Love & Money

The quality—not just quantity—of child support helps a young one through a breakup.

May 25, 2007 By Nicole Joseph

Children have lower rates of teen pregnancy and get better grades when both parents are involved in their lives. So to parents paying child support: Even if you genuinely can't afford to pay much, pay something, says George Williams, executive director of The Urban Father/Child Partnership in Kansas City, Missouri. "Even five dollars makes a statement to the child that you're doing what you can." Then make up for the money with quality time. Kids feeling your love are more likely to channel it into positive life decisions.

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