Paternal Engrossment: An Eternal love for children

Author Information

Mr. Rajesh P Joseph, Associate professor, Department of Child Health Nursing, Sumandeep Nursing College, Sumandeep Vidyapeeth deemed to be University, Piparia, Waghodia, Vadodara – 391760, Gujarat

Introduction

Attachment, or the emotional bond that establishes between an infant and its caregivers, is formed by interactions from an early age on. If attachment is not satisfactorily established, children show a variety of problems. A paternal bond refers to the connection between a father and his child. The father of a child can grown-up the bond during the pregnancy of his partner, feeling attachment to the growing child.

Father's find many ways to strengthen the father-child bond with their children such as soothing, reassuring, feeding, changing diapers, bathing, dressing, playing and hugging. Carrying the infant in a sling or backpack or pushing him or her in a baby transport can build the bond as can participating in the baby's bedtime routine. We are sadly weakening the importance of the father's role in the family and in the raising of children. There is an old proverb that "One Father is more than a hundred school Masters"

What makes the paternal bonding unique?

A father's love is as significant to a child's emotional development as mothers and that father are there as hold up the family monetarily but are not required for the healthy development of the children. But that principle is fundamentally wrong. We have to start getting out from that idea and understand the father influence is a great and sometimes greater than the mothers.

UGC Care Group I Journal Vol-10 Issue-01 No. 1 January 2020

Erik Erikson a pioneer in the world of child psychology stresses that the love expressed by father and a mother are qualitatively different. Fathers love more seriously because their love is more expectant, more instrumental than a mother's love. A father brings unique contributions to the job of parenting a child that no one else can replicate.

Many Psychologists have analyzed babies' premature social relations and shown that babies form influential and personal ties, called "attachment," to caretakers. Children begin to generate these attachments by about two months, responding to their mothers' presence with crying, whimpering, smiling and cooing. Mothers become more than a cause of physical satisfaction; they become a place of security. These sentimental ties are necessary to the physical, intellectual and social development of the infant. In a standard series of experiments, psychologists brought mothers and babies into a room, had the babies connect in play, and then asked the mothers to leave. In most cases the children exhibited "separation anxiety;" they cried, whimpered, searched for her, and were unhappy without her.

Paternal actions seem to be more sensitive to ecological conditions than maternal behavior, and evidence suggests that child development and other characteristics might be particularly relevant to fathers. Many systematic researches concerning this assumption is limited. Fathers seem to exhibit lower interaction quality with children born preterm than with children born at term and lower quality than mothers

Building confidence in children

Playground is the wonderful place for father and children. A father is encouraging kids to swing or climb just a little higher, ride their cycles just a little faster, throw them just a little harder, in other words mothers protect the children and father encourage kids to go beyond the limits.

Communication between Fathers and children

Mothers and fathers are diverse when speaking to children. Mothers will make things easier in their words and speak on the child's level. Men are not as tending to modify their language for the child. The mother's way facilitates instant communication; the father's way challenges the child to develop her vocabulary and linguistic skills-an important building block of academic success.

Play and parents

Fathers amuse more, they fight and they throw their children in the air. They learn how to control self by being told when enough is enough and when to clear up down. Girls and boys both learn a healthy balance between apprehension and aggressions.

Relationship between father and his Daughter

- A girl who has a secure, supportive, communicative relationship with her father is less likely to get pregnant as a teenager and less likely to become sexually active in her early teens.
- This in turn leads to waiting longer to get married and to have children-largely because she is focused on achieving her educational goals first.
- The well fathered daughter is also the most likely to have relationships with men that are emotionally intimate & fulfilling.

Relationship between father and his Son

- It's been revealed that father love their children more harmfully because they play rougher, foster competition, risk independence and are more likely to encourage risk taking.
- Fathers also provide kids with a broader variety of social experiences and introduce them to a wider diversity of methods of dealing with life.
- By emphasizing rules, justice, fairness and duty in discipline, they teach their sons the impartiality and costs of right and wrong.
- They given them insight into the world of men, prepare them for the challenges of life and demonstrate by example the meaning of respect between sexes.

Researchers found that over all, the love or rejection of mothers and fathers uniformly affects kid's behavior, self esteem, emotional stability and mental health. But in some cases

the removal of a fathers love seems to play a bigger role in kid's problems with personality and psychological adjustment, delinquency and substance abuse.

Role of Father during birth process

If fathers' engrossment lays the basis for the future relationship between the father and child, it would seem men who didn't attend birth would be deprived. The research does not advocate that they are. The study conducted by Greenberg and Morris compared men who had attended birth with those who had not. Fifteen fathers of each group were given structured questionnaires to fill out on the third day of baby birth. Men were asked to express their feelings about fatherhood and their babies. Both groups of men expressed the strong paternal feelings of bonding, and fathers who attended the birth had no stronger response than those who did not.

Conclusion

Finally, it is the fact that the father who join the birthing process and attend the labor and share the experience will have gain later in life. Both partners have to join together and pledge for the welfare of their children.

References

- 1. Cassidy J, Shaver PR. Handbook of attachment: Theory, research, and clinical applications 3rd ed. New York, NY: The Guilford Press; 2016
- Greenberg, M., and Morris, N. 1974. Engrossment: the newborn's impact upon the father. American Journal of Orthopsychiatry 44(4): 527–33.
- Lundy BL. Paternal socio-psychological factors and infant attachment: The mediating role of synchrony in father–infant interactions. Infant Behavior and Development. 2002;25(2):221–36
- McBride BA, Schoppe SJ, Rane TR. Child characteristics, parenting stress, and parental involvement: Fathers versus mothers. Journal of Marriage and Family. 2002;64(4):998–1011.

Dogo Rangsang Research Journal ISSN : 2347-7180

- Lamb, Michael. 1997. The development of father-infant relationships. in Michael Lamb, ed. The Role of the Father in Child Development. New York: John Wiley and Sons.
- 6. Kaitz, M., Shiri, S., Danzinger, S. et al. 1984. Fathers can also recognize their children by touch. Infant Behaviour and Development 17: 205–07.