

Life, Love and Family Daily Fact Sheet
Dr. Tim Clinton

"The Dad Factor"

- **The ICAN Principles of Fathering:**
 - **Involvement**—kids spell love T-I-M-E. Spend as much time as your schedule will allow with your children.
 - **Consistency**—your predictability, steadiness, and commitment as a dad builds a reference point for growth in your children.
 - **Awareness**—you must tune in to the lives of your children. What is going on in your child's life? What does he/she need most in the next year to develop healthily?
 - **Nurturance**—affirm your children. Give words of encouragement. Communicate how proud you are of them. Tell them you love them as much as possible.
- **Statistics** (National Center for Fathering, 2009):
 - An overwhelming majority of Americans agree that fathers play an important and irreplaceable role in the lives of children.
 - 89% of Americans agree that it is important for children to live in a home with both their mother and father.
 - 92% agree that fathers make a unique contribution to their children's lives.
 - 89% of fathers are satisfied with themselves as fathers.
 - 7 out of 10 people surveyed agree that the physical absence of fathers from the home is the most significant family or social problem facing America.
- **Quotes:**
 - *"It is never too late to become a great father."*—Tim Clinton
 - *"It is much easier to become a father than to be one."*—Kent Nerburn
 - *"It is a wise father that knows his own child."*—William Shakespeare
 - *"Having kids doesn't make you a father. Raising them does."*—Unknown
 - *"If you are not paying attention to your children, the culture will take them to hell."*—Dr. James Dobson
 - *"Every child needs at least one person who is crazy about him."*—Tim Clinton
 - *"Being a godly father requires much perseverance and prayer as we seek God's guidance in being the types of father He wants us to be."*—Jonathan Falwell
 - *"Nothing I've ever done has given me more joys and rewards than being a father to my children."*—Bill Cosby
- **Key Thoughts** (Clinton & Trent, 2009):
 - Raising children is a high calling that God has given to fathers. You cannot take this responsibility lightly.

- There is no substitute for every hour, minute, and second of quality time fathers spend with their children. Kids need heavy doses of you every day if possible.
 - Most child experts agree that kids need at least 11 touches a day—hold your child’s hand, wrestle with him/her, give high fives and hugs.
 - Whether present or absent, a father is always teaching something to his child. Your child learned something from you today, guaranteed. Don’t miss a moment to teach your child important life lessons.
 - Today kids need structure and stability more than ever, for their lives are more erratic, confusing, and rapidly changing than for any generation in history! Fathers, be a reference point, an anchor that holds firmly against powerful countercurrents.
- **Verses:**
 - *“A father of the fatherless and a judge for the widows, is God in His holy habitation.”—Psalm 68:5*
 - *“A righteous man who walks in his integrity—How blessed are his sons after him.”—Proverbs 20:7*
 - *“Honor your father and mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the Lord your God gives you.”—Exodus 20:12*
 - *“Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”—Philippians 3:13-14*
 - *“Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”—Ephesians 6:4*
 - *“When I saw their fear, I rose and spoke to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people: ‘Do not be afraid of them; remember the Lord who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives and your houses.’—Nehemiah 4:14*
 - *“Just as a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him.”—Psalm 103:13*
 - *“Train up a child in the way, even when he is old he will not depart from it.”—Proverbs 22:6*

Endnotes

Clinton, T. & Trent, J. (2009). The quick-reference guide to marriage & family counseling. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books.

National Center for Fathering (2009). Accessed June 10, 2013 at www.fathers.com.