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15 September 2010
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PARENTS MISSING OUT ON PATERNITY LEAVE

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Paternity leave is an essential time where parents can enjoy a special bonding period with their newborns. However, a recent survey from FreeIndex.co.uk has revealed that 50 per cent of small business owners and employees take no paternity leave at all.

In the latest poll of over 400 respondents, the business information site found a staggering 66 per cent admitted to taking less than a week's leave when their last child was born and only 12 per cent took the entitled two weeks (or more). 22 per cent have taken between one and two weeks.

Martin Turner, managing director of FreeIndex.co.uk comments, "As the owner of a business and a father, I can appreciate how difficult it is to take time off - but I was really surprised to see the high proportion of small business owners who fail to take any paternity leave at all."

Gary Tester, owner of Cosmic Cars, says, "I didn't take time off after the birth of my last child because I had to work; bills had to be paid. I also felt more comfortable working when I could have taken paternity leave; providing for my family made me feel more useful than I would have been at home. I would suggest a tax break for new fathers would be more beneficial than statutory paternity leave. I would have found this a great help."

For more information visit www.FreeIndex.co.uk