

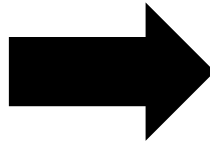
FACT BRIEFING

BOX OF FAMILY MYTHS

There are many myths about families, but myths can be extremely harmful to supporting students and families.

Myth #1

Only traditional, formal family structures are 'normal'.

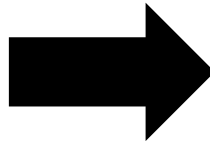


Truth #1

There isn't a "normal" family. Families come in different sizes, shapes, and forms, ranging from nuclear to extended families.

Myth #2

All families should have a mother and father.

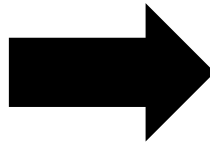


Truth #2

Families don't have to have a mother and a father.

Myth #3

If children don't have a male and female parent, they will have difficulty later on.

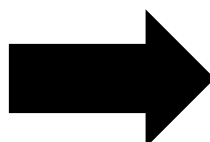


Truth #3

Kids with only one parent can grow up with little difficulty.

Myth #4

Children who grow up with parents who are poor will always struggle.

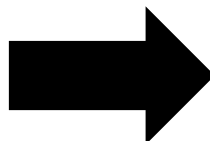


Truth #4

Children may have challenges, but they won't always struggle.

Myth #5

If a caregiver struggles with substance use or mental illness, the child should be removed from their care and placed permanently elsewhere.

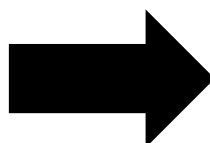


Truth #5

Substance use itself is not a reason for a child to be removed from the home.

Myth #6

Caregivers need to set hard boundaries for behavior and misbehavior and should always respond with punishment when rules are violated.



Truth #6

Positive discipline is a best practice for misbehavior.