Fathers and Fathering: 
Next Steps and Future Research

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What’s “New”

• A lot can happen in 14 years…
  – New Data: FFCWS, ECLS-B, EHS
  – New Constructs
  – Diverse contexts
    • Family relationships
    • Cultural contexts
    • Socioeconomic contexts
    • Institutional constraints
    • Life course
Cross-Cutting Themes

• Heterogeneity
  – Of individuals
  – Of effects

• Implications
  – Policy
  – Clinical
  – Practice
The Example of Incarceration

• Destabilizing, Protective, or Irrelevant?
  – Average effects destabilizing
  – Subgroup effects less clear
  – Other subgroups still to define

• So, what to do?
Implications for Policy and Practice

• Who needs services?
  – Who wants them?
  – How to identify, engage, and retain families?

• Who can/should be providing them
  – Family services community
  – Related policy communities (Criminal Justice, etc.)
  – Healthcare

• Who gets what?
Future Research

• Additional Data Collection
  – Record Matching
  – Process vs. Outcome
  – Incidents vs. Survey Waves

• Translation to Practical Settings
Acknowledgments

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