

# WHAT IS DAVID BLANKENHORN FATHERLESS AMERICA THESIS

*Thanks to activists, scholars and writers such as David Blankenhorn, the central The following oral essay, "Fatherless America," is based on his remarks to an.*

Today our idea of the principal male character is one I would call the superfluous father "the notion that fatherhood as a social role is either unnecessary or actually part of the problem. This is a tremendous hardship and causes great stress and anxiety and it leads, among men, to things like increased use of alcohol and violent behavior. But if we transfer these founding principles of the American experiment into the area of sexuality and procreation, we have a disaster. So they miss the sense of having been loved, taken care of and esteemed. Births to unwed mothers are skyrocketing. Just in the last few weeks, the Atlantic Monthly, published a watershed essay by Mr. Substance abuse. How does a faith understanding of God as Father impact your view of earthly fathers? Please note our phone and address on the previous page for membership and other information, including a listing of other Center publications on this and related issues. Pat Pariseau: Have you and your colleagues found that the effects of growing up without a father cannot be reversed after a certain age? Let me give you an example of a confirmed empirical generalization. His parents are still married, to each other, and reside in his hometown of Jackson, Miss. We are living in an increasingly fatherless society. We have irresponsible fatherhood. In no small way, Mr. Re-consideration of fatherhood and fatherless should in no way diminish the importance of women and mothers. I think that that does explain some depression of the marriage rates in urban communities. I am looking for more ideas on how to change all this. We love them. Unfortunately, American culture has lost this sense of good fatherhood and now acts as if fathers are unnecessary. Here are examples of mainstream, professional organizations and commissions changing their minds. The Progressive Policy Institute, which is affiliated with the Democratic Leadership Council, confirms this strong relationship between crime and one-parent families. One story traveling in some social-science circles, for example, is that Blankenhorn took on fatherhood as a way to settle old family scores. Blankenhorn cites a number of interviews he conducted throughout the country with fathers who still believed in the importance of fatherhood. But in the area of sexuality and procreation, we are not permitted to say anything that reflects judgment of others. Or, they are fathers in a very weakened way. There are many examples of people who grew up without fathers and still lead productive, meaningful lives in the world. But does every woman deserve a baby? The only credible strategy for reversing that current trend is to increase the number of children in America who grow up with their two married parents. Quite honestly, it seems to me that what I have just told you for the previous 25 minutes is the social science equivalent of declaring that the Earth is round. The bad thing that men can do is become violent, isolated and sexually irresponsible. What can we do as individuals? Which do you see as having more negative long-lasting effects? At the same time, I believe this book represents a prophetic voice needing to be heard in our time.