

A close-up photograph of Barack Obama, the 44th President of the United States, speaking at a podium. He is wearing a dark suit, a white shirt, and a red tie with white and blue stripes. He has a small American flag pin on his lapel. He is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a serious expression. His right hand is raised, pointing forward with his index finger. The background is a blurred yellow and white pattern.

“In the end, there is no program or policy that can substitute for a parent – a mother or father who will attend those parent/teacher conferences, or help with homework after dinner, or turn off the TV, put away the video games, and read to their child. I speak to you not just as a president, but as a father when I say that responsibility for our children's education must begin at home.”

Presidential Address to Congress
February 24, 2009