

In our society having a baby should be a joyous event of celebration, life and love. Unfortunately in our society, having a baby is a decision which can take a toll on both parents professionally. For women the possibility of needing maternity leave affects their stance even before they interview for a job. Much of corporate America views female employees who may become or are currently be pregnant as a weak point within the company. The perception that she will obviously need to take time off to take care of her newborn, might miss work due to morning sickness or the possibility of lack in performance are all key contributors to the limitations society places among women in the workforce. Our text regards the ability for women to give birth as one of the main barriers which block women from advancing professionally. Men, however, face scrutiny as well regarding paternity leave. My knowledge of paternity leave prior to writing this blog was minimal. I assumed paternity leave followed the same guide lines which pertained to maternity leave. According to an article from [babycenter.com](http://babycenter.com), male's career can be equally if not more affected by paternity leave. Perceptions among society view paternity leave as a weakness instead of a necessity. Men may be hesitant to enroll in paternity leave for fear of their reputation at work, others perceptions of their home life, or lacking opportunities from their company. Women and men are equal contributors to the present workforce and should receive equal benefits for family leave.