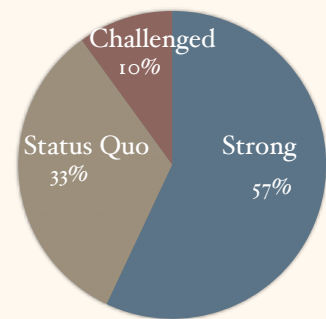


The Choy Family



Bruce Matthieu

Fathering in the Pandemic: What Does the Research Say? 611 fathers sampled



- Strong Fathers - those who adapted and adjusted to the crisis (57%)
- Status Quo Fathers - those who didn't change or adjust 33%
- Challenged Fathers - those who were overwhelmed and distressed (10%)

Fathering in the Pandemic: How does our fathering change and adapt during a crisis?

- Strong healthy fathering becomes Stronger and Creative
- Status Quo fathering remains Constant and Strained
- Challenged or Complex fathering often Deteriorates and Weakens

ICAN FATHERING

Strong Fathering for Strong Families

Involvement

Spending lots of Time

I

C

Consistency

Calm and predictable

Nurturance

Responding to emotional needs

N

A

Awareness

Knowing their world

