**The Forgotten Origins of Father's Day**

Olivia B. Waxman

Jun 15, 2017

 These days, father's day seems like an inescapable part of American culture. But it didn't become a national holiday until President Nixon signed a bill in 1972--almost 60 years after the U.S. recognized Mother's Day. So, what drove the decision?

 Some historians credit the Vietnam War. The prolonged, increasingly divisive conflict had uprooted American fathers from their families, and there was a sense that their public service needed to be recognized, according to Ralph LaRossa, author of The Modernization of Fatherhood: A Social and Political History. Montana Senator Mike Mansfield even appeared to say as much when he declared--during a debate on the 1972 bill--that Father's Day deserved the same legal status as Mother's Day "in view of the burdens and responsibilities placed upon [fathers] during these trying times."

 Some of those burdens and responsibilities were coming from inside the home as well. Whereas mothers used to be seen as the primary caregivers, the rise of women's liberation gave way to a so-called new fatherhood movement, in which men were expected to step up and "take on more of the routine tasks of [child rearing], like changing diapers, in the interest of gender equality," says LaRossa. Meanwhile, a rise in no-fault divorces--sparked by the sexual revolution--raised new questions about the roles of both parents at home. And as modern fatherhood started to take shape, so too did what we now know as Father's Day.

(Time Magazine | http://time.com/4819580/forgotten-origins-of-fathers-day/?iid=sr-link1)

**Parents Day in Korea**

In South Korea, Parent's Day is annually held on May 8. Parent's Day is celebrated by both the public and the government. Family events focus on the parents; popular actions include giving parents carnations. Public events are led by the Ministry of Health and Welfare and include public celebrations and awards.

The origins of Parent's Day can be traced back to the 1930s. Starting in 1930, some Christian communities began to celebrate Mother's Day or Parents' Day. This tradition was combined with Korea's traditional Confucianism culture to eventually establish Mother's Day. In 1956, the State Council of South Korea designated May 8 as an annual Mother's Day. However, the question of Father's Day was discussed and on March 30, 1973, May 8 was designated as Parents' Day.

(Wikipedia | https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parents%27\_Day)