

Barriers to Father Involvement

- ✓ Child Welfare Professional and Systemic Bias
- ✓ Overburdened workers
- ✓ Mothers as gatekeepers
- ✓ Circumstances of non-custodial fathers
- ✓ Worker's reluctance to involve a male perpetrator
- ✓ Domestic violence
- ✓ Not knowing he's a dad
- ✓ Father has a new family
- ✓ Geographic mobility
- ✓ Remarriage of either parent
- ✓ Father's psychological pain
- ✓ Lack of finances
- ✓ Lack of confidence in parenting skills
- ✓ Poor father "role models"
- ✓ Lack of extended family support
- ✓ Societal ambivalence over fatherhood
- ✓ Dealing with legal system and bureaucracies

Source: Brinker, Robert. (April 2006). *305: Engaging Absent Fathers*. Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania: The University of Pittsburgh.