Rogerian Argument

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Since decades, the practice of homeschooling has dominated the paradigm of educational sector. The guardians and parents deem it their principal responsibility to teach the generation and impart the knowledge which they received in their life. As per an estimate, the number of homeschoolers accounts for approximately 3% of the overall school-age population in the United States of America (USA). Homeschooling is an essential choice for parents who prefer to dispense the preeminent education for their children. However, the opponents of homeschooling deem it an impediment toward social and cognitive development. They underpin the essential perspective that children ought to be permitted to interact potentially with their surroundings and homeschooling deprives them of this necessity. It is affiliated with potentially abusive circumstances and extremism subjection in isolated environments. Contrary to this, the advocates of homeschooling nourish the views that children are advanced and healthy learners as they receive critical attention and have a certain extent of control over their learning. Anecdotal evidence and research illustrate these productive outcomes are lost in extreme circumstances but true in a secure environment. Ensuring educational assistance and safety for the homeschooling students ought to be the top priority as it can supplement and urge guardians to dispense essential knowledge and intimate mentorship to their children which lack in the public schools.

To begin with, the concerns of the opponents of homeschooling must be highlighted. They adhere to the fundamental school of thought that schools are the essential communities which not only glorify collective learning but also fuel creativity and motivation in the form of extracurricular activities (“Alternatives to the Traditional,” 2014). These activities play an instrumental role in instilling prudent societal values, integrated norms of cooperation and contributing toward society. These values further supplement the objectives of policyholders that strive to inculcate social values. The opponents nourish the argument as both government and society should partake in contributing toward the development of children. These children will shape the state of affairs in the future and thus require profound exposure to quality education and diverse community. Essentially, parents are entitled with the privilege to influence the growth of children but homeschooling underpins the sole dictation of a child's development that can cast adverse impacts. For instance, children will pursue the belief and teachings of their parents without pondering upon them. These values can be biased toward specific communities or ethnicities and in extreme cases, may incorporate fallacious information. The cost of not dispensing the accepted objectives to the children outweighs the productivity of homeschooling.

Second, homeschooling is devoid of the element of engaging and communicating with a diverse community. Children will struggle to unleash their potential and recognize their inherent talents in the absence of exposure. Unfortunately, it is deemed a petty matter in contemporary society. The cynics of homeschooling strengthen their argument on the grounds of self-actualization. For instance, self-actualized children will be cognizant of their limitations and strengths. Thus, they must be nourished from an early age under the mentorship of seasoned and qualified professionals. Under the paradigm of homeschooling, parents are exclusive teachers which cause adverse ramifications. Parents are inherently familiar with the needs of the children; however, their assessment can lack accuracy. At times, parents advance to assume their children may share the same set of skills and talents possessed by them. Likewise, the cynics stipulate each individual requires the mentorship, which should be other than parents, to recognize their identity. Schools offer an exquisite opportunity to become self-actualized and head towards their ambitions. The opponents of homeschooling establish their belief by asserting influence on the responsibility of the government to abrogate the culture of homeschooling to strengthen the cognitive, social and emotional development of children.

Third, the cynics of homeschooling confront the widespread perception that public education and schools require immediate and evolutionary reforms. The timeline of the events that occurred in the past provides empirical evidence of these reforms proving to be futile. The homeschoolers should not fuel their argument on the basis of flaws in the system. Instead, they should embark towards rationality by striving or reinstatement of homeschooling than perpetuating resentment against the contemporary state of education (“Home Schooling Should Be Banned,” n.d.). In addition, the cynics highlight flaws in the argument of homeschoolers as public education can never be perfect in true letter and spirits. Each individual nourishes diverse beliefs which are often influenced by political allegiance or resentment. Public schools are the nurseries to impart critical, essential and profound knowledge and intellect to the children. If they are deprived of the opportunity, they will be subjected to injustice and discriminatory treatment. Such extreme is the manifestations of the cynics towards the practice of homeschooling. However, the advocated of homeschooling successfully provide a rational and intellectual answer to the questions and abashment imposed by the opponents.

To highlight the arguments of the advocates of homeschoolers, the proposition that a school teacher can mentor the children in the best possible manner is flawed. A class comprises more than 20 students in schools which is higher in comparison to the numbers of kids taught by each parent. Besides, the underpaid school teacher has to adhere to the obligation of teaching a vast range of students and thus can never dispense appropriate mentoring to each individual. Since children spend most of the time under the supervision of their parents, they are deeply familiar with the skills and talents of children who need to be polished. Several instances reveal homeschooled children are exposed to more extra-curricular activities because of the time and intimate guidance. Consequently, mentoring children is maximized in the environment of homeschooling.

Second, homeschooling never implies children will be blindly influenced by the beliefs of parents. If parents are religious, they will prefer to enroll their children in similar schools. In 2007, a study stipulated a majority of parents were concerned about the environments of schools and the company cherished by their children (Ayres, n.d.). Primarily, parents desire to educate children, not indoctrinate them. Furthermore, the advocates of homeschooling offer a potential argument to the debate on diversity and separation. An intricate assessment of the matter demonstrates homeschooling is integrating children into the domestic community. For instance, they are not influenced by the arbitrary structure of schooling and are locked up in schools. They can spend hours to become familiar with their community whole homeschooling and can harness a persistent interaction with them. One can never imply that removal of children from classrooms is likely to restrict them inside the walls of their house. The substantial involvement in a community manifests essential lessons, values and morals which cannot be observed in schools. The foremost argument supplementing the notion of homeschooling is protecting children from the exposure of the adverse company. For instance, vulnerable children will never face the menace to be bullied or involved in youth gangs. As per empirical research, children educated at home are above average when measured on the scale of emotional, social and psychological development, self-actualization, family integration, partaking in community services and boosting their self-esteem. Thus, the advocates of homeschooling stipulate a rational argument supplemented with empirical evidence to shun the contentious questions and concerns posed by the cynics.

Third, public school is an explicit illustration of the proposition that one size does not fit all. Underpaid teachers have to teach an immense number of students which comprise everyone, mentally deficient teenagers and exceptionally intelligent children (Sizer, 2011). Irrefutably, quality is comprised because of uncertainty and teachers struggle to sustain a modicum of organization in their class. Meanwhile, the lack of educational quality desecrates the spirits of teaching children in schools. All of these instances call for strengthening the practice of homeschooling. Homeschooled children are dispensed with concentrated supervision of adults who comprehend the skills, weaknesses, strengths and aspirations. It is worthy to deliberate the productivity instilled in public schools by homeschooling. It reduces, for instance, the strain and burden on public education. Homeschooling enables the smooth execution in teaching students under challenging circumstances as both the slow and fast learners will absorb education as per their intellect and standards of apprehension. Therefore, homeschooling must be deemed the ultimate platform to equip children with the remarkable dispensation of knowledge under the mentorship of guardians who are the appropriate choice.

The critical assessment of the deliberation underpins that extensive information is available to substantiate the arguments of the advocates of homeschooling. It is a widespread reality that parents advance to teach children under supervision and in a controlled environment. For instance, Oregon supervises the homeschoolers by requiring the students to appear in standardized tests in several grades. This necessity is the only fundamental requirement. As per researches, several states seek even less from communities who prefer to homeschool: 26 states never seek testing and 11 states do not demand peculiar notifications from the homeschooling parents (Ayres, n.d.). Instead of formal guidelines, parental prerogative assumes the role of law. In these circumstances, the parental discretion yields benefits to the children but the children may suffer in the other case.

Besides, there exist several instances where children revealed their radical experiences. Former homeschoolers shared their educational experiences which were harmful and dangerous because of the fundamental stance of their parents. A woman revealed she was raised by a person who had a mental disorder and her only desire was making her obedient and homeschooling was one of the manifestations pursued the purpose. It is observed in several instances that parents prefer not to actively engage to teach their children at home. For instance, they advance to hand out books and notes to them and make children responsible for teaching themselves. Such instances cast adverse impacts on children and have a lasting impact on their social, emotional, physical and intellectual health. Necessary steps ought to be taken to secure the children from these detrimental circumstances.

In addition, contentious outcomes are not only confined to abusive situations. In several cases, homeschoolers face challenges to accomplish on the same level as per their fellows in spite of the profound attention of their parents (Sizer, 2011). A wide range of research has reflected children rarely achieve on the same level as per their fellows because of the influence of traditional and structured homeschooling. In unstructured kind of homeschooling, a child determines the learning process while the learning process in structured forms is dictated by parents. In addition, structured homeschooling primarily focuses on individual interests but the parents often formulate a plan or guide to enhance the learning of the children. The incorporation of parental assistance is a potential indicator of healthy learning and growth of a child. In several manifestations of homeschooling, a potential lack of parental assistance causes detrimental challenges.

On the contrary, the score tests of children, whose parents homeschooled them, scored higher in independent implementation test in comparison to the unstructured learners and traditional students. It is an explicit illustration of the research highlighting the accomplishments of homeschoolers. The primary school of thought glorifies the involvement of parents as the fundamental element fuelling the success of homeschoolers. For instance, the individualized set of instructions, small class size and attentive focus on specific areas as writing and reading. The flexible environment of homeschool enables parents to shape the schedule of teaching the curriculum as per the needs and availability of the children. Irrefutably, the public schools struggle to devote time and attention to each child because of heavily filled classrooms and the influence of the stakeholders.

Essentially, both the proponents and opponents of homeschooling offer rational arguments backed with empirical evidence. For students, homeschooling serves as the potential platform to manifest enhanced satisfaction and high achievement. Some circumstances, however, are detrimental to the profound development of a child. Neither schools nor homes prove to be the excellent platform which can serve the needs, intellect and development of children thoroughly. As per the arguments deliberating, both the sides of the debate confront adversities and cultivate productivity to a certain extent. The need of the hour is exploring a balanced and rational technique that sustains the benefits of homeschooling and mitigates the perils. Abuse is a menace which can take place in any educational settings. In the past, homeschooling families were bound to seek assistance through a casual grapevine of survivors. The survivor, nowadays, is aiming at legal reforms which assess state policies for securing the homeschoolers. These severe cases ought to be confronted stringently in order to make homeschooling a rewarding and safe practice for parents. A critical appraisal of the matter highlights the significance of having the resources at disposal. When a person is found to have abused a child, he must be accounted for his radical actions with iron hands. Thus, advocating for homeschooling is not the solution or responsibility nourished by the supporters. They should advance to support reforms to make homeschooling secure and productive for everyone.

To conclude, extensive research needs to be conducted on the principles of unstructured homeschooling. The utilization of a holistic tool to measure the outcome will best serve the purpose as standardizes tests are often complicated. Parents need to be aware of and familiar with the best practices for their children. The primary onus lies on guardians to explore the potential source to accelerate the learning and development of their children thoroughly. The opponents can base their claims on the grounds of incompetence, inability and illiterate nature of parents but this argument is devoid of the substance to shun the very practice of homeschooling. Primarily, parents never advance to teach their children if they deem themselves incompetent or unable to mentor in a systematic, seasoned and profound manner. To sum up, parents cast a significant impact on the learning of children regardless of being conducted at home or a traditional school. In any educational avenue, the involvement of parents is the fundamental element to benefit the children. Another plausible solution for the problem is shaping the same benefits as homeschooling in traditional classrooms by cultivating time in individual children and creating choice in classrooms. The true changes in public school classrooms will require several educational reforms but the pivotal point is that the learning environment is of paramount significance than the avenue. As public schools of struggle and work to meet the needs of the diverse children, dispensing quality homeschooling experience must be a priority in several states.

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