

Child Gender and Father Involvement in Fragile Families*

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Abstract: In this paper we use data from the Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study to examine the involvement of both married and unmarried fathers with their children at birth and one year later, and find substantial differences in some measures of father's attachment to sons and daughters. In general, sons are more likely to receive the father's name at birth and receive substantially more caretaking from both married and unmarried fathers. Fathers are more likely to play with, diaper, and feed sons than daughters. Mothers' interactions with one-year-old sons and daughters, on the other hand, are essentially identical. Levels of contact, such as whether the child lives with or sees the father at twelve months, are higher for sons in the marital birth sample but are independent of child gender in the nonmarital birth sample. Though child gender has no impact on the likelihood that a mother has a new partner one year after the child's birth, sons of mothers who do have new partners receive substantially more attention from their potential step-father than do daughters.

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I. Introduction

As rates of nonmarital childbearing have risen in the United States, one source of concern has been that children born to unmarried parents will suffer from reduced contact with their fathers. Researchers have focused attention on the benefits to children from father involvement, and on the factors that promote father-child connections, but little is known about the behavior of fathers of the one-third of children who are now born outside of marriage. Recent studies have shown that four-fifths of unmarried couples are in a romantic relationship at the time of the child's birth and that nearly half are cohabiting (McLanahan, Garfinkel, Reichman and Teitler, 2000), and that the father's relationship with the mother is an important determinant of father involvement with the child (Carlson and McLanahan, 2002; Carlson, 2004). Other recent research has found that the stability of nonmarital relationships depend upon the sex of the child, with subsequent marriage being more likely if the child is a boy (Lundberg and Rose, 2003).

Understanding the factors that promote or inhibit the development of “fragile families”—unmarried couples and their children—has become an important component of understanding the determinants of child wellbeing. In this paper, we examine father contact with sons and daughters during the first year of the child's life. If child gender affects a father's engagement with his child at such an early age, or his relationship with the child's mother, this is likely to reflect the parents' beliefs (and societal norms) about the value of paternal influence on sons and daughters, rather than actual differences in the needs or responses of the children themselves. More intense early interactions between fathers and sons may lead to longer-run differences in the family situations of boys and girls.

We use data from the Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study to examine the involvement of both married and unmarried fathers with their sons and daughters, both at the time of the child's birth and one year later. This nationwide study has been designed to provide new information on the capabilities and relationships of unmarried parents, and will follow a cohort of parents and their children for five years. Indicators of involvement include paternal identification (the child is given the father's last name, the father's name is on the

birth certificate), measures of the father's contact with and financial support of the child, and mother's reports of the frequency with which the father engages in specific caretaking and play activities with the child.

We find substantial differences in some measures of father's attachment to sons and daughters. In general, sons are more likely to receive the father's name at birth and receive substantially more caretaking from both married and unmarried fathers. Mothers' interactions with one-year-old sons and daughters, on the other hand, are essentially identical. Levels of contact, such as whether the child lives with or sees the father at twelve months, are higher for sons in the marital birth sample but are independent of child gender in the nonmarital birth sample. Though child gender has no impact on the likelihood that a mother has a new partner one year after the child's birth, sons of mothers who do have new partners receive substantially more attention from their potential step-father than do daughters.

II. Previous Research

Recent research suggests that child gender has important and wide-ranging effects on parental behavior and family outcomes. Most (though not all) studies find that both marital and nonmarital relationships with sons are more stable than those with daughters, and that fathers are more involved with their families if they have sons than if they have daughters. There is also evidence that married couples with sons spend more on housing (Lundberg and Rose, 2004). These empirical patterns are consistent with differential effects of sons and daughters on the 'surplus' that parents receive from their marriage or relationship, relative to being single. If a son increases marital surplus more than a daughter, then the birth of a son reduces the probability of divorce, and also increases the incentive of partners to invest further in the marriage, or the family as a whole. If sons also increase the surplus associated with a nonmarital relationship, then 'fragile families' with boys may be less likely to dissolve.

The magnitude of the effects of child gender on family stability and marital satisfaction is unclear. Several studies have found that, in the United States, having a son relative to a daughter increases the likelihood that a marriage will remain intact (Spanier and Glick, 1981; Morgan, Lye and Condran, 1988; Mott, 1994; Katzev et al., 1994), though others using non-

American data have found no such effect (Bracher et al., 1993; Diekmann and Schmidheiny, 2004). Morgan and Pollard (2003) replicate the results of Morgan, Lye and Condran and find a negative effect of sons on divorce rates for the 1960-1979 period, but no significant effect in later periods. Almost all of the research on the effects of sons and daughters on relationship stability and satisfaction have focused on married couples, but Lundberg and Rose (2003) find that the birth of a son speeds the transition into marriage when the child is born before the mother's first marriage. Most recently, Dahl and Moretti (2004) find that daughters are substantially less likely than sons to live with their fathers in the United States, due to a combination of child gender effects on marriage, divorce, and father custody.

One striking difference between families with sons and families with daughters that has been documented in many studies is the extent and type of involvement of fathers: fathers of boys tend to have stronger ties to the family than fathers of girls. Analysis of the 1997 Child Development Supplement to the Panel Study of Income Dynamics shows that men spend more time with their sons, particularly in play and companionship activities and achievement-related activities (Yeung, Sandberg, Davis-Kean, and Hofferth, 2001; Yeung and Stafford, 2002).¹ Men also spend more with their children overall (Barnett and Baruch, 1986) if they have sons. Fathers of sons are more involved with their children's discipline, schoolwork and other activities than are fathers of daughters (Lamb et al., 1987; Morgan et al., 1988).² Moreover, mothers report greater emotional attachment of their husbands to sons than to daughters (Morgan et al.).

Early analyses of the Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing data did not find a strong role for child characteristics, including gender, in determining early involvement by unmarried fathers. Carlson (2004) and Carlson and McLanahan (2002) estimate multivariate models for a number of outcomes with controls for father's demographic characteristics, background, health, employment, attitudes toward fathering, and relationship with the child's mother. They find that the parent's relationship status and the quality of the relationship are important determinants of father involvement, both around the time of the birth and one year later. Father's employment and earnings are also positively associated with most time-of-birth

¹ Mothers also spend more time in play and companionship with sons, but this is more than offset by the extra time spent doing housework and shopping with daughters.

² Though Snarey [1993] reports no difference in paternal interaction with sons and daughters.

outcomes, but not with the amount of time spent with the child after one year. Carlson, McLanahan and Brooks-Gunn (2005) also find that parental relationship status and relationship quality are important predictors of father involvement, and they document high levels of father-child contact in the three-year survey of the Fragile Families sample.

In this study, we compare several indicators of father involvement for male and female children, using data from the baseline, time-of-birth survey and from the one-year survey. For the sample of nonmarital births, we examine the father's presence and "ownership" of the child as reported in the baseline survey, and also analyze measures of the father's attachment to the family and interaction with his child one year after the birth for both marital and nonmarital births. Since child gender can influence these outcomes through multiple pathways—the father's relationship to the mother, his presence in the household, or his attitudes towards parenting—and we are interested in the total effect of child gender, we exclude from the multivariate analyses any mediating variables that may also be influenced by the birth of a son or daughter.

III. Data

The Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study is a national longitudinal survey that follows several thousand children, and their families, over a five-year period. This study oversamples children born nonmaritally in order to focus on the effects of policies and family characteristics on outcomes for children, and their parents, in these "fragile families". The survey design is described in more detail in Reichman et al (2000).

To increase the response rate of parents of nonmarital children, the Fragile Families study attempted to interview both parents immediately after the child's birth. Baseline interviews of the mothers (and, when possible, the fathers) were conducted within 48 hours of the birth at 75 hospitals in 20 cities in the United States, between February 1998 and September 2000. Fathers who were not interviewed at the hospital were contacted in person or by phone as soon as possible after the birth. The full baseline sample consists of 4898 (1186 marital and 3712 nonmarital) completed mother interviews and 3830 father interviews.

Follow-up interviews with both parents were conducted when the child was one year and three years old, and a five year followup is in process. This study uses data from the baseline and one-year surveys of both the nonmarital and marital birth samples, and examines the relationship between child gender and several indicators of father involvement with the child.

For children born nonmaritally, we compare three measures of the father's "ownership" of sons and daughters from the baseline survey immediately after the child's birth. These indicators are: whether the child will take the father's last name, whether the father's name will be on the birth certificate, and whether the father visited the mother in the hospital. We then use the one-year survey to examine the relationship between child gender and parent's relationship status, father's contact with the child, provision of financial support by the father and others, and measures of the father's caretaking and play activities with the child. For comparison, we also report one-year measures of father contact and activities for sons and daughters who were born to married parents. All variables are based on mothers' reports to minimize the selection bias associated with higher non-response rates among the fathers. Since child gender at birth can be treated as exogenous and independent of parental characteristics at the time of birth, we present some simple models that compare the behavior of fathers with sons and fathers with daughters, as well as models that include a set of mother's demographic characteristics.

The indicators of the parent's relationship and father's contact with the child from the one-year follow-up survey include: whether the father is living with the mother, whether the father has seen the child in the last 30 days, and whether the mother has a new partner. We examine two variants of the latter outcome: whether the mother has a new partner conditional on no romantic relationship with the child's father, and whether she has a new partner without conditioning on the end of her relationship with the father. The one-year survey includes a variety of questions about the establishment of paternity and a legal support agreement, and who provides financial support for the child, including the mother's and father's relatives.

The one-year survey also asks a series of questions about the mother's, the father's, and the mother's new partner's interactions with the child. The child's mother is asked how many days each week the parent or partner does each of the following with the child:

- Plays games like “peek-a-boo” or “gotcha” *†
- Sings songs or rhymes *
- Reads stories* †
- Tells stories
- Plays inside with child (blocks or legos) †
- Takes to visit relatives
- Changes diaper
- Feeds†
- Hugs or show physical affection
- Puts to bed

Mothers were asked about the fathers' interactions if the parents lived together, or if the father saw the child more than once in the last 30 days. We report analyses of this outcome in two ways; first, conditional on whether the question was asked, and second, unconditional: assigning the value of zero if the father was unknown or had not seen the child recently. Mothers were not asked about their own feeding or diapering. Mothers were asked on all surveys about outcomes indicated with a (*); other questions were not asked on surveys fielded in the first two cities. Mothers were asked about fathers' interactions on outcomes indicated with a (†) on all surveys; other questions were not asked on surveys fielded in the first two cities. Questions about the interactions of a new partner with the child are asked only if the mother and new partner live together “most of the time.”

Many of the mothers and fathers of children in the Fragile Families sample have other children, either together or with other partners, and the presence and gender of previous children may affect parental responses to newborn sons or daughters. The interpretation of child gender effects is simpler for first-born children, and so we present all results for the smaller subsamples of mother's first births and father's first births as well as for the full sample.

Table 1 reports the means of control variables and early outcomes for our baseline sample of 3311 nonmarital births and 1145 marital births. These samples exclude

observations with multiple births and with missing values for key variables. About 40 percent of the nonmarital sample and 35 percent of the marital sample are identified as the first child of either the mother or the father. The typical unmarried mother in this sample is in her twenties, about three-quarters have a high-school education or less, and 56 percent are black. The excluded racial category is “other” and Hispanic women may be of any race. We see here the high level of paternal presence at the birth that has been reported in the earliest analyses of the Fragile Families data: 77 percent of unmarried fathers have visited the child in the hospital, and this fraction rises to 86 percent if the child is the father’s first. The married mothers are older, more educated, and more likely to be white, particularly those for whom this is a first birth.

Table 2 reports the mean values for outcome measures from the one-year survey. The one-year sample consists of 2904 observations from the nonmarital birth sample and 1166 from the marital sample. Most of the reduction in the sample size in the first year is due to attrition from the survey, but some observations were deleted due to missing data on whether the father has seen the child within the last 30 days, or on whether the mother had a new partner.

At the time of the second survey, when the child is about one year old, half of the parents in the nonmarital birth sample are cohabiting or married and more than 80 percent of the fathers have seen their child during the past 30 days.³ About 14 percent of the mothers have a new partner—as do one-quarter of those who have ended their relationship with the child’s father. One year after the birth, paternity had been formally established for 70 percent of the children born nonmaritally and one-quarter of the non-cohabiting mothers have a legal child support agreement. More than 40 percent of the mothers, and more than 50 percent of first-time mothers, received some financial support from families or others, including 40 percent who receive support from the mother’s family and 16 percent who receive support from the fathers’ family. The mothers’ first-birth and full samples are very similar in terms of relationship status and fathers’ contact with the child, but fathers’ contact is higher in the

³ Carlson, McLanahan, and England (2004) find that three-quarters of the couples who were cohabiting at the child’s birth are either married or cohabiting at 12 months.

fathers' first birth sample, and first-time fathers are more likely to have had paternity formally established. In the marital birth sample, 94 percent of fathers still live with the child's mother after one year, and almost all have seen the child in the past month.

Table 3a and 3b report the mean number of days that parents/partners engage in specific caretaking or play activities with the child, for the nonmarital and marital birth samples respectively. These descriptive statistics are of considerable interest in themselves. For the nonmarital birth sample, fathers who are in contact with the child engage in a broad range of activities with a surprisingly high frequency—playing, feeding, and diapering more than 4 days per week, and these measures are higher if it is the man's first child. The unconditional means are lower by construction (only zero values have been added), and emphasize the average gap between maternal and paternal contact for these children. The small sample of mothers who have cohabiting new partners by the time their child is one year old (and particularly the first-child subsample) report even higher levels of interaction—new partners engage in all activities except hugging the child an average of one-half day more than do fathers who remain in contact with their child. Fathers who were married to the child's mother at birth are reported to have higher levels of activity with the child in almost all domains, as are married mothers.

IV. Analysis

Nonmarital father involvement at birth

The effects of child gender on the baseline outcomes for the nonmarital birth sample are reported in Table 4. The three outcomes – whether the child will be given the father's last name, whether the father's name will be on the birth certificate, and whether the father visited the child in the hospital – are binary, so we estimate the gender effects using the logit model.

Boys who are born nonmaritally are significantly more likely to be given their fathers' last name than are girls for the sample as a whole and the subsample of mother's first births. The coefficient on 'boy' remains positive and significant with or without controls for

the mothers' characteristics,⁴ but is not significantly different from zero when the child is the father's first. Hispanic nonmarital children are more likely to be given their father's last name than non-Hispanics, and education increases the likelihood that the child will be given the father's last name: children of mothers with some college are significantly more likely to take the father's last name relative to the default category, children of mothers who did not graduate high school.

The next two panels of Table 4 show the same analysis on variables indicating whether the father's name will be reported on the birth certificate and whether the father visited the child in the hospital. A son is significantly more likely to have his father's name on his birth certificate if he is his mother's first child, but the effect of 'boy' is not significant for the full sample or for the sample of fathers' first births. There is no significant effect of child gender on the likelihood that the fathers visited the hospital in any sample, or for either specification. We do, however, find that the nonmarital children of more educated mothers are more likely to be visited by their fathers.

Parent relationship status, father contact, and financial support at one year

Table 5a presents the results for the first set of one-year outcomes for the nonmarital birth sample—measures of the father's attachment to the family. There is no significant effect of child gender on whether the father lives with the mother, whether the father has seen the child within the last 30 days, or whether the mother has a new partner (both conditional on her not being in a relationship with the father, and unconditional).⁵ Mothers who are older and better-educated are associated with a higher probability of coresidence and father-child contact.

⁴ We include only one set of parents' characteristics, as mothers' and fathers' characteristics are highly collinear. Mothers' rather than fathers' characteristics are used in all models as mothers' characteristics were substantially less likely to be missing than fathers' characteristics.

⁵ The joint outcome "Mother Lives with Father, or Father Has Seen Child More than Once in Last 30 Days," is the conditioning variable for the child interaction questions, and we find no significant effect of child gender on this outcome for any sample. For the full sample, 1483 parents were cohabiting, and 808 were not cohabiting but saw the child more than once within the last 30 days. The omitted category includes parents not cohabiting and father seen child exactly once in last 30 days (76 observations) as well as parents not cohabiting and father not seen child within last 30 days (524 observations).

Table 5b reports the effects of child gender and mother characteristics on the probability that parents from the married sample are still living together when the child is a year old, and on father contact with the child. Here we do see some evidence of positive effects of a son on marital stability and father involvement, though the effect of ‘boy’ is not significant once maternal characteristics are added to the model.

In Table 6, we report only the coefficients on ‘boy’ for a variety of indicators of paternal involvement and receipt of financial support for the nonmarital birth sample. There are no significant positive effects of a son on any indicators of a father’s acceptance of legal and financial responsibility for the child. However, a nonmarital daughter is associated with a higher probability that the mother receives financial support from her family.

Involvement in Activities with the Child

In the one-year survey, mothers were asked about the frequency of specific play and caretaking activities with the child by themselves, their partner, and the child’s father. Table 7 presents estimates of child gender effects from an ordered logit model of responses to the question: “How many days per week does the mother/father/mother’s partner engage in [activity] with the child?” where the caretaking and play activities are as listed in Table 3.⁶ The propensity of the adult to engage in a particular activity, k , with the child is specified as the continuous latent variable Y^*_{ki} which is a linear function of the child’s sex and, in some specifications, a vector of control variables, X .

$$Y^*_{ki} = \alpha_k + \text{Boy}_i \beta_k [+X_i \gamma_k] + \varepsilon_i$$

The error term is assumed to be logistically distributed. What we observe is an ordinal (categorical and ordered) variable, Y_{ki} , that represents the number of days per week individual “ i ” spent in activity $k \in \{\text{Peek, Sing, Read, Stories, Play, Visit, Diaper, Feed, Hug, Bed}\}$ with

⁶ Three versions of the one-year questionnaire were used, and this necessitated some recoding of these variables. For most cases, the values correspond to the number of times per week the parent engaged in the activity with the child, and the values ranged from 0 to 7. For cases in which the early versions of the questionnaire were used, categorical answers were recoded as follows: ‘every day’=7; ‘several times a week’=3; ‘several times a month’=1; ‘once or twice a month’=.5; ‘not at all’=0.

the child. The probability of observing each value of the outcome corresponds to the probability that the latent variable, Y^* , is within a certain range defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 Y_{ki} = 7 &\Leftrightarrow Y^*_{ki} > \kappa_{k7} \\
 Y_{ki} = 6 &\Leftrightarrow Y^*_{ki} \in (\kappa_{k6}, \kappa_{k7}] \\
 Y_{ki} = 5 &\Leftrightarrow Y^*_{ki} \in (\kappa_{k5}, \kappa_{k6}] \\
 &\vdots \\
 Y_{ki} = 1 &\Leftrightarrow Y^*_{ki} \in (\kappa_{k1}, \kappa_{k2}] \\
 Y_{ki} = 0 &\Leftrightarrow Y^*_{ki} \leq \kappa_{k1}
 \end{aligned}$$

where κ_{kj} , $j \in \{1...7\}$, are the seven ‘‘cut points’’ for each model, which are estimated parameters. The numerical values given to the outcomes are irrelevant; all that matters is the ordering. When β is positive, the continuous latent variable Y^* is higher for boys relative to girls, and the likelihood is greater that the outcome will take a higher value for boys relative to girls.

For questions about fathers’ interactions, we report six sets of specifications for each outcome. The first two are for the full sample, the second two are for the mothers’ first birth, and the third two are for the fathers’ first births. The first line for each outcome/sample does not include any control variables, but the second ones (indicated with footnote (a)) include the same vector of control variables (mother’s race/ethnicity, age and education) that appear in the earlier logit models. The first set of results for fathers is conditional upon his having seen the child more than once during the past month; the second set includes observations with less father contact, with the interaction outcome set equal to zero. Table 7a reports results for the nonmarital birth sample, and Table 7b for the marital birth sample.

We find strong evidence of greater involvement of fathers with sons than with daughters in the nonmarital sample. In the conditional models, fathers are more likely to play with their sons indoors, visit relatives with their sons, and diaper and feed their sons than they are to engage in these activities with their daughters. The results for diapering and feeding are particularly strong, highly significant and robust across all four specifications. The effects of child gender in the first-child samples are similar in magnitude, but with a smaller sample size

are frequently insignificant. There is some evidence that fathers are more likely to engage in one activity – singing – with their daughters relative to their sons ($z=1.78$). In the unconditional estimates, the son effects are significant only on diapering, and on feeding in the fathers' first child sample. "Boy" has a small and insignificant negative effect on the probability that the father has seen the child during the past month, and this may account for the weaker effects of child sex on the unconditional father sample.

Table 7a also reports the effects of child gender on mothers' and new partners' activities with the child for the full sample, and for the sample of mothers' first births. There is no evidence of any relationship between child gender and any of the mother's activities with the child in the full sample, and some evidence that mothers are less likely to read to sons in the mothers' first child sample. However, there is strikingly strong evidence that mothers' new partners spend more time with sons than daughters. Cohabiting new partners spend significantly more time in nearly every activity with the first-born sons of their partners than with their daughters.⁷

Table 7b also shows surprisingly strong effects of child gender on parental activities with children in the marital birth sample. As in the nonmarital sample, a father is more likely to play with, diaper, and visit relatives with his son than with his daughter. Since fathers of sons are more likely to remain in contact with their child in the marital sample, these effects become even stronger in the unconditional estimates, and fathers are significantly more likely to feed or put to bed a son than a daughter. Mothers are still more likely to read to daughters than sons, but in this sample there is also a significant positive effect of 'boy' on visiting relatives, which may be related to the effect of sons on relationship stability in this sample.

V. Discussion

We find no evidence of child gender effects on a father's presence in the child's life or on the parent's relationship in the one-year survey of unmarried parents in the Fragile Families sample, though parents who were married at the birth of the child are more likely to stay

⁷ The samples are relatively small: only 175 mothers of first-born children have new partners.

together if they have a son. We also find a number of interesting son-daughter differences in parental (particularly paternal) behavior that may presage longer-term differences in the family circumstances experienced by boys and girls.

At the baseline survey, sons increase the degree to which nonmarital fatherhood is formally acknowledged. Mother's reports at the time of birth indicate that sons are more likely to be given the father's last name and to have their father's name on the birth certificate. At the one-year survey, we find strong evidence of more active parenting of sons by fathers in both the married and unmarried samples, but limited effects of child gender on the activities of mothers. Fathers in contact with the child feed and diaper boys more days per week than they do daughters, and are also more likely to play with them and take them to visit relatives. Mothers are more likely to read to daughters, but there are no significant differences in their play and caretaking activities with sons and daughters. Future surveys will reveal whether this greater paternal involvement with sons, which has appeared very early in the child's life, will lead to differences in family stability as the child becomes a toddler and preschooler.

The fact that mothers' interactions were less apt to be associated with child gender than fathers' and partners' interactions is notable. One possible explanation is that mothers interact with both sons and daughters so frequently, often seven days a week, that there is little scope for gender differences. To examine this, we plot the distributions of responses for selected maternal activities with children. Figure 1 shows that virtually all mothers hugged their children and put them to bed seven days a week, but there is far more variation in each of the other outcomes. Figure 2 shows that fewer than half of the mothers tell stories to, or visit relatives with either sons or daughters seven days each week.

The intensity and strong gender bias of new partner activities with the child were striking. New partners appear to spend more time in direct interaction with the child than do fathers and, in the first birth sample, new partners engage in almost every activity more with boys than with girls. This is a very small sample at the one-year mark, but the behavior of potential stepfathers should receive close attention as the survey proceeds.

We find no evidence that the greater attachment to sons by unmarried fathers that is evident in the mother's reports of paternal involvement influences the father's financial contributions to the mother's household, or his acceptance of formal responsibility for the child via paternity establishment. Mothers of girls are more likely to receive financial support from their own families: this may indicate some substitution for the more limited involvement of the fathers.

V. Conclusion

Virtually all research on child gender in U.S. families focuses on children in married-couple families. Many studies have found evidence of greater stability and father involvement in families with sons rather than daughters. In this paper we examine the effect of child gender on early father involvement in families experiencing nonmarital births—which now constitute nearly one-third of births in the United States—as well as marital births. Though married parents are more likely to stay together during the first year if their child is a boy, we do not find evidence of greater relationship stability when the nonmaritally-born child is a boy. However, our results indicate a greater attachment of fathers to sons than daughters in terms of several outcomes. Boys are more likely to be given their fathers' last names, and to have their fathers' name reported on the birth certificate. Moreover fathers and, most notably, mothers' new partners are more engaged with boys in a variety of activities.

Our contrasting findings on marital and nonmarital relationship stability are consistent with some earlier studies that find negative effects of boys on divorce (Morgan et al., 1988; Dahl and Moretti, 2004) but not with previous work that finds positive effects of boys on marriage following nonmarital conception or birth (Lundberg and Rose, 2003; Dahl and Moretti). However, the stronger attachment of fathers and stepfathers to sons within the first year of the childrens' lives may portend greater stability of mothers' romantic relationships in later years.

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Table 1: Means of Control Variables and Baseline Outcomes

	Nonmarital Births			Marital Births		
	All Births	Mother's First Birth	Father's First Birth	All Births	Mother's First Birth	Father's First Birth
Boy	0.53	0.54	0.53	0.53	0.53	0.54
Mother's First Child	0.40			0.35		
Father's First Child	0.39 ^a			0.34		
Child Takes Father's Name	0.81	0.78	0.86			
Father's Name on Birth Certificate	0.88	0.86	0.92			
Father Visited Child in Hospital	0.77	0.78	0.86			
Mother's Race/Ethnicity						
White	0.24	0.29	0.30	0.52	0.59	0.60
Black	0.56	0.50	0.50	0.26	0.17	0.16
Hispanic	0.27	0.28	0.28	0.25	0.26	0.24
Mother's Education						
Less Than High School	0.40	0.36	0.38	0.17	0.13	0.13
High School Graduate	0.34	0.31	0.32	0.20	0.15	0.13
Some College	0.23	0.28	0.26	0.29	0.26	0.27
College Graduate	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.34	0.47	0.47
Mother's Age						
Teens	0.22	0.39	0.33	0.03	0.06	0.05
20s	0.62	0.54	0.60	0.49	0.56	0.54
30+	0.15	0.06	0.08	0.25	0.37	0.41
N	3311	1317	1087	1145	399	348

^a Based on N=2777.

Table 2: Twelve-Month Outcomes: Relationship Status, Child Contact, and Financial Support

	Nonmarital Births					
	All Births		Mother's First Birth		Father's First Birth	
	Mean (SD)	N	Mean (SD)	N	Mean (SD)	N
Father Lives with Mother	0.51 (0.50)	2904	0.48 (0.50)	1166	0.58 (0.49)	1080
Father has Seen Child in Last 30 Days	0.82 (0.38)	2904	0.80 (0.40)	1166	0.90 (0.30)	1080
Mother has New Partner (C)	0.26 (0.44)	1582	0.26 (0.44)	668	0.22 (0.42)	526
Mother has New Partner (U)	0.14 (0.35)	2904	0.15 (0.35)	1166	0.11 (0.31)	1080
Mother has Legal Child Support Agreement ^a	0.23 (0.42)	1389	0.21 (0.41)	598	0.21 (0.41)	457
Amount of Legal Child Support per month ^b	211.49 (177.8)	262	215.05 (149.9)	108	206.59 (138.6)	84
Amount of Informal Child Support per month ^b	250.45 (178.1)	220	238.25 (146.9)	111	248.74 (178.4)	97
Paternity has Formally been Established	0.70 (0.46)	2784	0.72 (0.45)	1119	0.77 (0.42)	1051
Father took Initiative to Establish Paternity ^c	0.89 (0.31)	1937	0.89 (0.31)	802	0.91 (0.29)	802
Mother Receives Financial Support from:						
Her Parents	0.34 (0.47)	2890	0.42 (0.49)	1161	0.37 (0.48)	1077
Relatives other than her Parents	0.16 (0.37)	2890	0.19 (0.39)	1161	0.17 (0.37)	1077
Any Relatives (her Parents, or Others)	0.39 (0.49)	2890	0.47 (0.50)	1161	0.42 (0.49)	1077
Non-Relatives	0.08 (0.28)	2890	0.10 (0.31)	1161	0.07 (0.26)	1077
Child's Father's Parents	0.13 (0.33)	2890	0.16 (0.36)	1161	0.17 (0.38)	1077
Child's Father's Relatives other than his Parents	0.06 (0.24)	2890	0.07 (0.26)	1161	0.08 (0.27)	1077
Child's Father's Relatives (his Parents, or Others)	0.16 (0.37)	2890	0.19 (0.39)	1161	0.21 (0.41)	1077
Mother Receives Any Financial Support	0.44 (0.50)	2904	0.52 (0.50)	1166	0.47 (0.50)	1080

Marital Births						
Father Lives with Mother	0.94 (0.23)	1035	0.95 (0.22)	358	0.96 (0.20)	348
Father has Seen Child in Last 30 Days	0.98 (0.13)	1035	0.98 (0.15)	358	0.99 (0.12)	348

^a Conditional on not cohabiting.

^b Conditional on legal child support agreement.

^c Conditional on paternity establishment.

**Table 3a: Activities with Child at Twelve-Months
Nonmarital Births**

	All Births		Mother's First Birth		Father's First Birth	
	Mean (SD)	N	Mean (SD)	N	Mean (SD)	N
Number of Days Each Week Father . . . (Conditional on Father Cohabiting or Has Seen Child More Than Once in Past Month)						
Plays Games (Peek-A-Boo)	4.43 (2.43)	1950	4.43 (2.43)	771	4.70 (2.30)	792
Sings to Child	3.17 (2.61)	1945	3.10 (2.60)	767	3.38 (2.59)	792
Reads to Child	2.35 (2.36)	2188	2.34 (2.39)	847	2.56 (2.38)	893
Tells Stories to Child	2.52 (2.38)	1941	2.50 (2.41)	758	2.77 (2.39)	785
Plays with Blocks or Legos	4.66 (2.49)	2224	4.69 (2.49)	868	4.97 (2.35)	913
Visits Relatives with Child	2.40 (2.14)	1994	2.47 (2.12)	786	2.66 (2.15)	815
Diapers Child	4.30 (2.73)	1983	4.24 (2.68)	782	4.62 (2.60)	810
Feeds Child	4.83 (2.53)	2241	4.74 (2.51)	875	5.06 (2.38)	921
Hugs Child	5.80 (2.11)	2006	5.76 (2.11)	797	5.97 (1.91)	824
Puts Child to Bed	3.86 (2.66)	2004	3.66 (2.64)	791	3.94 (2.61)	821
Number of Days Each Week Father . . . (Unconditional)						
Plays Games (Peek-A-Boo)	3.49 (2.82)	2474	3.40 (2.84)	1004	4.13 (2.65)	902
Sings to Child	2.50 (2.65)	2469	2.38 (2.63)	1000	2.97 (2.66)	902
Reads to Child	1.89 (2.31)	2712	1.83 (2.32)	1080	2.28 (2.38)	1003
Tells Stories to Child	1.99 (2.35)	2465	1.91 (2.36)	991	2.43 (2.41)	895
Plays with Blocks or Legos	3.77 (2.90)	2748	3.69 (2.92)	1101	4.44 (2.70)	1023
Visits Relatives with Child	1.90 (2.14)	2518	1.90 (2.13)	1019	2.34 (2.19)	925
Diapers Child	3.40 (2.99)	2507	3.27 (2.95)	1015	4.07 (2.86)	920
Feeds Child	3.91 (2.96)	2765	3.74 (2.95)	1108	4.52 (2.74)	1031
Hugs Child	4.60 (3.01)	2530	4.46 (3.04)	1030	5.26 (2.63)	934
Puts Child to Bed	3.06 (2.84)	2528	2.83 (2.78)	1024	3.47 (2.76)	931
Number of Days Each Week Mother . . .						
Plays Games (Peek-A-Boo)	5.99 (1.72)	2871	6.11 (1.63)	1159	6.10 (1.61)	1069
Sings to Child	5.46 (2.08)	2872	5.59 (2.05)	1159	5.53 (2.04)	1069
Reads to Child	4.04 (2.37)	2873	4.14 (2.38)	1159	4.15 (2.35)	1069
Tells Stories to Child	3.70 (2.51)	2543	3.71 (2.53)	1036	3.77 (2.51)	943
Plays with Blocks or Legos	5.88 (1.86)	2545	6.09 (1.73)	1036	5.95 (1.83)	942
Visits Relatives with Child	3.42 (2.31)	2541	3.49 (2.26)	1037	3.46 (2.23)	943
Hugs Child	6.86 (0.66)	2545	6.90 (0.54)	1036	6.88 (0.56)	943
Puts Child to Bed	6.66 (1.12)	2542	6.69 (1.01)	1036	6.64 (1.12)	942
Number of Days Each Week Mother's Partner . . .						
Plays Games (Peek-A-Boo)	5.38 (2.11)	159	5.78 (1.63)	54		
Sings to Child	3.98 (2.62)	159	4.33 (2.35)	54		
Reads to Child	2.99 (2.59)	169	3.55 (2.51)	58		
Tells Stories to Child	3.56 (2.76)	160	4.07 (2.67)	54		
Plays with Blocks or Legos	5.55 (2.18)	170	6.03 (1.88)	59		
Visits Relatives with Child	2.84 (2.53)	160	2.61 (2.40)	54		
Diapers Child	4.78 (2.75)	160	4.83 (2.82)	54		
Feeds Child	5.52 (2.29)	170	5.83 (1.97)	59		
Hugs Child	6.28 (1.65)	160	6.57 (1.21)	54		
Puts Child to Bed	4.68 (2.61)	159	4.48 (2.59)	54		

**Table 3b: Activities with Child at Twelve-Months
Marital Births**

	All Births		Mother's First Birth		Father's First Birth	
	Mean (SD)	N	Mean (SD)	N	Mean (SD)	N
Number of Days Each Week Father . . . (Conditional on Father Cohabiting or Has Seen Child More Than Once in Past Month)						
Plays Games (Peek-A-Boo)	5.46 (2.00)	870	5.80 (1.83)	298	5.79 (1.81)	292
Sings to Child	3.73 (2.56)	868	4.15 (2.57)	297	4.21 (2.49)	291
Reads to Child	2.99 (2.46)	1001	3.50 (2.53)	346	3.55 (2.55)	338
Tells Stories to Child	3.06 (2.44)	862	3.38 (2.47)	295	3.38 (2.43)	289
Plays with Blocks or Legos	5.29 (2.22)	1006	5.76 (1.98)	348	5.77 (1.97)	340
Visits Relatives with Child	1.99 (1.90)	871	2.07 (1.87)	298	2.08 (1.90)	291
Diapers Child	5.12 (2.50)	874	5.11 (2.44)	299	5.20 (2.38)	292
Feeds Child	5.27 (2.32)	1009	5.31 (2.23)	348	5.40 (2.16)	339
Hugs Child	6.72 (1.11)	875	6.70 (1.16)	298	6.73 (1.07)	291
Puts Child to Bed	4.02 (2.61)	873	4.20 (2.64)	298	4.13 (2.60)	290
Number of Days Each Week Father . . . (Unconditional)						
Plays Games (Peek-A-Boo)	5.35 (2.13)	889	5.64 (2.03)	306	5.69 (1.94)	297
Sings to Child	3.65 (2.59)	887	4.04 (2.62)	305	4.14 (2.53)	296
Reads to Child	2.93 (2.47)	1020	3.42 (2.56)	354	3.50 (2.57)	343
Tells Stories to Child	2.99 (2.45)	881	3.29 (2.50)	303	3.32 (2.45)	294
Plays with Blocks or Legos	5.19 (2.31)	1025	5.63 (2.14)	356	5.68 (2.07)	345
Visits Relatives with Child	1.94 (2.45)	890	2.02 (1.87)	306	2.04 (1.90)	296
Diapers Child	5.02 (2.59)	893	4.98 (2.54)	307	5.11 (2.46)	297
Feeds Child	5.17 (2.40)	1028	5.19 (2.34)	356	5.33 (2.24)	344
Hugs Child	6.57 (1.47)	894	6.52 (1.57)	306	6.61 (1.37)	296
Puts Child to Bed	3.93 (2.64)	892	4.09 (2.69)	306	4.06 (2.64)	295
Number of Days Each Week Mother . . .						
Plays Games (Peek-A-Boo)	6.16 (1.63)	1032	6.37 (1.41)	358	6.34 (1.48)	347
Sings to Child	5.85 (1.91)	1035	6.08 (1.81)	358	6.14 (1.72)	348
Reads to Child	4.60 (2.32)	1034	5.11 (2.18)	258	5.11 (2.15)	348
Tells Stories to Child	4.04 (2.59)	895	4.29 (2.60)	305	4.36 (2.55)	298
Plays with Blocks or Legos	5.94 (1.87)	893	6.35 (1.43)	305	6.38 (1.40)	297
Visits Relatives with Child	2.62 (2.18)	892	2.59 (2.11)	302	2.64 (2.18)	296
Hugs Child	6.94 (6.59)	895	6.94 (0.34)	305	6.93 (0.51)	298
Puts Child to Bed	6.59 (1.17)	894	6.62 (1.04)	305	6.65 (1.01)	298

**Table 4: Baseline Outcomes, Nonmarital Births
Logit Coefficients (absolute value of z-scores)**

	All	All	Mom's First	Mom's First	Dad's First	Dad's First
Child Took Father's Last Name						
Boy	0.16 (1.84)	0.18 (1.98)	0.25 (1.84)	0.24 (1.78)	-0.13 (0.73)	-0.11 (0.63)
Mom Black		-0.43 (2.34)		-0.22 (0.84)		-0.35 (1.01)
Mom White		-0.48 (2.80)		-0.42 (1.73)		-0.35 (1.09)
Mom Hispanic		0.52 (3.36)		0.54 (2.44)		0.50 (1.70)
Mom in 20's		0.13 (1.22)		-0.17 (1.12)		0.24 (1.24)
Mom 30+		-0.06 (0.39)		-0.15 (0.47)		0.54 (1.32)
Mom HS Grad		0.14(1.37)		0.17 (1.00)		0.14 (0.65)
Mom Some College		0.21 (1.70)		0.44 (2.29)		0.12 (0.51)
Mom Coll. Grad		0.60 (2.05)		0.43 (1.19)		0.53 (0.94)
Father's Name on Birth Certificate						
Boy	0.10 (0.97)	0.10 (0.94)	0.31 (1.92)	0.31 (1.94)	0.07 (0.30)	0.07 (0.32)
Mom Black		0.12 (0.59)		0.13 (0.44)		0.24 (0.62)
Mom White		-0.40 (2.32)		-0.33 (1.31)		0.20 (0.54)
Mom Hispanic		0.03 (0.21)		-0.06 (0.26)		0.38 (1.09)
Mom in 20's		0.07 (0.55)		-0.03 (0.18)		0.32 (1.29)
Mom 30+		-0.10 (0.54)		-0.19 (0.53)		0.06 (0.14)
Mom HS Grad		0.10 (0.79)		0.15 (0.75)		-0.04 (0.15)
Mom Some College		0.33 (2.20)		0.43 (1.89)		-0.07 (0.23)
Mom Coll. Grad		0.59 (1.62)		0.35 (0.78)		0.16 (0.24)
Father Visited Child in Hospital						
Boy	0.01 (0.16)	0.02 (0.22)	0.04 (0.31)	0.04 (0.30)	0.07 (0.41)	0.09 (0.49)
Mom Black		-0.36 (2.23)		-0.13 (0.52)		-0.04 (0.13)
Mom White		0.01 (0.06)		-0.00 (0.00)		0.38 (1.25)
Mom Hispanic		-0.04 (0.27)		0.07 (0.31)		0.26 (0.89)
Mom in 20's		-0.01 (0.06)		-0.13 (0.82)		0.41 (2.15)
Mom 30+		-0.14 (0.99)		-0.04 (0.12)		0.98 (2.14)
Mom HS Grad		0.30 (3.08)		0.25 (1.48)		0.29 (1.31)
Mom Some Coll.		0.39 (3.41)		0.50 (2.67)		0.09 (0.38)
Mom Coll. Grad		0.50 (1.91)		0.25 (0.71)		0.34 (0.60)

Table 5a: Twelve Month Outcomes—Relationship Status and Child Contact
Nonmarital Births
Logit Coefficients (absolute values of z-scores)

	All	All	Mom First	Mom First	Dad First	Dad First
Mother Lives with Father						
Boy	-0.06 (0.82)	-0.05 (0.72)	0.09 (0.80)	0.08 (0.64)	-0.01 (0.07)	-0.01 (0.07)
Mom Black		-0.39 (2.71)		-0.50 (2.27)		-0.36 (1.57)
Mom White		0.16 (1.22)		0.12 (0.59)		0.36 (1.72)
Mom Hispanic		0.27 (2.17)		0.27 (1.43)		0.30 (1.48)
Mom in 20's		0.19 (2.05)		0.14 (1.01)		0.29 (2.03)
Mom 30+		0.31 (2.34)		0.42 (1.47)		0.46 (1.72)
Mom HS Grad		0.23 (2.54)		0.29 (1.89)		0.39 (2.46)
Mom Some College		0.20 (1.99)		0.28 (1.67)		0.26 (1.55)
Mom College Grad		0.05 (0.23)		0.02 (0.07)		0.03 (0.09)
Father has Seen Child within Last 30 Days						
Boy	-0.05 (0.54)	-0.05 (0.50)	-0.18 (1.22)	-0.18 (1.19)	-0.02 (0.11)	-0.00 (0.02)
Mom Black		-0.00 (0.02)		0.14 (0.51)		-0.30 (0.81)
Mom White		-0.07 (0.45)		-0.16 (0.69)		-0.02 (0.07)
Mom Hispanic		-0.03 (0.17)		0.03 (0.12)		-0.15 (0.47)
Mom in 20's		0.17 (1.51)		0.12 (0.74)		0.44 (2.01)
Mom 30+		0.43 (2.46)		0.38 (1.01)		1.42 (2.27)
Mom HS Grad		0.22 (1.96)		0.04 (0.24)		0.32 (1.28)
Mom Some College		0.26 (1.95)		0.14 (0.69)		0.18 (0.66)
Mom College Grad		0.70 (1.90)		0.33 (0.74)		-0.13 (0.22)
Mother has a New Partner, Conditional on not with Dad						
Boy	0.09 (0.79)	0.07 (0.64)	0.05 (0.29)	0.07 (0.39)	0.05 (0.22)	0.02 (0.10)
Mom Black		-0.02 (0.08)		-0.00 (0.01)		0.21 (0.53)
Mom White		0.12 (0.56)		0.10 (0.31)		0.40 (0.99)
Mom Hispanic		-0.24 (1.17)		-0.11 (0.35)		-0.43 (1.16)
Mom in 20's		-0.03 (0.22)		-0.16 (0.81)		0.02 (0.10)
Mom 30+		-1.28 (4.96)		-1.15 (1.78)		-0.41 (0.77)
Mom HS Grad		-0.07 (0.49)		-0.29 (1.27)		-0.55 (2.09)
Mom Some College		-0.17 (1.05)		0.03 (0.11)		-0.21 (0.74)
Mom College Grad		-0.15 (0.40)		-0.45 (0.84)		-1.30 (1.66)
Mother has a New Partner (Unconditional)						
Boy	0.08 (0.75)	0.07 (0.66)	0.00 (0.00)	0.02 (0.10)	0.07 (0.36)	0.06 (0.29)
Mom Black		0.24 (1.09)		0.30 (0.90)		0.46 (1.17)
Mom White		-0.02 (0.10)		-0.03 (0.08)		0.05 (0.14)
Mom Hispanic		-0.40 (2.04)		-0.30 (1.03)		-0.58 (1.63)
Mom in 20's		-0.15 (1.18)		-0.23 (1.24)		-0.14 (0.63)
Mom 30+		-1.34 (5.36)		-1.34 (2.17)		-0.56 (1.12)
Mom HS Grad		-0.20 (1.57)		-0.38 (1.80)		-0.68 (2.72)
Mom Some College		-0.29 (1.98)		-0.15 (0.68)		-0.38 (1.44)
Mom College Grad		-0.17 (0.47)		-0.38 (0.74)		-1.18 (1.56)

**Table 5b: Twelve Month Outcomes—Relationship Status and Child Contact
Marital Births^a
Logit Coefficients (absolute values of z-scores)**

	All	All	Mom First	Mom First	Dad First	Dad First
Mother Lives with Father						
Boy	0.47 (1.72)	0.41 (1.46)	0.69 (1.41)	0.57 (1.13)	0.77 (1.35)	0.65 (1.11)
Mom White		0.67 (1.73)		0.44 (0.77)		-0.04 (0.06)
Mom Minority		0.01 (0.03)		-0.41 (0.67)		-0.43 (0.59)
Mom above 25		0.66 (2.30)		0.32 (0.59)		1.31 (1.83)
Mom Some College		0.09 (0.31)		0.56 (1.05)		0.43 (0.49)
Mom College Grad		1.73 (3.05)		1.99 (2.30)		1.92 (1.66)
Father has Seen Child within Last 30 Days						
Boy	0.92 (1.85)	0.83 (1.64)	1.24 (1.50)	1.01 (1.19)	1.56 (1.39)	1.44 (1.27)
Mom White		0.54 (0.80)		0.61 (0.64)		-0.29 (0.27)
Mom Minority		-1.40 (1.57)		-1.50 (1.22)		-1.61 (1.19)
Mom above 25		1.11 (2.23)		1.07 (1.17)		1.77 (1.38)
Mom Some College		-0.40 (0.82)		-0.19 (0.23)		-0.16 (0.16)
Mom College Grad		1.12 (1.02)		0.65 (0.49)		-0.12 (0.08)

^a Education and age categories have been aggregated to avoid very small cell sizes.

**Table 6: Twelve Month Outcomes—Paternity, Child Support, Financial Support
Nonmarital Births
Logit Coefficients on ‘Boy’ (absolute values of z-scores)**

	All	All ^a	Mom First	Mom First ^a	Dad First	Dad First ^a
Mother has Legal Child Support Agreement	0.09 (0.67)	0.08 (0.64)	0.30 (1.47)	0.29 (1.41)	0.20 (0.86)	0.15 (0.66)
Amount of Legal Child Support per month	10.84 (0.49)	18.61 (0.87)	-4.58 (0.16)	4.76 (0.17)	6.43 (0.21)	-13.25 (0.49)
Amount of Informal Child Support per month	-21.02 (0.87)	-15.88 (0.65)	-2.48 (0.09)	10.22 (0.36)	19.78 (0.54)	20.20 (0.53)
Paternity has been Formally Established	-0.04 (0.52)	-0.04 (0.45)	0.03 (0.20)	0.02 (0.15)	-0.04 (0.29)	-0.04 (0.28)
Father took Initiative to Establish Paternity	-0.11 (0.77)	-0.11 (0.77)	0.24 (1.06)	0.26 (1.12)	-0.15 (0.64)	-0.19 (0.79)
Mother Receives Financial Support from her Parents	-0.10 (1.26)	-0.13 (1.62)	-0.11 (0.95)	-0.10 (0.81)	-0.27 (2.14)	-0.32 (2.40)
Mother Receives Financial Support from Relatives other than her Parents	-0.10 (1.02)	-0.14 (1.33)	-0.23 (1.57)	-0.23 (1.57)	-0.06 (0.35)	-0.09 (0.53)
Mother Receives Financial Support from any Relatives (her Parents, or Others)	-0.12 (1.57)	-0.15 (1.96)	-0.20 (1.71)	-0.19 (1.58)	-0.23 (1.85)	-0.28 (2.13)
Mother Receives Financial Support from Non-Relatives	-0.16 (1.21)	-0.18 (1.36)	-0.25 (1.28)	-0.23 (1.18)	-0.02 (0.10)	-0.06 (0.25)
Mother Receives Financial Support from Child’s Father’s Parents	-0.06 (0.50)	-0.07 (0.64)	0.09 (0.52)	0.10 (0.60)	0.11 (0.67)	0.09 (0.58)
Mother Receives Financial Support from Child’s Father’s Relatives other than his Parents	0.12 (0.76)	0.10 (0.66)	0.13 (0.58)	0.15 (0.64)	-0.19 (0.82)	-0.24 (1.02)
Mother Receives Financial Support from Child’s Father’s Relatives (his Parents, or Others)	-0.01 (0.14)	-0.03 (0.32)	0.11 (0.75)	0.13 (0.84)	-0.01 (0.07)	-0.04 (0.23)
Mother Receives Any Financial Support	-0.09 (1.14)	-0.11 (1.49)	-0.22 (1.88)	-0.21 (1.74)	-0.19 (1.59)	-0.23 (1.84)

a. Specifications also include dummy variables indicating whether mother is Black, White or Hispanic, Age 20-29, Age 30+, and Whether Graduate High School, has Some College or College Graduate.

**Table 7a: Number of Days Each week Father/Mother/Partner Engaged in Activity with Child within the Last 30 Days (Mother's Reports at Twelve Months)
Nonmarital Births
Ordered Logit Coefficient on 'Boy' (absolute values of z-scores)**

		Peek	Sing	Read	Stories	Play	Visit	Diaper	Feed	Hug	Bed
Father (Cond)	All	0.09 (1.10)	-0.14 (1.78)	-0.04 (0.53)	-0.06 (0.71)	0.19 (2.39)	0.15 (1.96)	0.31 (3.74)	0.20 (2.54)	0.07 (0.69)	0.02 (0.25)
	All ^a	0.10 (1.22)	-0.13 (1.62)	-0.04 (0.58)	-0.06 (0.49)	0.19 (2.40)	0.14 (1.77)	0.31 (3.79)	0.20 (2.52)	0.07 (0.68)	0.01 (0.18)
	Mom First	0.18 (1.42)	-0.02 (0.19)	-0.15 (1.22)	0.02 (0.15)	0.21 (1.72)	0.13 (1.06)	0.37 (2.87)	0.27 (2.17)	0.18 (1.19)	0.13 (1.03)
	Mom First ^a	0.17 (1.30)	-0.03 (0.21)	-0.13 (1.08)	0.04 (0.31)	0.21 (1.68)	0.11 (0.90)	0.39 (2.97)	0.25 (1.99)	0.16 (1.06)	0.11 (0.84)
	Dad First	0.21 (1.60)	-0.18 (1.46)	-0.12 (1.01)	-0.11 (0.85)	0.20 (1.60)	0.16 (1.29)	0.27 (2.08)	0.31 (2.49)	0.13 (0.87)	0.06 (0.50)
	Dad First ^a	0.22 (1.68)	-0.16 (1.28)	-0.12 (0.97)	-0.11 (0.86)	0.20 (1.63)	0.14 (1.13)	0.29 (2.18)	0.31 (2.48)	0.14 (0.86)	0.07 (0.56)
Father (Uncon)	All	0.02 (0.25)	-0.13 (1.78)	-0.05 (0.66)	-0.06 (0.83)	0.10 (1.44)	0.09 (1.22)	0.19 (2.59)	0.11 (1.59)	-0.00 (0.04)	-0.01 (0.20)
	All ^a	0.03 (0.43)	-0.12 (1.62)	-0.05 (0.68)	-0.06 (0.76)	0.10 (1.49)	0.08 (1.10)	0.19 (2.63)	0.11 (1.62)	0.00 (0.05)	-0.01 (0.18)
	Mom First	0.01 (0.08)	-0.08 (0.73)	-0.16 (1.39)	-0.04 (0.33)	0.06 (0.52)	-0.02 (0.15)	0.16 (1.40)	0.09 (0.83)	-1.12 (0.31)	0.01 (0.07)
	Mom First ^a	-0.00 (0.00)	0.09 (0.76)	-0.15 (1.35)	-0.03 (0.26)	0.05 (0.48)	-0.02 (0.20)	0.16 (1.44)	0.08 (0.74)	-0.04 (0.33)	0.00 (0.01)
	Dad First	0.15 (1.24)	-0.15 (1.28)	-0.10 (0.93)	-0.08 (0.70)	0.15 (1.28)	0.13 (1.11)	0.21 (1.79)	0.23 (2.02)	0.08 (0.61)	0.04 (0.39)
	Dad First ^a	0.17 (1.42)	-0.12 (1.03)	-0.10 (0.86)	-0.08 (0.62)	0.16 (1.41)	0.12 (1.05)	0.24 (1.95)	0.24 (2.10)	0.10 (0.75)	0.06 (0.52)
Mother	All	0.01 (0.15)	-0.09 (1.22)	-0.09 (1.42)	0.00 (0.02)	0.06 (0.78)	0.06 (0.81)			-0.17 (0.95)	-0.19 (1.50)
	All ^a	0.01 (0.14)	-0.08 (1.10)	-0.11 (1.62)	0.00 (0.05)	0.06 (0.66)	0.04 (0.62)			-0.20 (1.07)	-0.20 (1.56)
	First	-0.01 (0.07)	-0.12 (1.03)	-0.20 (1.94)	-0.14 (1.28)	-0.06 (0.43)	0.07 (0.64)			-0.48 (1.41)	-0.22 (1.05)
	First ^a	0.00 (0.03)	-0.13 (1.07)	-0.20 (1.79)	-0.12 (1.08)	-0.05 (0.34)	0.06 (0.58)			-0.48 (1.41)	-0.22 (1.06)
Partner	All	-0.19 (0.62)	-0.01 (0.04)	-0.05 (0.18)	0.06 (0.22)	0.04 (0.11)	0.21 (0.74)	0.00 (0.00)	0.03 (0.09)	-0.23 (0.60)	0.08 (0.27)
	All ^a	-0.24 (0.75)	0.02 (0.07)	-0.06 (0.20)	0.05 (0.15)	0.00 (0.00)	0.33 (1.12)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.03 (0.10)	-0.32 (0.79)	0.19 (0.61)
	First	0.86 (1.60)	1.00 (1.97)	0.48 (1.02)	1.16 (2.24)	1.08 (1.75)	0.20 (0.42)	1.06 (1.94)	1.41 (2.34)	1.23 (1.41)	1.02 (2.02)
	First ^a	1.06 (1.74)	1.20 (2.14)	0.30 (0.57)	0.79 (1.39)	1.14 (1.73)	0.13 (0.25)	0.93 (1.57)	1.30 (1.99)		1.33 (2.38)

^a Ordered logit models also include dummy variables indicating whether mother is Black, White or Hispanic, Age 20-29, Age 30+, and Whether mother Graduate High School, has Some College or College Graduate.

Table 7b: Number of Days Each week Father/Mother Engaged in Activity with Child within the Last 30 Days (Mother's Reports at Twelve Months)
Marital Births
Ordered Logit Coefficient on 'Boy' (absolute values of z-scores)

		Peek	Sing	Read	Stories	Play	Visit	Diaper	Feed	Hug	Bed
Father (Cond)	All	0.10 (0.81)	-0.08 (0.69)	-0.06 (0.57)	-0.03 (0.24)	0.24 (1.96)	0.18 (1.49)	0.23 (1.73)	0.16 (1.28)	-0.19 (0.76)	0.15 (1.22)
	All ^a	0.06 (0.49)	-0.11 (0.90)	-0.08 (0.73)	-0.05 (0.43)	0.21 (1.72)	0.23 (1.91)	0.25 (1.90)	0.17 (1.35)	-0.26 (1.01)	0.15 (1.26)
	Mom First	0.16 (0.70)	-0.19 (0.92)	-0.08 (0.42)	-0.05 (0.22)	0.23 (1.02)	0.18 (0.87)	0.92 (0.41)	0.09 (0.44)	-0.05 (0.11)	0.26 (1.26)
	Mom First ^a	0.11 (0.45)	-0.21 (1.01)	-0.17 (0.85)	-0.08 (0.39)	0.19 (0.82)	0.27 (1.28)	0.21 (0.91)	0.14 (0.67)	-0.02 (0.04)	0.30 (1.41)
	Dad First	0.06 (0.26)	0.04 (0.19)	0.03 (0.17)	-0.04 (0.20)	0.28 (1.25)	0.11 (0.53)	0.18 (0.78)	0.01 (0.05)	0.03 (0.08)	0.28 (1.35)
	Dad First ^a	0.05 (0.20)	0.10 (0.46)	0.05 (0.26)	-0.05 (0.22)	0.26 (1.14)	0.20 (0.93)	0.29 (1.26)	0.04 (0.20)	0.04 (0.08)	0.32 (1.48)
Father (Uncon)	All	0.16 (1.28)	-0.03 (0.26)	-0.02 (0.23)	0.02 (0.13)	0.28 (2.35)	0.22 (1.84)	0.28 (2.16)	0.21 (1.71)	0.05 (0.24)	0.19 (1.60)
	All ^a	0.12 (0.96)	-0.06 (0.47)	-0.05 (0.44)	-0.01 (0.10)	0.26 (2.13)	0.27 (2.21)	0.30 (2.33)	0.21 (1.78)	-0.00 (0.01)	0.20 (1.67)
	Mom First	0.26 (1.15)	-0.10 (0.50)	-0.01 (0.07)	0.03 (0.14)	0.31 (1.44)	0.24 (1.20)	0.19 (0.85)	0.17 (0.86)	0.27 (0.71)	0.33 (1.60)
	Mom First ^a	0.23 (0.98)	-0.12 (0.57)	-0.10 (0.52)	-0.01 (0.05)	0.29 (1.28)	0.33 (1.60)	0.32 (1.40)	0.23 (1.13)	0.33 (0.84)	0.37 (1.79)
	Dad First	0.14 (0.61)	0.10 (0.49)	0.08 (0.44)	0.01 (0.07)	0.34 (1.57)	0.16 (0.78)	0.24 (1.10)	0.08 (0.39)	0.28 (0.70)	0.34 (1.61)
	Dad First ^a	0.15 (0.64)	0.17 (0.82)	0.11 (0.55)	0.02 (0.07)	0.35 (1.56)	0.26 (1.23)	0.38 (1.66)	0.13 (0.61)	0.34 (0.84)	0.39 (1.81)
Mother	All	0.05 (0.36)	-0.12 (0.89)	-0.20 (1.78)	-0.06 (0.53)	0.10 (0.67)	0.23 (1.92)			-0.27 (0.59)	-0.01 (0.04)
	All ^a	0.01 (0.07)	-0.14 (1.08)	-0.23 (2.00)	-0.09 (0.73)	0.05 (0.31)	0.32 (2.65)			-0.33 (0.70)	-0.00 (0.01)
	First	-0.04 (0.14)	0.10 (0.43)	-0.19 (0.95)	-0.05 (0.23)	0.20 (0.71)	0.29 (1.44)			0.11 (0.15)	0.23 (0.73)
	First ^a	-0.07 (0.24)	0.05 (0.21)	-0.29 (1.43)	-0.12 (0.56)	0.15 (0.52)	0.41 (1.98)			-0.11 (0.15)	0.16 (0.48)

^a Ordered logit models also include dummy variables indicating whether mother is Black, White or Hispanic, Age 20-29, Age 30+, and Whether mother Graduate High School, has Some College or College Graduate.

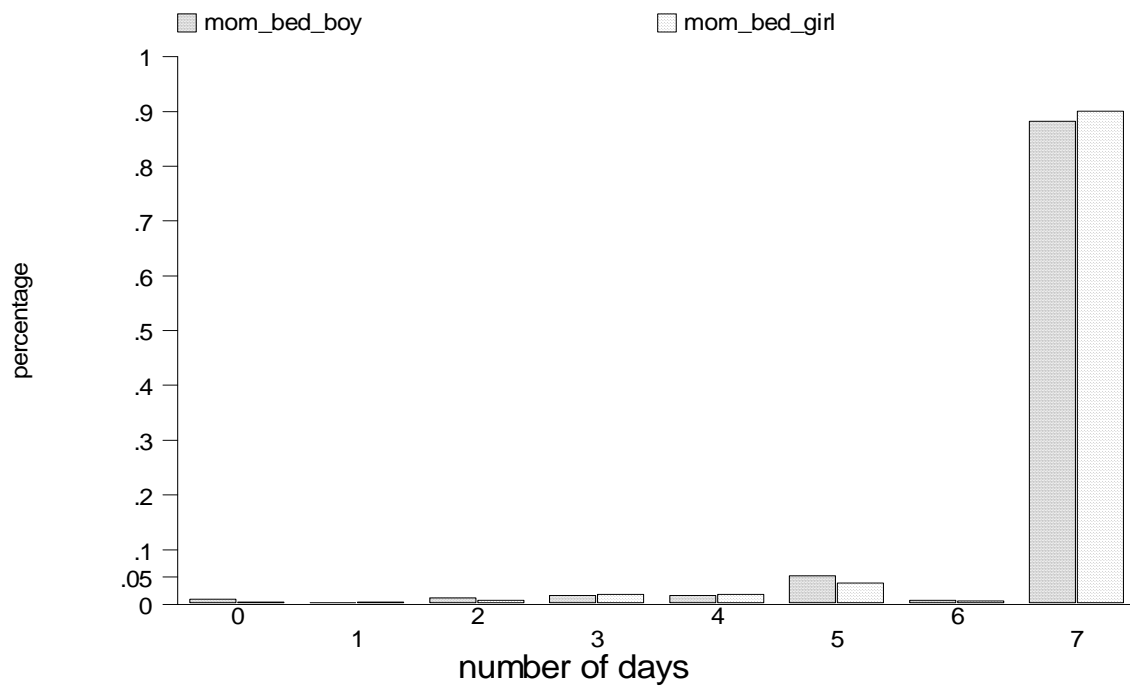
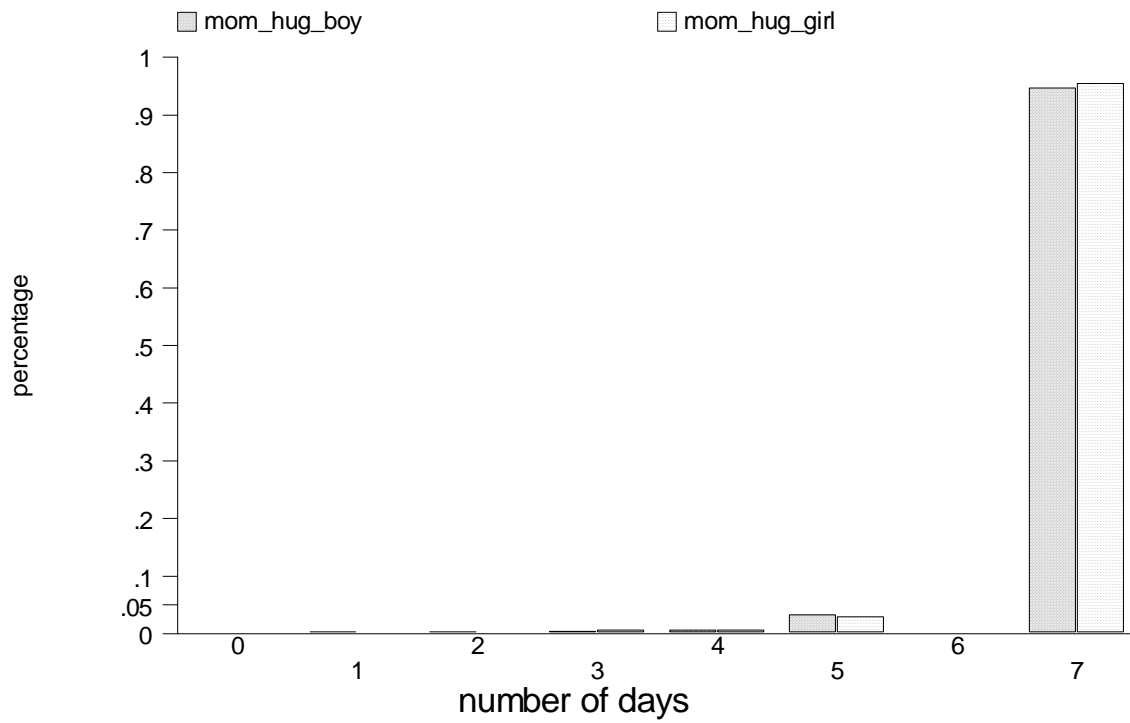


Figure 1: Number of days per week that mother hugs child (top) and puts child to bed (bottom)

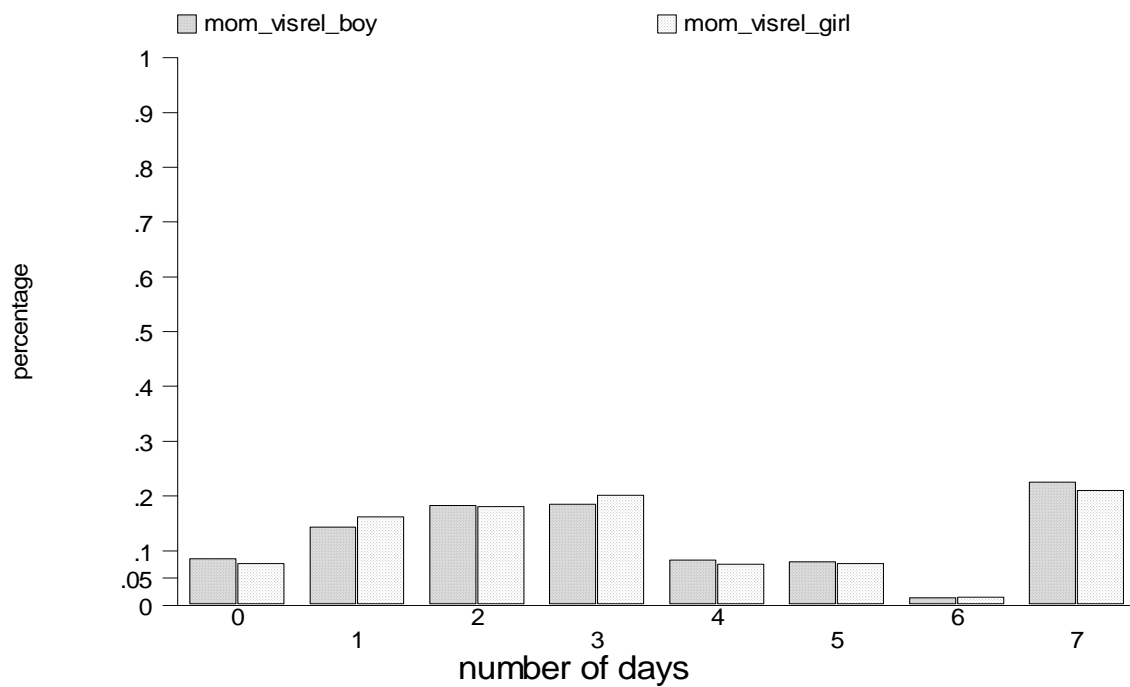
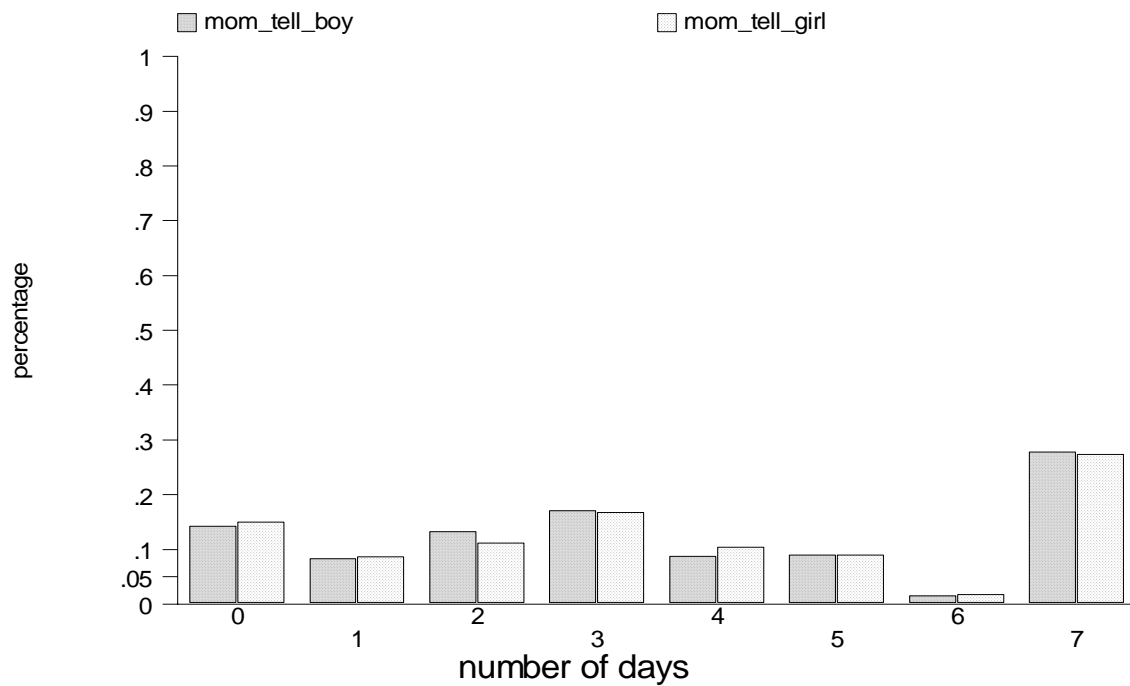


Figure 2: Number of days per week that mother tells child stories (top) and visits relatives with child (bottom)