



Why is Texas Manufacturing Fatherless Children?

The Social Security Act of 1975 contains Title IV-D—a federal law that, in part, requires every state to manage a child support enforcement program. To help fund these programs, the federal government provides money to each state. These funds help cover the operational costs involved in child support enforcement—including establishing orders, enforcement efforts and tracking and reporting.

[Title IV-D of the Social Security Act \(Title IV-D\)](#) establishes a state-federal partnership to provide child support services. States must have a single statewide agency that receives the federal funding and administers the program. States are permitted to fund local jurisdictions, enter cooperative agreements with others like law enforcement or state courts to provide IV-D child support services.

Funds for administration are available to: enforce the child support obligations owed by absent parents to their children; locate absent parents; establish paternity; and obtain child, spousal, and medical support.

Texas Family Code 201.107

(c) The presiding judges and the Title IV-D agency shall act and are authorized to take any action necessary to maximize the amount of federal funds available under the Title IV-D program.

How does the State of Texas manufacture fatherless children?

The current family code creates absent parents by not adding equal periods of possession and access to the family code.

The court is mandated by the State of Texas to “take any action necessary to maximize the amount of federal funds available under the Title IV-D program.”

When the court awards the standard possession order or the expanded standard possession order, the court must also establish a child support order so that the state can maximize the amount of Title IV-D fund revenue. According to the Texas OAG, over 90% of custodial parents (child support recipients) are mothers.

How big is the incentive for Texas to manufacture fatherless children?

Federal funding awarded to Texas for child support enforcement for fiscal years 2014 – 2018:

2014 - \$159.1 million

2015 - \$180.0 million

2016 - \$196.7 million

2017 - \$236.3 million

2018 - \$200.9 million



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