

Out of the Picture: paternal abandonment: a personal search for understanding.

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Abstract

The purpose of this research is to help understand paternal abandonment and it's meaning for different people. After my parents separated, I began to hear feedback from friends and family about what happens to children who grow up without the father in the home.

"A boy needs his father. He has to have a male role model. The girls are going to grow up and marry a man just like him. Those children are never going to have healthy relationships." These messages can be very damaging. However, is there some truth to these myths? This compilation will include research around the subject of paternal abandonment, case studies from my second-year internship using art therapy and interviews with family members who have personal experience around this topic.