

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 20

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND RECOGNIZING MOTHER'S DAY THROUGH  
2 FATHER'S DAY AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT THE CHALLENGES  
3 FACING TRADITIONAL FAMILIES AND THE ALARMING RATE AT WHICH THE TRADI-  
4 TIONAL AMERICAN FAMILY IS DECLINING.  
5

6 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

7 WHEREAS, traditional families designed by God have been the foundation  
8 of societies since creation. As such, traditional families operate as a  
9 source of security in their communities, often attending to societal trou-  
10 bles before law enforcement involvement is needed, thereby serving as the  
11 cornerstone of a functional society. In a letter entitled *The Crucial Role*  
12 *of Families* submitted to the United Nations by the International Federation  
13 for Family Development in consult with the U.N. Economic and Social Council  
14 division, the authors state: "Children growing up in healthy, married,  
15 two-parent families are more likely to lead happy, healthy and successful  
16 lives than those who have not experienced the same level of family security  
17 and stability... Governments cannot afford to fully replace the functions  
18 families perform for the benefit of their members and for the good of soci-  
19 ety. The family is the most powerful, the most humane and, by far, the most  
20 economical system known for building competence and character."; and

21 WHEREAS, the freedom to exercise these beliefs and values based in the  
22 truth of the laws of nature and nature's God has been protected by the Consti-  
23 tution of the United States since its inception; and

24 WHEREAS, the International Federation for Family Development has  
25 stated: "As basic and essential building blocks of societies, families have  
26 a crucial role in social development. They bear the primary responsibility  
27 for the education and socialization of children as well as instilling values  
28 of citizenship and belonging in the society."; and

29 WHEREAS, compared to peers in two biological parent married families,  
30 children who lived with a single parent with no cohabiting partner were five  
31 times more likely to be sexually abused, children who lived in a stepfamily  
32 with a married biological and non-biological parent were eight to nine times  
33 more likely to be sexually abused, and children who lived with a single par-  
34 ent with a partner in the home were twenty times more likely to be sexually  
35 abused; and

36 WHEREAS, according to Reverend D. Paul Sullins, Ph.D., "The evidence  
37 that children flourish best under the uninterrupted care of their natural  
38 mother and father is among the strongest we have for any proposition in the  
39 social sciences. If the proliferation of alternative family forms over the  
40 past fifty years were a social experiment in parenting arrangements, there  
41 would now be more than enough evidence to conclude that it was a failure.";  
42 and

1           WHEREAS, traditional families consisting of a natural mother and fa-  
2 ther, children, grandparents, and extended family have declined drastically  
3 since 1960 when approximately 77.5% of children lived with their two par-  
4 ents, who were married; and

5           WHEREAS, according to census data, in 1960, just 13% of all households  
6 were single-person households. In 2018, that figure was 28%; and

7           WHEREAS, today, only 17.8% of Americans live in traditional nuclear  
8 families; and

9           WHEREAS, according to Reverend Sullins, "Marriage between same-sex  
10 partners also reduced estimated child well-being compared to cohabiting  
11 same-sex parents. In these cases, the introduction of marriage that did not  
12 reflect increased biological propinquity with the children actually harmed  
13 child well-being... There is no substitute for the procreative relationship  
14 of man, woman, and their own child."; and

15           WHEREAS, in 1950, 27% of marriages ended in divorce. Today, about 45%  
16 do; and

17           WHEREAS, in 1960, 72% of Americans were married. In 2017, nearly half of  
18 Americans were single; and

19           WHEREAS, in 1960, approximately 5% of children were born to unmarried  
20 women. Now, about 40% are; and

21           WHEREAS, American children are more likely to live in a single-parent  
22 household than children from any other country; and

23           WHEREAS, according to the International Federation for Family Develop-  
24 ment, "Those who build stable families have a higher life expectancy, lower  
25 risks of mental illness, alcoholism and domestic violence. The children  
26 show lower infant mortality rate, lower risk drug addiction, and lower in-  
27 cidences of engaging in criminal activities after puberty, higher academic  
28 achievements, lower incidence of mental illnesses and fewer teenage un-  
29 wanted pregnancies. A stable family is the lowest cost option for both its  
30 members and the State."; and

31           WHEREAS, the people who suffer the most from the decline in traditional  
32 family values and structure are the most vulnerable, especially children;  
33 and

34           WHEREAS, those born into poverty and living with both parents have an  
35 80% chance of climbing out of it. Those born into poverty with a single  
36 mother have a 50% chance of remaining stuck in poverty; and

37           WHEREAS, even in high-crime, inner-city neighborhoods, well over 90%  
38 of children from safe, stable homes do not become delinquents. By contrast,  
39 only 10% of children from unsafe, unstable homes in these neighborhoods  
40 avoid crime; and

41           WHEREAS, 63% of youth who commit suicide, 90% of all homeless or runaway  
42 children, 85% of all children who show behavior disorders, 80% of rapists  
43 with anger problems, 71% of all high school dropouts, 75% of all adolescent  
44 patients in chemical abuse centers, and 85% of youths in prisons come from  
45 fatherless homes; and

46           WHEREAS, research demonstrates children who grow up in families with  
47 traditional values and gender roles are more likely to have traditional val-  
48 ues and gender role expectations themselves; and

49           WHEREAS, according to Reverend Sullins, "traditional, religious mar-  
50 riage norms - a lifelong sexual union, between man and woman, observing

1 chastity outside marriage and fidelity inside it - benefit children by es-  
2 tablishing strong conditions for such care, and may add other benefits.";  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, there is an unprecedented attack on these beliefs and the cele-  
5 bration of these beliefs; and

6 WHEREAS, much remains to be done to ensure that traditional family roles  
7 and values are both celebrated and encouraged to provide the most nurturing  
8 and healthy environment possible to raise the next generation of American  
9 children.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Ses-  
11 sion of the Sixty-seventh Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives  
12 and the Senate concurring therein, that the Idaho Legislature:

13 (1) Supports the designation of Mother's Day through Father's Day as  
14 Traditional Family Values Month in the State of Idaho;

15 (2) Recognizes the value of a traditional family consisting of the nat-  
16 ural female mother and male father, children, aunts, uncles, grandparents,  
17 and other extended family;

18 (3) Recognizes the first week of Traditional Family Values Month, in-  
19 cluding Mother's Day, as a celebration of motherhood;

20 (4) Recognizes the second week of Traditional Family Values Month as a  
21 celebration of sons, brothers, and uncles;

22 (5) Recognizes the third week of Traditional Family Values Month as a  
23 celebration of grandparents;

24 (6) Recognizes the fourth week of Traditional Family Values Month as a  
25 celebration of daughters, sisters, and aunts;

26 (7) Recognizes the fifth and final period of Traditional Family Values  
27 Month, including Father's Day, as a celebration of fatherhood and marriage  
28 between a man and a woman;

29 (8) Recognizes the evidence-based physical and mental health benefits  
30 children receive when raised in a home with a traditional family;

31 (9) Recognizes the evidence-based results that children flourish when  
32 raised in a home with an involved biological father;

33 (10) Recognizes the immeasurable benefits children receive in the de-  
34 velopment of character, morality, virtue, and spirituality that traditional  
35 American family values foster; and

36 (11) Encourages communities, schools, churches, businesses, corpora-  
37 tions, and other stakeholders who all benefit from the cohesiveness, peace,  
38 tranquility, and civility of communities built on strong traditional family  
39 values, along with the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare whose mission  
40 is to strengthen the health, safety, and independence of Idahoans, to take  
41 part in celebrating Traditional Family Values Month in the State of Idaho.