

Online College vs. Online High School

Education is the longing to succeed in life. Without it, where would our dreams end up? IN today's society completion of college is the launching pad for success. It doesn't matter if the individual graduates from an online college are actually attending a university,. High school students should not be allowed to attend and complete high school by means of the online-internet. The reason has to do with social issues, peer/adult interaction and individual growth that is associated from being exposed to academia.

Online education has had tremendous growth this year. It has gone up 20% in this past year (Boser 1). Online college is an excellent development for the society. Now not only does it help young college students attain their degree at their own pace, it also assists older adults who may not have had the time to attend an actual college campus. A good example is a woman who is in her thirties and decides she wants to go back to college and get her degree. There are a few complications in her way. One, she has a husband and two children she has to attend to. Two, she has a full-time job. This scenario does not allow her to have time to attend classes on a college campus. By attending an online college, she would have a sufficient amount of time to be at the needs of her children. And this allows her to work at her own pace.

High school education is important for a teen-ager. This helps people grow and find a group of friends. Going to high school is an experience of life. High school determines whether or not students make the right decisions and attend college. Social interaction with other peers will help that person develop people skills. If a teen-ager is in his or her house doing school work by his or herself instead of communicating with adults and other peers, how will that student develop any relationship skills. Students should not waste their high school years on the internet taking classes.

High school courses should not be allowed to be taken in the internet because the student is missing out on the classroom setting. In this classroom setting students can develop a relationship where the instructor can determine the student's strengths and weaknesses. Whereas taking online classes the students will never meet the teacher and no relationship will be developed. A classroom setting will also develop a student to student relationship by assisting each other in time off tutoring and questions.

Think about it. Who would get more attention by the teacher and by other peers? That is right the high school student who is not taking online classes. Is that what a 16 year old boy would want to do

everyday until he graduated from high school? The child would not get to graduate with his class. He or she would miss out on school functions such as: basketball games, Friday night football, or even volleyball. What if a student was an excellent athlete and had a career in a sport that he or she enjoyed? But, that student would never have a chance to prove his or her true ability because they had no high school scouts looking at that person.

Online education is a great new tool, but only for the college population. The enrollment for our nation in online education has increased even more since last year and is continuing to grow. There has been almost a 4,000 student increase at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said Nancy Aden. For the next few years, UNL suspects to have have a 10 percent increase in students. Aden said most of the students enrolled in the online courses are females who are working full-time. There have been surveys done by different UNL academic departments saying students tend to agree that online courses are very good. “They rate online courses at the same quality as on-campus courses,” said Aden (Scarpello).

In conclusion, online education is a great investment for the college degree. It is not a good way to attain a high school diploma because students will be missing out on social interaction with peers. The student will never develop a relationship with his or her instructor; and they will be neglected from school events.

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“Predisposed to Divorce”

Children are the future as many people say. Children, even as young as the age of three are influenced by the actions of others around them. Perhaps the most influential people in a child’s life are the child’s parents. As a child grows and develops, that influence begins to govern a greater area of the person’s life. When time comes to search for a possible mate, often will a person look to their parents for guidance on the matter? So then what happens when the parents are divorced? Are the children of divorced parents predisposed to divorce, or do they simply choose their own path of marriage? As Dr. Jane Rosen-Grandon points out, “Children whose parents are divorced may be predisposed to consider the option of divorce more readily” (Rosen-Grandon, par. 5). The children are indeed predisposed to having a divorce because they have been genetically (though the certainty of the effect of genes on all children is still up in the air), mentally, and physically been exposed to divorce in their youth, and therefore see divorce as an attainable option in their adult life.

In a study conducted by the New Scientist magazine, the researchers found that “Genetic makeup has a strong influence on whether or not your marriage will last” (Muir, par. 1). While the study was only conducted on identical twins, the results were astonishing. The researchers studied a group of approximately 8000 twins, both identical and non-identical, over a period of twenty years, and the twins who were identical carried a specific gene that the non-identical twins did not carry. The researchers found that the “Identical twins, who share the same genes, were more likely to follow the same patterns of divorce than non-identical twins, who share roughly half their genes” (Muir, par. 3). As the results are still quite preliminary in the case of genes affecting marital status, this finding leads to believe that genes may affect divorce.

The mental perception of divorce is a key factor when deciding whether or not to get a divorce. The link between the “Childhood living arrangements of children to the characteristics of their marriage identifies a mechanism through which well-being is transmitted across generations” (Teachman, par 3). Children are brought up in the ways of their parents, good or bad. The children have a particular mind-set given to them by their parents, due to the fact that their parents have gone through the process of divorce and therefore the child will have a path to follow. If a “father’s involvement with children stems from the meanings and importance they assign the fathers” (Hensley and Pasley 1), what does it say to a child when

his or her father walks out and leaves that child behind? The child is more likely to follow the example of his or her parents because the child knows the ramifications of the mental toils the divorce will have on them due to their previous experience with their own parents' divorce. The child will rationalize, "My mom and dad are divorced, so I guess getting a divorce is okay." Because divorce is so readily available in today's society, when someone goes through a divorce, that person is not looked down upon as he or she might have been in the past decades. The mental and emotional constraints are not present. The mental worry of which parent the child will live with is not prevalent any more due to shared custody laws that protect both the mother and the father.

As a child grows up in the shadows of divorce, that child will set up an emotional process of self-doubt in many different areas of his or her own life. When people fear failure, they cannot come to the point of self-actualization. That is, when people are in constant fear of failure, they do not come to the point in their lives when they feel complete. If people don't feel complete in one area of their life, there is a possibility that they do not feel complete in other areas, such as their marriage.

As children grow, they need a father figure in their life. Ronald Rohner, director of the Center for the Study of Parental Acceptance and Rejection in the School of Family Studies at the University of Connecticut, says that "A father's love – or lack of it – is a critical yet understudied factor in child development" (qtd. In Thompson, par. 2). When the physical aspect of a father, or a mother for that matter, is not around, the child will learn how to adjust to the parent he or she chooses to live with. Take for instance, if a girl, whose parents had been divorced, lived with her mother her whole adolescent life and never saw her father, when she married, the girl would have a horrible time learning how to live with a man for the first time. She would have to adjust to the odd noises that a man can make, as well as the sight of sports equipment everywhere. While this may seem like something small to some, this can be a great deal to someone who has never physically lived with the other gender before. Therefore, when a child of divorced parents comes to a hard place with having to adjust to the stress of living with the opposite gender, that child may consider divorce more readily than someone who was of a married household.

Although there are many reasons why children are predisposed to divorce, such as genetically, mentally and physically, in the end, people will choose the route in which they will take concerning marriage. One of the best ways to prevent more divorce in the coming generations is for parents to realize

that their actions will affect their children. Parents today are, “More fearful of divorce because they lived through it” (Gardner par. 9). That is encouraging in the sense that parents of today’s generation are trying to stay married because they have experienced it themselves. Maybe the present generation will set a better example for the future generation: the children.

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