

June 5, 2000

Dear Members of all Faith Communities:

Every child deserves a loving, committed and responsible father. I am asking that you join me in this belief to help insure all children can benefit from the influence of a loving dad. Not just the lucky ones, as my children and your children, but every child. I beseech you to join fathers across the state to promote responsible fatherhood. These fathers are committed to restoring the institution of loving fatherhood as the birthright of every child, the expectation of every mother and the joyful obligation of every man who helps bring a child into this world.

Fathers from around the state will join me to emphasize the importance of fathers as positive role models. Everyone has to understand that fathers provide something unique and irreplaceable; fathers are not just breadwinners and child-support check providers. We will ask for God's blessing, guidance and our best ideas to achieve the great task before us. We need to ensure that our children have the opportunity to benefit from our involvement in their lives.

Therefore, I Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the great State of Mississippi, ask that you join me on June 13, 2000, at 3:00 p.m. on the East steps of the Mississippi State Capital to issue a call to fatherhood and to give life and energy to a fatherhood movement.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM/bwl