

Thirty-Seven Percent of Working Dads Would Leave Their Jobs If Their Family Could Afford It, CareerBuilder.com's Annual Father's Day Survey Finds

- Senior Career Advisor and Father of Three Offers Tips for a Better Work/Life Balance -

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Don't be surprised if you see more dads on the playground with the kids during the workday. According to a new CareerBuilder.com survey, 37 percent of working dads say they'd leave their jobs if their spouse or partner made enough money to support the family. If given the choice, another 38 percent would take a pay-cut to spend more time with their kids. The CareerBuilder.com survey, "Working Dads 2007," was conducted from February 15 to March 6, 2007 and included 1,521 men, employed full-time, with children under the age of 18 living at home.

Nearly one-in-four (24 percent) working dads feel work is negatively impacting their relationship with their children. Forty-eight percent have missed a significant event in their child's life due to work at least once in the last year and nearly one-in-five (18 percent) have missed four or more.

According to the survey, the time working dads spend on work far exceeds the time spent with their children. More than one-in-four (27 percent) working dads say they spend more than 50 hours a week on work and nearly one-in-ten (8 percent) spend more than 60 hours. In terms of the time they spend with their children, one-in-four (25 percent) working dads spend less than one hour with their kids each day. Forty-two percent spend less than two hours each day.

While more companies today are offering various programs and options to promote work/life balance, some working dads say their employers are lacking in this area. Thirty-six percent of working dads say their company does not offer flexible work arrangements such as flexible schedules, telecommuting, job sharing and more.

Richard Castellini, Vice President of Consumer Marketing at CareerBuilder.com and father of three, offers the following tips to help dads gain a healthy work/life balance:

1. Keep in touch -- While you're at work, make a quick call in between meetings and projects and let your children know they're top of mind.
2. Plan a kid-friendly potluck -- If co-workers in your department have kids, ask your boss if you can have a kid-friendly potluck for lunch on a Friday. Not only does this allow the kids to spend extra time with you, but it also gives the employees in your department time to get to know each other better.
3. Give Your Undivided Attention -- When you're at home spending time with your family, turn off your cell phone, step away from the e-mails and give your undivided attention. If you bring work home, do it after the kids have gone to bed.
4. Keep one calendar -- Schedule baseball games and play recitals on the same calendar you use for meetings and travel to make sure you never double-book yourself. Save your vacation days for those special events in your children's lives, so you're there and in the front row.
5. Make time -- At least once a week, schedule a family activity that

involves interaction such as a game, bike ride, trip to the playground, etc. Also, make sure to schedule a date night for you and your significant other.

Survey Methodology

This survey was conducted online by Harris Interactive on behalf of CareerBuilder.com among 1,521 Full-time Employed Fathers (employed full-time; not self employed; with no involvement in hiring decisions) ages 18 and over within the United States between February 15 and March 6, 2007. Figures for age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, region and household income were weighted where necessary to bring them into line with their actual proportions in the population. Propensity score weighting was also used to adjust for respondents' propensity to be online.

With a pure probability sample of 1,521 one could say with a ninety-five percent probability that the overall results have a sampling error of +/- 2.5 percentage points. Sampling error for data from subsamples is higher and varies. However that does not take other sources of error into account. This online survey is not based on a probability sample and therefore no theoretical sampling error can be calculated.

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Media Contact:
Jennifer Sullivan
773-527-1164
Jennifer.Sullivan@careerbuilder.com

SOURCE: CareerBuilder.com

CONTACT: Jennifer Sullivan, +1-773-527-1164,
Jennifer.Sullivan@careerbuilder.com

Web site: <http://www.careerbuilder.com/>

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