



The Dynamics of Atlanta Black Dads

Unpacking the myths and realities of nonresident fatherhood in Fulton County

The Moynihan Institute participating fellows:

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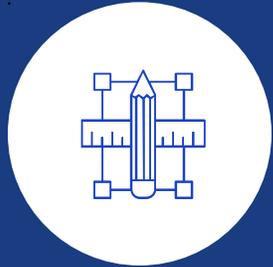


Moynihan Institute

FOR FATHERHOOD RESEARCH AND POLICY

Why is this study important?

Literature Review



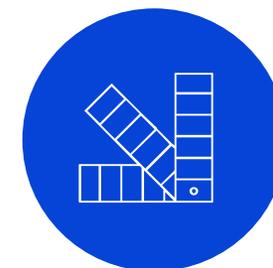
Fatherhood



**Community
Supports**



Co-parenting



**Intergenerational
Fathering**





Research Questions & Methods



Impact

How does a healthy co-parenting relationship form and impact fatherhood?



Support

What are the supports that fathers receive to be the type of fathers they desire to be?



Phenomenological approach

- Semi-structured interviews
- Focus groups

Sample – criteria

- N=12
- Age – 27-41 mean of 33.5 years (sd 4.56 years)
- 1 to 7 children mean of 2.33 children

Recruitment Protocol

Design & Sample

Findings and Conclusions

Father Identity & Father Efficacy



**Intergenerational
Fathering**



**The joy of
fatherhood**



**Their relationships
with their children**

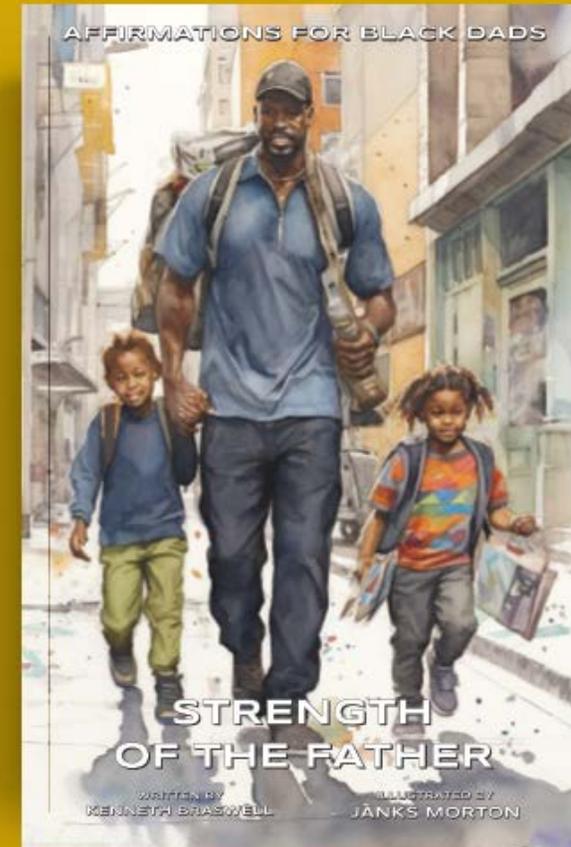
Barriers to Paternal Involvement



Co-Parenting Dynamics



Legitimation



Factors Promoting Paternal Engagement & Accessibility



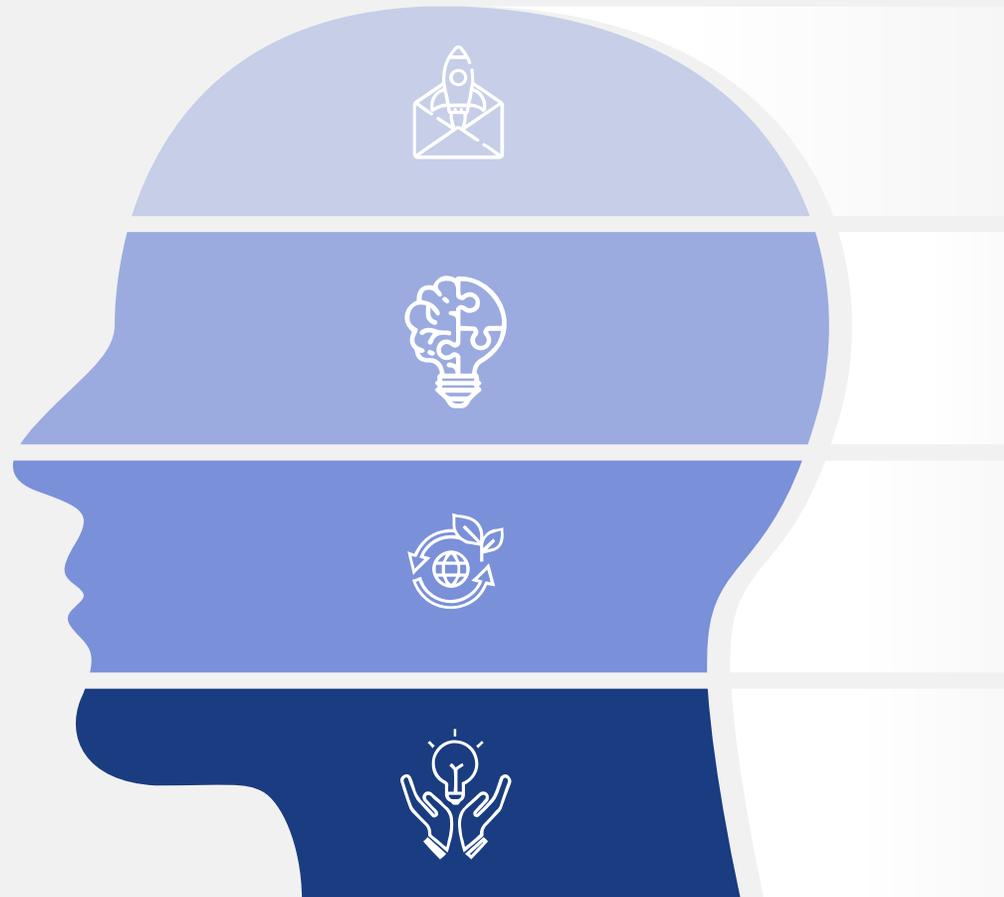
Available Community supports



What community supports do you need



Implications & Discussion



A

Co-parenting

Fathers in this study emphasized that the dynamics of the co-parenting relationship with their children's mothers greatly influenced access to their children, as well as the fathers' own mental health.

B

Legal Issues

Difficulty navigating legal issues related to child support and legitimation were also cited as important contextual factors that served as barriers to paternal engagement.

C

Deeper Meaning

Dads viewed fatherhood as an opportunity to be the father they never had, which would provide something deep and important to the fathers themselves, as well as to their children.

D

Fewer Programs

They highlighted that other fatherhood programs were narrowly focused on child support, and outside of Fathers Incorporated, there were few or perhaps no broader fatherhood resources in their communities.