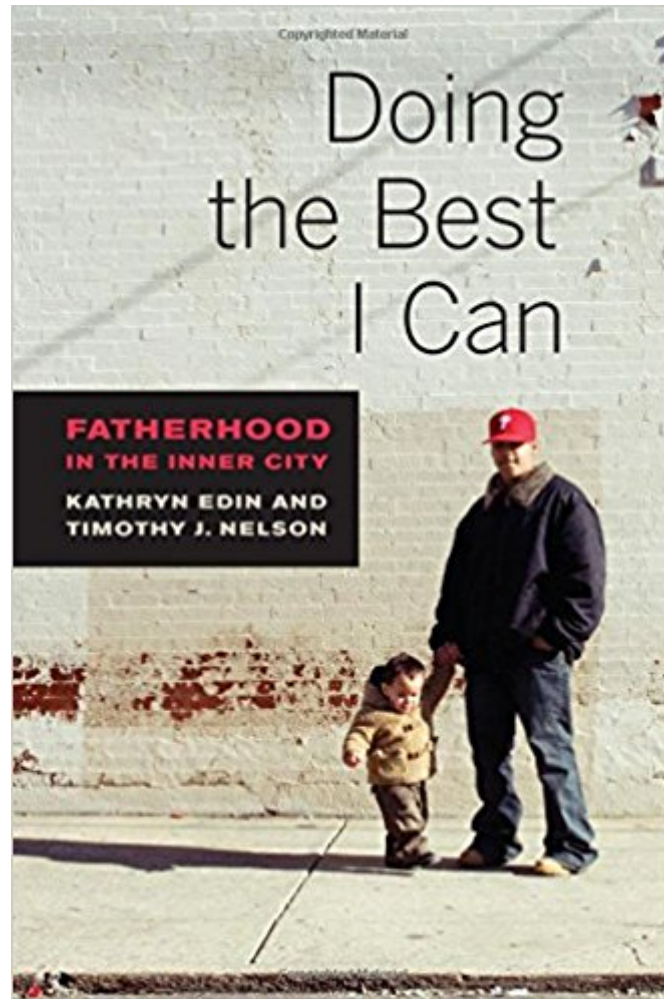


The book was found

# Doing The Best I Can: Fatherhood In The Inner City



## Synopsis

Across the political spectrum, unwed fatherhood is denounced as one of the leading social problems of today. *Doing the Best I Can* is a strikingly rich, paradigm-shifting look at fatherhood among inner-city men often dismissed as “deadbeat dads.” Kathryn Edin and Timothy J. Nelson examine how couples in challenging straits come together and get pregnant so quickly—without planning. The authors chronicle the high hopes for forging lasting family bonds that pregnancy inspires, and pinpoint the fatal flaws that often lead to the relationship’s demise. They offer keen insight into a radical redefinition of family life where the father-child bond is central and parental ties are peripheral. Drawing on years of fieldwork, *Doing the Best I Can* shows how mammoth economic and cultural changes have transformed the meaning of fatherhood among the urban poor. Intimate interviews with more than 100 fathers make real the significant obstacles faced by low-income men at every step in the familial process: from the difficulties of romantic relationships, to decision-making dilemmas at conception, to the often celebratory moment of birth, and finally to the hardships that accompany the early years of the child’s life, and beyond.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 294 pages

Publisher: University of California Press; 1 edition (June 1, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0520274067

ISBN-13: 978-0520274068

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (12 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #45,889 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) — #37 in Books > Parenting & Relationships > Family Relationships > Fatherhood — #52 in Books > Parenting & Relationships > Parenting > Parenting Boys — #56 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Gender Studies > Men

## Customer Reviews

An insightful highly important book: "Doing The Best I Can: Fatherhood in the Inner City" examines poor urban fatherhood in the areas of low income and impoverished neighborhoods of the Philadelphia, PA, and Camden, NJ areas. The book is expertly researched and written by sociologist Kathryn Edin and author Timothy J. Nelson, who lived in the neighborhoods studied.

Edin is known for her expertise in poverty studies and the co-author of "Promises I Can Keep" (2005) which examines the plight of poor single motherhood in the neighborhoods mentioned above. The one thing that particularly stands out is the high value and importance poor families place on their children and family life. Many of these out-of-wedlock births were unintended, unplanned and the use of contraception was questionable at best. Moving up the economic ladder and attending college and earning a higher standard of living wasn't always an option or consideration of these young impoverished parents. These fathers were usually very happy when they found out their girlfriends were pregnant, and attempted to establish a stable relationship, caring for the mother and their child, at least while the child was smaller, the parents may or may not have planned to marry. Edin pointed out that often fathers didn't have a father themselves, had limited resources, job and income prospects, and may have had problems with alcohol and substance, and/or lack the maturity to remain faithful. Sometimes there was the possibility of incarceration due to illegal and criminal activity. Other complex problems of these fathers may have included multiple fertility- fathering children by different women.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Doing the Best I Can: Fatherhood in the Inner City Pop-Up NYC Map by VanDam - City Street Map of New York City, New York - Laminated folding pocket size city travel and subway map, 2016 Edition (Pop-Up Map) Inner Peace: Stepping into Serenity to Find Peace of Mind (Inner Peace and Happiness, Peace of Mind Book 1) Recovery of Your Inner Child: The Highly Acclaimed Method for Liberating Your Inner Self Inner Bonding: Becoming a Loving Adult to Your Inner Child Codependency Recovery: Wounded Souls Dancing in The Light: Book 1: Empowerment, Freedom, and Inner Peace through Inner Child Healing Hannah and the Mountain: Notes toward a Wilderness Fatherhood (American Lives) Fertility: How to Get Pregnant - Cure Infertility, Get Pregnant & Start Expecting a Baby! (Childbirth, Gynecology, Fatherhood, Natural Birth, PCOS, Ovulation, Fertility Foods Book 1) Home Game: An Accidental Guide to Fatherhood They're Your Kids Too: The Single Father's Guide to Defending Your Fatherhood in a Broken Family Law System Span-Fatherhood Principle (Spanish Edition) Dad Time: Savoring the God-Given Moments of Fatherhood Man Stuff: Thoughts on Faith, Family, and Fatherhood Men on Strike: Why Men Are Boycotting Marriage, Fatherhood, and the American Dream - and Why It Matters When the Darkness Will Not Lift: Doing What We Can While We Wait for God--and Joy Who's Doing the Work?: How to Say Less So Readers Can Do More There Are No Shortcuts: How an inner-city teacher--winner of the American Teacher Award--inspires his students and challenges us to rethink the way we educate our children A Hope in the Unseen: An American Odyssey from the Inner City to the Ivy League The Truly

Disadvantaged: The Inner City, the Underclass, and Public Policy, Second Edition Between Good and Ghetto: African American Girls and Inner-City Violence (Rutgers Series in Childhood Studies)

[Dmca](#)