



Evermore Media Kit: America's Forgotten Orphans Report

Evermore is a nonprofit dedicated to advancing bereavement care for all children and families. Bereavement is a largely undocumented and thus “hidden” problem in the United States and the world. In addition to creating immense personal tragedy, bereavement can lead to vast health, economic, and social consequences. Evermore advocates for meaningful policy change, advances in bereavement science, and innovative bereavement programming among communities nationwide. ‘America’s Forgotten Orphans’ findings and a policy roadmap will be shared with legislators and policymakers.

For the past year, Evermore has worked with a team of research partners to examine the current and historical trends in childhood bereavement in the U.S. Today, we share the results in a new report titled [America's Forgotten Orphans](#). This study, developed in collaboration with researchers from The Pennsylvania State University and the University of Southern California, paints a stark picture of the reality for America’s bereaved children. It outlines the impact on bereaved children if federal lawmakers, philanthropists, and other public figures prioritize federal support *only* for children who have lost a parent to COVID-19. There are currently such plans being circulated by federal lawmakers in the hopes they will pass before the end of the year.

Our report finds that 95 percent of parentally bereaved children in the U.S. are at risk of being left behind should lawmakers approve this COVID-only approach. Federal advocacy efforts have been so successful that the Biden administration has codified its support for children parentally bereaved by COVID-19 in its National COVID-19 Preparedness Plan.

We emphatically disagree with this targeted approach and are advocating for a more comprehensive approach that provides relief and support for all parentally bereaved children. Our research shows that childhood bereavement is an epidemic hiding in plain sight.

Other significant findings from this report include:

- Since 2000, Indigenous children have been parentally bereaved at a higher rate than every other racial or ethnic group, reaching an all-time high of 2.2 times the national rate in 2021.
- With every passing day, another 850 children experience the death of a parent.
- As of 2022, there are 2.2 million parentally bereaved children in the United States, accounting for 3 percent of the nation's 73 million children.
- In 2021, childhood bereaved reached a 20-year high, rising in nearly every state in the nation and across every racial and ethnic group because of concurrent mortality epidemics.

These findings are significant because of the three following points:

1. Childhood bereavement is a gateway to other public emergencies. Parental death during childhood is associated with a higher risk of academic failure, depression, alcohol and substance misuse, violent crime, suicide attempts, suicide, and premature death from any cause.
2. Unlike other health and social concerns, we have a distinct and rare opportunity to intervene on a child's behalf and alter their life's trajectory toward stability, well-being, and prosperity.
3. While bereavement has a long-standing absence from current public policy debates and
4. National health priorities, along with its newfound urgency, childhood bereavement is not a new policy topic in the United States.

National Policy Agenda

Beyond the emerging trends in childhood bereavement, America's Forgotten Orphans provides a four-pronged policy agenda: (1) provide economic security for families, (2) provide access to health care, (3) develop supportive community-based programs, and (4) invest in data collection and research. Our agenda is not monolithic in its attempt to "solve" bereavement: rather, it is continual and will evolve over time, but undoubtedly we must get started.

Quotes

"An orphaned child's potential for lifelong success, well-being, and prosperity depends on the support he or she receives soon after bereavement," said Joyal Mulheron, Founder and Executive Director of Evermore. "We are hopeful that this report will force a change in strategy that will lead to all parentally bereaved children being treated fairly."

"We believe it's time for a change, not just in America, but across the globe, especially when famine, war, and climate disasters are touching millions," said Jacqueline Corbin-Armstrong, Chair of Evermore's Board of Directors.

"Evermore's report is another step in our fight to rework policy and bring all key stakeholders to the table to enact meaningful change."

State and Community-level Data

The report offers 51 fact sheets, including each state and the District of Columbia. One national and state-based fact sheet can be found [here](#). Readers can calculate the burden of parental death among children aged 0-17 in their community by downloading the report [here](#).

Join us in this movement and find below some actions you can help with sharing the word!

Social Media Graphics



[Click here to download social media graphics](#)



Social Media Copy Examples:

“Join us in supporting Evermore. Together, we can make a difference by sharing the report. For more info, visit <https://live-evermore.org/americas-forgotten-orphans-report/> and use the hashtag #ForgottenOrphans #850EachDay”

“Evermore Finds Upwards of **95 Percent or More of Parentally Bereaved Children Are at Risk!** For more info, visit <https://live-evermore.org/americas-forgotten-orphans-report/> #ForgottenOrphans”

“With every day our nation waits, **another 850 children in America become an orphan.** Learn more by visiting <https://live-evermore.org/americas-forgotten-orphans-report/> and use hashtag #850EachDay”

“Childhood bereavement is an urgent health concern for children of **all races and ethnicities.** Learn more by visiting <https://live-evermore.org/americas-forgotten-orphans-report/> and use hashtag #ActNow”

“Since 2020, childhood bereavement has increased **in every state of the nation.** Learn more by visiting <https://live-evermore.org/americas-forgotten-orphans-report/> and use hashtag #AllStates.”

“Tell the White House and Congress today telling them all bereaved and orphaned children are important, not just a few. Send them an email by visiting <https://evermore.salsalabs.org/tellthewhitehouseandcongresstosupportallchildren>”

Hashtags:

#bepartofthechange #americasorphans #childbereavement #live-evermore #850EachDay #AllChildren #IndigenousChildrenCrisis #ForgottenOrphans

Our Social Media Account Tags:

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Press Release

WASHINGTON, D.C. — [Evermore](#), a national nonpartisan nonprofit dedicated to advancing bereavement care for all bereaved children and families, today announced findings from the organization’s ‘America’s Forgotten Orphans’ report. Developed in collaboration with The Pennsylvania State University and the University of Southern California, the report is the first of its kind to examine the current and historical trends in childhood bereavement, finding it is an epidemic hiding in plain sight.

[Click here for the full Press Release](#)

You can find out more information about the report [here](#).