

# Obama's Father's Day Speech

Class:

No.:

Name:

Adopted from: <http://edition.cnn.com/2008/POLITICS/06/27/obama.fathers.ay/index.html>

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## Extracted from the speech.

Good morning. It's good to be home on this Father's Day with my girls, and it's an honor to spend some time with all of you today in the house of our Lord.

At the end of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus closes by saying, "Whoever hears these words of mine, and does them, shall be likened to a wise man who built his house upon a rock: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house, and it fell not, for it was founded upon a rock." [Matthew 7: 24-25]

.....

Of all the rocks upon which we build our lives, we are reminded today that family is the most important. And we are called to recognize and honor how critical every father is to that foundation. They are teachers and coaches. They are mentors and role models. They are examples of success and the men who constantly push us toward it.

But if we are honest with ourselves, we'll admit that what too many fathers also are is missing -- missing from too many lives and too many homes. They have abandoned their responsibilities, acting like boys instead of men. And the foundations of our families are weaker because of it.

You and I know how true this is in the African-American community. We know that more than half of all black children live in single-parent households, a number that has doubled - doubled - since we were children. We know the statistics - that children who grow up without a father are five times more likely to live in poverty and commit crime; nine times more likely to drop out of schools and twenty times more likely to end up in prison. They are more likely to have behavioral problems, or run away from home, or become teenage parents themselves. And the foundations of our community are weaker because of it. ....

## I. Comprehension Check:

1. What does "rock" imply in the speech?

- (A) A heavy stone in the mountains.
- (B) A father's responsibility for a family.
- (C) The people of the country.

2. What kind of the community does Obama especially talk to?

- (A) Latino Americans.
- (B) African-Americans.
- (C) Chinese-Americans.

- ## II Words for Learning:

### Example

1. flood		p.
2. beat		p.
3. abandon		p.
4. responsibility		p.
5. crime		p.
6.		p.
7.		p.

### III. Summary or Reflection