

Impacts of Homeschooling on Socialization

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Soc 322 Methods of Social Research

Literature Review

The socialization process in children has always been described as a passive process in that children are found to mostly adapt to the cultural elements of the immediate society which include norms, behaviors, customs, and values (Felkner, 2013). Theories related to passive socialization have often depicted the close relationship between socialization and how it models a child to fit society. In regards to the society, the family has always been described as the primary means through which the children are socialized while other sources include school, peers, cultural beliefs of the society and media also play an important process in the socialization of children although they can be highly controlled as opposed to the family context (Keskin, 2005).

The social environment is normally characterized by peer pressure and other negative aspects such as the prevalence of drugs among other features. Primary socialization Theory (PST) has always indicated the prevalence of certain behaviors among youths as a direct result of the primary social orientation during the early years of their development (Francis & Thorpe, 2010). There has been a continuous adaptation to homeschooling by several parents for example in the U.S whereby there were only 10,000 to 15,000 of the total children being homeschooled in the periods around 1970. However, the number had significantly increased to 2 million as of 2010 with the current ratio of the students being homeschooled accumulating to a one-fifth of those enrolled in private schools (Murphy, 2015 P.4).

The results go ahead in depicting the impact of the homeschooling strategy on the development of children due to the growing popularity among parents who normally analyze s

system before taking their children through those systems thus showing how advantageous the intervention is.

Process of socialization

Socialization among many researchers has always been considered a learning process meaning that it is a continuous process where families have often been referred to as the most influential agent within the whole process (Freeman & Shovel, 1953). This can be supported by empirical researches that have been conducted on socialization which refers to the process as a direct result of the interaction between young people and their environment. The environments are often divided into small groups often referred to as microsystems.

Homeschooling and its impact on socialization

There has been a huge number of studies conducted on the impact of homeschooling which has often indicated that homeschooled children tend to develop better in regards to their emotional, psychological and social aspects of development (Ray, 2016 Pg.90). Several aspects are normally investigated under socialization development, for example, the self-concept whereby homeschooled children exhibited statistically significant results which were higher than those in institutions (Medlin, 2006). This provision is supported by the fact that parents normally insist on some socially viable behavior such as respect and get along well with others from diverse backgrounds.

The influence is also overseen in their effect on the dressing and food habits since they are mainly influenced by their parents thus giving them the freedom to alter the thinking pattern of their children in regards to fashion (Freeman and Shovel, 2010 Pg.97). Thus it is correct to ascertain that generally, children in homeschooling programs perform better than those the

conventional schools based on gender and age lineages thus providing better performance in regards to socialization skills (Medlin, 2006).

The cognitive aspect of social development has also been exhibited to be higher than in those students in public institutions. Several factors can be attributed to this, for example, the lack of prevalence of situations that may trigger or influence a student into engaging in negative behaviors such as drug abuse from peer pressure in institutions. Schools of this nature normally accommodate a wide range of students from diversified social and cultural beliefs and characteristics. Since the socialization process is mainly impacted by the immediate surroundings, parents are able to control the negative factors to socialization and nature good social skills like responsibility among their children. These straits are however exhibited in the later stages of life whereby Children under homeschooling programs are able to make more rationalized decisions based on evidence as opposed to their counterparts in institutions.

Homeschooling has however come under heavy scrutiny as an intervention towards development in various aspects from psychological and educational experts. The main argument is that as a learning process, children are best suited to programs that encourage plays and widespread interchange between different students or children from diverse backgrounds. However, homeschooling only designs the sociological patterns of the parent who may not be familiar with a variety of information in the world that are essential in the development of social aspects of children. This is seen in the lack of engagement of these individuals in collective behaviors or interaction with others (Murphy, 2014).

The homeschooling strategy normally has a wide range of differences between different students whereby they normally exhibit different outcomes which, might either be positive or negative. This brings a problem whereby the programs might require a specialized program

which might not be within the parent's knowledge realm. Scholars have often viewed this as a weakness of applying this intervention on the child since they might end up on the loss due to inefficiency in the parent-directed programs (Isenberg, 2007).

Conclusion

The homeschooling interventions normally have a wide range of spill effects one of them being socialization whereby the parent is a better position to influence positive behaviors to their children while at the same time keeping them at distance from the negative influences such as drugs and peer pressure. With the correct intervention processes, the program can be quite beneficial to children since it improves on the various aspects of the social development in children through the provision of quality. However, the provision normally leads to a number of problems within the society due to the societal perception of the intervention despite the positive depiction of statistics.

As much as homeschooling interventions to learning have always proved to be a positive approach towards attaining better results in developmental aspects related to the social environment, research studies have indicated some negative attributes that have been attributed to homeschooling. An example of this is inequality whereby the quality that comes with homeschooling will create an advantage of the other in regards to the level and quality of knowledge acquired. The inequality is a vice that has been attributed to the lack of unequal level of access to economic production factors and other social privileges between the member of the society which leads to the development of stress on societal health and social problems. Competition between people in hierarchy positions normally increases in what is mainly referred to as status competition that leads to the unequal distribution of some resources (Rowlingson, 2011).

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