

The Importance of Children's Living Environment in Building Children's Character

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Abstract: Children's psychology and behavior development are closely related to their family environment during childhood. Parental companionship and the relationship between the parents are pretty crucial to the development of the children. Existing a good family environment and favorable family relationships will give children a more well-rounded, harmonious, upbeat personality. This essay will use a literature review by collecting information to explore the importance of the family environment to the character and behavioral development of left-behind children in China. The author will analyze the importance of the family environment and children's self-perception to provide a reference to improving the focus of China's children's education. To promote the early integrated development of the children and ensure the development of the family, the children can grow up at the same time. This essay will show the reason causes the child's bad personality and the feasible methods to resolve these problems.

Keywords: Left-behind children, family education, parents' relationship, personality development

1. Introduction

In recent years, the rate of juvenile delinquency has been on the rise, and offenders are becoming increasingly younger. At the same time, the reasons for those youngsters committing a crime are because of lacking parental guidance and care during their childhood, and they seem mostly to be left-behind children. In a recent case in Handan, a city in China, where three other boys murdered a young boy named Wang, all of them lived in the countryside without their parents, only with their grandparents, which means they lacked the knowledge they learned from their parents. This tragic event highlights the crucial role of family in the development of adolescents. A positive and well-rounded family will help people foster growth and avoid harmful societal effects. However, nowadays, the research primarily concentrates on the impact of family education on children's future development but is short of exploring the deficient family education on the formation of adolescents' personalities. This paper investigates the reasons behind adolescent personality defects caused by inadequate family environments. The goal is to increase societal understanding of children's psychology and to appeal to more people, schools, communities, the government, and society to put attention on family education.

2. Parental Time

Family environment has a quite significant effect on the development of children. It can help children develop an attachment to their family by referring to the British psychologist John Bowlby's attachment theory. He describes that attachment as a lasting psychological connectedness between human beings. Moreover, children's attachment develops mainly before 4 years old, and during the period they are born and four years old, they require both their mother and father a lot. Moreover, two effects will influence the attachment: opportunity for attachment and the quality of caregiving. Referring to the Handan Muder case, both the killer and the slain are left-behind children. Their parents have been working outside since they were born. Thus, they are lacking both opportunity and quality attachment. Therefore, it is evident that these three boys may lack impulse control and find it hard to express their feelings by communicating with others. Hence, these are the reasons why the students in Handan use such brutal, horrific methods to kill their classmates. By reviewing this case, the author will examine how differences will be shown in the children with long-time and short-time accompaniment.

2.1. Long Time

If children spend a long time accompanied by their parents, it will enable them to have time with their parents, and they can share their feelings, depression, or relationships with peers and teachers. And during the sharing period. Parents can help them figure out the knowledge involved in the accident and help them build a good relationship value. Children can comprehend better, which may help them improve their physical and psychological skills, become more confident, and develop better communication and social skills; at the same time, they may also be brighter and succeed in every test easily in the future. As for the murder case in Handan, the child offenders may not choose to kill others if they possess an excellent family accompany.

2.2. Short Time

However, nowadays, since adult stress has increased, many parents have to leave their children to earn more and provide a better life for their children. Even though this method will harm the children's development, it can offer a better education opportunity or living environment for their children in the future. For instance, by comparing the GDP in 2022 and 2023, we found that it has increased by 5.2% [1]. Meanwhile, during 2022 and 2023, 176.58 million migrant workers went out of their homes, an increase of 4.68 million or 2.7% over the previous year [2]. It is clear that the number of migrant workers who went out of their countryside was related tremendously to the economic growth of the country, in directly illustrates that more and more village people and children can enjoy better resources and enable them to join a better school as well.

3. Family Atmosphere

Family atmosphere is also an essential factor in developing children's personalities. By referring to the Kuhl PK Meltzoff AN, the behavior of mimic people will start nearly 3 to 5 months [3], which means that the behavior of parents is critical to building the character of their children; if the children living in a place where without the care from their parents, in a depressive atmosphere, everything they want to do need to look careful of their parents eyes, should understand their parents first, in this situation, children will easily be cultivated as a timid person. In a kindergarten in 2002, when other children were in a happy mood during the atmosphere of the New Year, one student in kindergarten2 lost innocence. When the teacher asked her the details, she answered that her parents quarreled daily and feared they would break up [4]. Back to the Handan murder case, it

is clear that both the killers and the assassinated people were left-behind children; without the care of their parents, it may be hard to understand the right behavior. How can these children be a good person, and how can these children cope with misunderstandings between people? In the case of Handan, those left behind children do not have concern from their parents, so how can they cultivate good behavior by learning things from their parents?

4. The Measures to Cope with the Worse Development of Children

4.1. Parents

Since parents are the first teachers to their children, they are not only the teachers but also the friends. Parents should possess the excellent character children need from parents, teachers, and friends. For example, they should be open-minded, kind, and optimistic. Since children are good at mimicking, they will learn these good characteristics from their parents. Moreover, it will benefit their future development as well.

4.1.1. Scientific and Reasonable Expectations Making Children Form a Healthy Upward Psychology

Parents should express and make scientific and reasonable expectations of their child, which should be attainable if it takes some effort [4]. In addition, the goals for the children should include all expectations; parents should not only concentrate on the test score but also develop children's sports, drawing, and chess. Therefore, children may possess good psychology and be more optimistic, so they will have positive aspects toward the future, which may reduce their murder chance as they want to live longer and healthier.

4.1.2. Taking Children Beside

Usually, parents are children's most valuable teachers, especially when they are young since parents can communicate with their children and develop children's brains to a large extent. Moreover, if those parents ask older adults, such as grandparents, to help them take care of the children, many of the grandparents will try their best to provide everything for the children and not tell them right from wrong, it will be hard to cultivate children's boundary sensitivity.

4.1.3. Parents Controlling Their Emotions Well

Some Chinese parents thought a filial son from beneath the stick comes a filial son [5]. They use the power and mandatory training to ask their children to listen to them. Since many of them come from the sticks when they were young, And parents decide anything, some of them may also deceive that they are giving the power to children, for example, letting their children choose what they want, while at the end, they will help their children to decide. However, this is a wrong conclusion, and behavior affects the children's character. Children may become timid, withdrawn, depressed, and inferior because of the fear of making mistakes and head and foot submission. This Can make a personality stubborn child hypocritical, face to face to be passive, and behind bullying or more violent.

4.2. School and Teacher

Schools and teachers also play a vital role in building children's character. Since, in general, many children will spend a certain amount of time in school, they will contact different students. In this

case, teachers are essential for children; they should not only transfer the subject knowledge to them but also need to tell them how to be a good human.

4.2.1. Paying More Attention to Students' Mood and Family Situation

However, many scholars do not encourage teachers to know much about students' families. This method of work is not wrong, but a proper understanding of students' families can help teachers understand students' moods deeply. Since in every country, students will spend half a day in school. In reality, students need to contact many people within the school society, such as peers, teachers, or even various leaders, which will generate student competition. Although students are young, Freud used to say that people are born with jealousy, they will compete in everything, and at the same time, they may try to use peers' families to attack each other. Hence, teachers must know the student's background; since children take aggression at different levels, they can better understand children's psychological movement based on their growing environment. There are some methods that teachers can use to communicate with the parents.

4.2.2. Improving Parents' Communication Consciousness

Nowadays, many parents think that educating students only relies on the teachers and the school. It is the work of both parents and the school. Thus, schools and teachers should first let parents understand they are also essential in building children's character. At the same time, schools also need to communicate with every parent often, which can pass through the information about the school and teachers, so that can encourage parents to participate in school education and teaching, let them feel the value of education and righteousness [6]. Furthermore, establish a perfect home-school communication mechanism, including establishing a parent community, home-school interactive classes, and other communication channels so that parents and teachers can exchange information about the student anytime and anywhere. Thirdly, always holding open houses can enable parents to come to school often, and since it is more intuitive to see how children behave in school, trust teachers more, and also encourage teachers to tell the truth about children's performance and not to tell lies. On the other hand, students will be more afraid of the teacher since the relationship between the teacher and parents is closer.

4.2.3. Using Scientific Communicate Methods

Schools must ensure that the information is kept secret and will not be disclosed to others. Therefore, the communication platform should be safe, and teachers should possess professional quality, which means those teachers should be educated often. In addition, teachers should not talk too much nonsense with students' parents to establish a relationship with parents, as it will let parents suspect the skills of teachers and also might assume teachers possess other reasons.

4.2.4. Extra education for Students to Cultivate Their Safety Awareness

Schools should not only focus on children's campus knowledge, such as mathematics or Chinese but also teach them how to live safely on the earth without the hearts of other people. It is not a simple thing, because parents may think that learning a subject well is the most important thing for children nowadays if they spend much time studying they may not experience any risk. Every risk they face is because they enjoy playing. Hence, it means that schools should simultaneously provide safety education for parents to ensure parents understand the steps and importance of safety education.

4.3. Country

Finally, the country and Society are the foundations of education and children's characteristics. This is because different countries will have different expectations for their children. Therefore, they will formulate different policies and regulations. Because of the differences between different countries' rules and policies, children will show disparities in character; for example, in many European countries, if a thief steals products on the street, there will not be strict and severe punishment, but in China or Singapore. However, if people only steal tiny stuff, they will face a considerable punishment. Therefore, European people will often be more open-minded and advocate freedom more. There are some methods that the government can take to complete students' characteristics.

4.3.1. On-the-spot Investigation Before Formulating the Policy or Rules

Suppose the government publishes the policy straightforwardly without investigating Society. In that case, the policy will not be beneficial enough since this policy will be full of bugs and make several people disagree. Most of the time, if too many people dislike the policy, this is good enough and will be hard to implement. Also, people will generate an anti-party mentality so that they will be malicious about the government, let more people hate the government, and may not follow the instructions given by the government in the future.

4.3.2. The Country Building Many Libraries and Learning Centers

Especially in the left-behind countryside, since in this place, the teacher resources may be less than the big city, so it requires the government to spend its budget revenue to support establishing the library, which can provide extra knowledge to left-behind students, and also encourage them having sensibility of learning is the only way to step into the big city. In addition, after the government constructs the library, it will also reduce the effect of lack of accomplishment of the parents, since children can also learn advanced knowledge or comprehend the newest newspaper, so which enables them to integrate with the world.

5. Conclusion

Teenagers are undergoing fast physical and psychological development at a critical time of constant change, and many factors will affect their psychological health. As the essential influence factors in molding children into adults, family, school, and society should actively undertake the important responsibility for maintaining the healthy growth of teenagers. If children live in a tense and depressed atmosphere, they will feel much more depressed, thus making them timid, and the introverted do not have to dare to tell others what they think. On the other hand, a harmonious and friendly atmosphere will make the child more outgoing. The paper lacks data now, and since all the data are secondary, it will significantly affect the effectiveness and value of the data analysis because we may be working in a completely wrong direction. Secondly, critical data may not be available due to the influence of China's general environment. Hence, to make the research data more complete and accurate, the author will collect a large number of data and confirm the accuracy of the data as much as possible.

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