

# 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



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