

(Chapter IV)



Your Daughters shall be Confectionaries, Cooks, and Bakers

Today, women make up 48 percent of the nations work force (source: Human Resources). The quote, "Behind every successful man is a great woman," is starting to lose much of its luster as more and more women are establishing themselves as history making leaders.

Lucy Peng (CEO, Small & Micro Financial Services Group, Alibaba), Condoleezza Rice, Sheryl Sandberg (COO Facebook) Sheila C. Johnson, Maya Ying Lin, Rosalyn Sussman Yalow, Carly Fiorina, Andrea Jung, Anne Mulcahy, Meg Whitman, Adena Friedman (CO-President Nasdaq), and Marissa Meyer (CEO Yahoo)

are only a few of the thousands of successful and influential women making headlines.

Yet, as the role of women changes, along with an increase in the number of working dads and moms, you can't help but wonder how these changes will affect the traditional family structure? A recent article titled, "Breakdown of the Family Structure," (Patrick Fagan) has some interesting points,

- By 1990, parents were on average, available 10 hours less per week to their children than they were in 1980 and 40 percent less than they were in 1965.
- In a Massachusetts Mutual poll, 33 percent of parents said they did not spend enough time with their preschool children and 46 percent said they did not spend enough time with their teenagers.
- A 1990 Los Angeles Times poll found that 57 percent of all fathers and 55 percent of all mothers felt guilty about spending too little time with their children. The poll also found that 73 percent of all married couples would have one parent stay home full-time with the children "if money were not an issue."
- A 1990 Yankelovich poll found that 57 percent of mothers would give up work indefinitely if they no longer needed the money.
- Reflecting the concern about mothers' absence, a 1998 poll by Wirthlin Worldwide found that 86 percent of mothers believe their children would do better if cared for by their mothers rather than by day care providers.



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