

Shared Parenting and the Benefits of Fathers: The Resource Arsenal

Every resource located for the case, with what each one proves, its status against the library standard, and a working link. Companion to Brief 001; the database at [ElevateAuto/evidence-forge](https://elevateauto.com/evidence-forge) is the canonical record.

33

CLAIMS IN LIBRARY

13

VERIFIED T1/T2

15

ADDED THIS SWEEP

150+

UNDERLYING STUDIES

Internal working document | August 7, 2026 | Research and education within KDD's 501(c)(3) mission

HOW THE CASE STACKS: THE EVIDENCE LADDER

These resources are not a pile; they are a ladder. Each rung answers the objection the previous rung invites.

1. **Fathers matter (causal designs).** McLanahan, Tach and Schneider 2013: strip away weak designs and father absence still harms high school graduation, social-emotional adjustment, and adult mental health. Verified verbatim. Written by mainstream demographers with no stake in our side.
2. **What kind of fathering matters (meta-analyses).** Sarkadi 2008 (verified), Amato and Gilbreth 1999, Adamsons and Johnson 2013, Jeynes 2015, Flouri and Buchanan: engaged, authoritative fathering predicts behavior, mental health, and academics. Not visit-counting: parenting.
3. **Structure enables fathering (government data).** CDC NHSR 71: involvement collapses when fathers live apart from children. Census P60-285 (verified): custodial-father families face 12.6 percent poverty versus 22.6 percent. Pew 2013 (verified): single-father homes grew ninefold since 1960.
4. **Shared parenting is where the outcomes are (reviews and meta-analyses).** Nielsen 2018 (verified verbatim: equal-or-better in 54 of 60 studies, better in 34, holding under income and conflict controls), Bauserman 2002 (verified verbatim: better adjusted, no different from intact families), Baude 2016 ($d = .109$, dose-responsive).

5. **It replicates at population scale and across borders.** Bergstrom 2015 Sweden (verified verbatim), Bergstrom 2018 preschoolers, Bjarnason's 36-country HBSC studies.
6. **The experts already agree.** Warshak 2014 consensus, 110 named endorsers, overnights included, under-4s included (verified verbatim). Braver and Lamb 2018: 12-expert panel, roughly 35 percent time floor for a high-quality relationship. Braver and Votruba 2018: the causal reading is probably correct; a rebuttable presumption is provisionally recommendable.
7. **The policy survives contact with reality (natural experiments).** Arizona 2013 (Fabricius 2018: the state's own family-law professionals rate it positively). Kentucky HB 528 (2018): the nation's first equal-time presumption, still standing.

VERIFIED ANCHORS (LINK + VERBATIM QUOTE CONFIRMED)

Resource	What it proves	Link	Status
Nielsen 2018, J Divorce & Remarriage 59(4)	60 studies: JPC equal-or-better in 54, better in 34; holds under income/conflict controls	DOI	VERIFIED
Warshak 2014, Psych. Public Policy & Law 20(1)	110-endorser consensus: shared care incl. overnights for under-4s	DOI	VERIFIED
Bauserman 2002, J Family Psychology 16(1)	33-study meta: joint-custody children better adjusted, no different from intact families	PubMed	VERIFIED
Bergstrom 2015, J Epidemiology & Community Health 69(8)	Swedish population data: JPC children healthier than one-home peers	DOI	VERIFIED
McLanahan, Tach & Schneider 2013, Annual Review of Sociology 39	Causal designs: father absence harms graduation, adjustment, adult mental health	PubMed	VERIFIED
Sarkadi 2008, Acta Paediatrica 97(2)	Longitudinal review: father engagement predicts behavior, cognition, lower delinquency	PubMed	VERIFIED
Biblarz & Stacey 2010, J Marriage & Family 72(1)	"No research supports... that the gender of parents matters for child well-being"	DOI	VERIFIED
Downey et al. 1998, J Marriage & the Family 60(4)	National parity: single-father vs single-mother households	ERIC	VERIFIED
Clarke-Stewart & Hayward 1996, J Applied Dev. Psychology 17(2)	Father-custody children better on well-being measures, especially boys (n=187)	ScienceDirect	VERIFIED
Census P60-285 (Valle, 2025)	2022 data: custodial-father family poverty 12.6% vs 22.6% custodial-mother	PDF	VERIFIED

Pew Research 2013 (Livingston)	Single-father households up ninefold since 1960; 8% of households with minor children	Pew	VERIFIED
Carone et al. 2020, Sexuality Research & Social Policy	Planned single-father families: children well-adjusted across family types	DOI	VERIFIED
Tornello et al. 2013, J Marriage & Family 75(4) (opposition, recorded fairly)	The infant-overnight caution study, with its own printed caveat and disputed measure	DOI	VERIFIED

NEW ACQUISITIONS (LINK LOCATED, VERBATIM QUOTE QUEUED)

Resource	What it adds	Link	Status
Braver & Votruba 2018, JDR 59(5)	The causation answer: JPC "probably" causes better outcomes; rebuttable presumption provisionally recommendable	Public PDF	QUEUED
Braver & Lamb 2018, JDR 59(5)	12-expert consensus; ~35% time floor for high-quality relationships	DOI	QUEUED
Fabricius et al. 2018, JDR 59(5)	Arizona's maximize-time law rated positively by the state's own family-law professionals	Public PDF	QUEUED
Kentucky HB 528 (2018), KRS 403.270	The nation's first rebuttable equal-time presumption; primary statute text	Statute	QUEUED
Jeynes 2015, Urban Education 50(4)	66-study meta: father involvement lifts academics ~0.2 SD, across race	DOI	QUEUED
Amato & Gilbreth 1999, JMF 61(3)	63-study meta: authoritative fathering and closeness, not visit counts, predict well-being	ERIC	QUEUED
Adamsons & Johnson 2013, J Family Psychology 27(4)	52-study update: engaged nonresident fathering benefits children	PubMed	QUEUED
Bjarnason & Arnarsson 2011 + Bjarnason et al. 2012 (HBSC)	36 Western countries: JPC children communicate better with parents, report higher life satisfaction than other separated-family structures	JSTOR	QUEUED
Flouri & Buchanan 2003 + 2004 (British cohort)	Father involvement at 7 protects adult mental health; predicts educational attainment	PubMed	QUEUED
CDC NHR No. 71 (Jones & Mosher 2013)	Federal data: living arrangements drive father involvement	Public PDF	QUEUED
Warshak 2017, J Am Acad Matrimonial Lawyers 30(1)	Documents the misreporting of the overnight-caution studies	Public PDF	QUEUED

Nielsen 2014 (Woozles), PPPL 20(2)	How miscited research shaped custody policy; our methodological mirror	DOI	QUEUED
Bergstrom 2018, Acta Paediatrica 107(2) + Baude 2016, JDR 57(5)	Preschool JPC extension; the honest d = .109 meta-analytic effect	DOI	QUEUED

COURT-USABLE PUBLIC COPIES (NO PAYWALL)

Full texts hosted by institutions, agencies, or authors; useful for exhibits, legislator packets, and citations anyone can check.

- Bauserman 2002: [APA-hosted PDF](#) (plus the [APA press release](#))
- Biblarz & Stacey 2010: [APA-hosted PDF](#)
- Nielsen 2018: [author-posted PDF](#)
- Warshak 2014 consensus: [court-posted PDF](#)
- Warshak 2017 follow-up: [author-hosted PDF](#)
- Braver & Votruba 2018: [university-hosted PDF](#)
- Fabricius et al. 2018 (Arizona): [mirrored PDF](#)
- McLanahan et al. 2013: [free PMC full text](#)
- Sarkadi 2008: [fatherhood.gov copy](#)
- CDC NHSR 71: [cdc.gov PDF](#) | Census P60-285: [census.gov PDF](#)

THE OPPOSITION SHELF (ALREADY IN THE LIBRARY, RECORDED FAIRLY)

Tornello 2013 (infant overnights, with the authors' own caution verbatim), Emery et al. 2016 (scholar-advocacy critique), Steinbach 2019/2021 (self-selection). Each carries its calibrated answer in the database and in Brief 001. We cite them before opponents do; that is the credibility play.

WHAT WAS FOUND BUT NOT ADMITTED

- **Kentucky divorce-decline statistic** (25 percent drop 2016-2023 versus 18 percent nationally): circulating in advocacy blogs and op-eds only. It does not enter the library until

verified against Kentucky Court of Justice or CDC vital statistics. If it verifies, it becomes a headline claim; if not, we never touched it.

- **Warshak's 2026 "Affirming the Consensus Report"**: located on warshak.com, not yet vetted.
- **Advocacy-org summaries** (NPO articles, childandfamilyblog): recorded as discovery hubs (T3 lead map), never as citations.

NEXT MOVES

- Verification pass on the 13 queued entries (quote pulls; most have public PDFs, so this is fast work for a monthly scan).
- Chase the Kentucky primary data (Court of Justice annual filings; CDC state divorce rates).
- Queued deep dives, in your priority order: Title IV-D incentives, parental alienation, false allegations, VAWA. The contested ones get the record-the-contest treatment; type /deep-research in a session to launch each at full depth.

Kids Deserve Dads | 501(c)(3), EIN 82-3510748 | Research and education within exempt purpose; not campaign material.

Generated from Evidence Forge (github.com/ElevateAuto/evidence-forge, private) | Resource sweep of 2026-08-07 | Standard: exact citation, working link, direct quote, method note, tier, prebuttal, answer, for every claim.