

**Testimony of Garvin Morales**  
**Father and Participant in Fatherhood Initiative Program at Madonna Place**  
**240 Main Street**  
**Norwich, CT 06360**

**Prepared for the Human Services Committee**  
**Public Hearing –Tuesday, March 11, 2008 at 10:30 a.m.**  
**Proposed Bill No. 666 – An Act Concerning the Reduction of Child Poverty**

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Hi, my name is Garvin Morales. I am 17 years old and a father of one. Since I became a dad my life has changed in so many ways. I love the time I spent with my child. I am so happy to be a dad. I have taken two classes at Madonna Place in Norwich along with my own dad. Together we finished one class called 24/7 Dad and the other Dr. Dad. The classes helped me learn so much about being a good dad. I am sure that other young dads out there could gain from programs like the Fatherhood Initiative. I think it is important for our state to continue to work to make sure dads have support. I am here today to ask you to help dads like me across the state by making more funds available to programs that work with fathers.

Thank-you for your time and concern.