

PATERNITY MAKES A "REAL" DIFFERENCE AND IT TAKES A COMMUNITY

SOUTH CAROLINA
Parenting Opportunity program



WHAT IS PATERNITY?

Paternity means Fatherhood. Establishing paternity is the process of determining a legal father of the child.



UNMARRIED BIRTHS IN U.S

2017 1,533,901 **39.8%**
2018 1,503,361 **39.6%**

UNMARRIED BIRTHS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

2017 24,913 **46.8%**
2018 24,876 **46.8%**
2019 24,941 **47.1%**

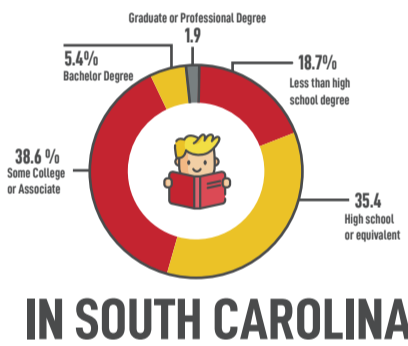
UNMARRIED BIRTHS BY POVERTY LEVEL IN SOUTH CAROLINA

49% BELOW
POVERTY
LEVEL

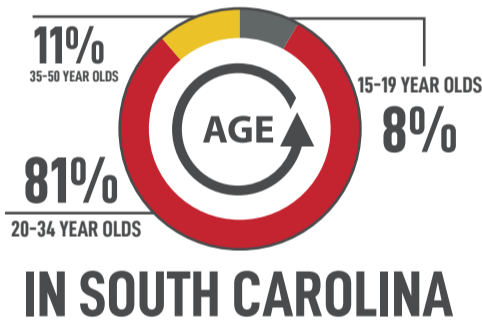
26% 100-199%
OF POVERTY LEVEL

24% 200%
OR GREATER

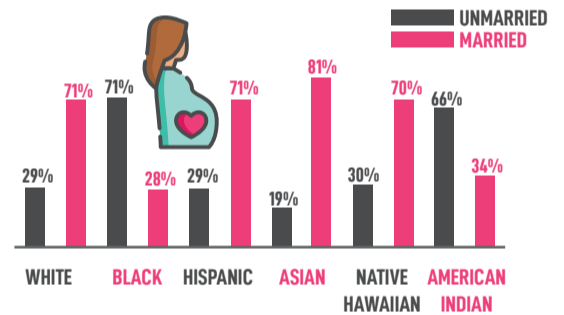
UNMARRIED BIRTHS BY EDUCATION LEVEL



UNMARRIED BIRTHS BY AGE



PERCENT OF UNMARRIED BIRTHS WITHIN EACH RACE



BENEFITS OF PATERNITY

PATERNITY EFFECTS EVERY CHILD THAT IS BORN TO UNMARRIED PARENTS:

- ✓ If paternity is established there is a legal relationship between father and child, and child is afforded all the same benefits/rights as being born to a married couple.
- ✓ Research shows that when fathers are involved with their children they have:

- Less criminal involvement
- Less behavioral problems and acting out
- Less drug usage
- Less teenage pregnancy
- Improved school successes and a greater likelihood to graduate from high school



CHILDREN WHO GROW UP WITH INVOLVED FATHERS ARE:

- 39%** More likely to earn mostly A's in school
- 45%** Less likely to repeat a grade
- 60%** Less likely to be suspended or expelled from school
- 2X** As likely to go to college and find stable employment after high school
- 75%** Less likely to have a teen birth
- 80%** Less likely to spend time in jail

