

Rebuilding the family must become a national priority - we would say *the* national priority. But to rebuild the family, we must first rebuild the consensus *about* family. The evidence, sometimes grim, oftentimes mere common sense, is forcing that consensus.

All definitions of "family" and all family *choices* are not equal. Research is demonstrating with new authority that the two-parent model - mother and father binding together in marriage and looking toward their own and their children's long-term future - works best. Research is also showing that all the alternatives offered during a generation of experimentation, from the sexual revolution to no-fault divorce, have failed to improve the lot of children or families.

Indeed, on issue after issue, the family factor is becoming clearer and clearer. From the beginning, the Family Research Council has sought to identify the family factor in social policy, whether the issue is taxes, welfare, education or crime. The Council has devoted its energies to gathering and publishing data about the family, and to promoting policies and legislation that strengthen the legal and economic status of the family unit.

The Family Research Council was founded in 1981 as a social policy research and educational organization in Washington, D.C. It was governed by an independent board of directors until December 1988, when FRC merged with Focus on the Family, a nonprofit organization committed to the preservation and strengthening of the family. The organizations joined together in the fight for traditional values in our society and in our government.

As a result of the groundwork laid during the partnership, an expanded FRC was able to spin off in 1992 and began a new era of independent public policy exploration under the direction of President Gary Bauer. FRC is a non-partisan, nonprofit organization and is recognized under Section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as a tax-exempt 501(c)3. FRC's commitment is to work as an advocate for the family to the legislative, executive and judicial branches of the federal government.