

THE BENEFICIAL SIDE OF HOMESCHOOLS AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN PRIMARY STUDENTS' EDUCATION

Khamidova Mohinakhon

Supervisor: Senior teacher in Kimyo International University in Tashkent

Qoraboyeva Dinnoza Shakhobiddin kizi

4-grade student of "Primary Education" Faculty in Kimyo International University in Tashkent

Abstract: *This article talks about the difference of homeschooling and public schooling in different countries. Advantages and disadvantages of both homeschool and public school education is discussed. According to the research, both schools have their own pros and cons of teaching students. Parents should choose themselves which school is better, effective for their children and lead them show high academic performance in their professional career.*

Keyword: *Homeschooling, Public school, primary education.*

Education is one of the essential part of our life. It gives us knowledge about how to live, how to communicate and socialize, how to earn money, how to prevent ourselves and so on. Without education person would be a human being without any arms and legs. As water need to human being to survive, education is also necessary for people to survive in a modern, competitive world. That is why parents try to educate their children from the early ages. Some parents prefer to give their children to public schools, while other parents choose to give their children to homeschooling. The term homeschooling is not clear to all people, because only few countries have homeschooling education system.

What is homeschooling?

Homeschooling is an educational process that students are taught at home. On the other hand, public education is an educational process that uses a separate building to teach a diverse group of children.

Modern homeschooling began in the past in the different forms. In the past from the 1970 years homeschooling won to have a legal status. However, after some years homeschooling was restricted and all students had to go conventional schools. During that time, collaboration of parents, siblings and in some situations hired tutors gave instructions to students.

Parents choose the curriculum that they teach to their children by themselves. They decide what kind of books or what kind of course the children should study. However, children must know how to write, read and solve mathematical problems. In addition, parents can add extracurricular courses according to their children's interests. Most of the parents teach religious books to their children.

Homeschooling is banned in many countries on all continents and only few countries have homeschool education system. Austria, Australia, Canada, Belgium, Israel, Italy, Norway, New Zealand, South Africa, United Kingdom, United States are the countries that homeschooling is a legally accepted. However, the rules, regulation are different in these countries. Some countries allow parents to homeschool their children from elementary through high school, while others do not allow teens to learn at home, they must attend school. Furthermore, some countries are less strict and give parents freedom in terms of which curriculum to use. The kid should likewise accept yearly tests to guarantee they progress in similar subjects as their friends. The number of homeschooled children are growing. For instance, 1.1 million students were homeschooled in the USA in 2003 and it increased to 1.5 million in 2007 and 3.1 million in fall 2020.

Academic achievement of homeschoolers are higher than students who study in public and private schools. For example, according to statistics, the home-instructed regularly score 15 to 25 percentile focuses above state funded school understudies on normalized scholastic accomplishment tests. (The average for public schools is roughly in the 50th percentile; scores range from 1 to 99.) According to Ray (2015), Black homeschoolers scored 23-42 percentile points higher than Black public schoolers.

Parents' reasons for homeschooling

- Parents want to individualize the curriculum and learning environment to each child
- Teaching subjects deeply and more academically than schools
- Parents want to use their own pedagogical approaches that is suitable for their children's learning styles
- Enhancing family relationships among parents and siblings
- Giving young people and adults guided and reasoned social interactions
- Parents want to keep their children in a safe environment without peer pressure, alcoholism, bullying, racism and negative sides of schools
- Protect children from different infectious diseases like Coronavirus.
- Teaching more religious values, beliefs.

The advantages of homeschools

Flexibility and availability

Parents and children can choose their studying schedule. It is very flexible for busy parents, because they teach their children when they have free time. It optimize the learning process. Some students cannot acquire knowledge in the morning, because they may sleepy and their brain may not be focused at that time. That is why it creates flexibility for both parents and children.

Safe and controlled environment

Most of the parents want to keep their children at home because of the increased incidence of bullying. They want to create a safe environment for their children without any negativity of schools.

Opportunity to choose curriculum

Parents can choose or add some topics, courses, books to the curriculum. It gives them the opportunity to teach students according to their interests, abilities and skills. This is important for families who want to pay more attention to the religious and cultural knowledge of students that schools do not discuss.

An opportunity to strengthen family connections

When students learn at home, they more socialize, communicate with their parents and siblings. It helps to strengthen family relationships and know each other better.

Learning for knowledge

The pace and progress of learning are governed by parents. Children's subject-matter proficiency improves as a result of this. The center movements from towards how much is learned, not the way that high the grade is.

Disadvantages of homeschools

Limited socialization opportunities

Homeschooled children do not communicate and socialize with their peers and this leads them less sociable and shy. For removing this problem they need to participate to extracurricular activities for socializing with friends.

Required parental responsibility

Parents should try hard to give high knowledge, follow the schedule and enforce their children to do the tasks on time.

Potential lack of learning facilities

Public school is better for this reason, because there is no enough, necessary equipment at home. For example, library, laboratory and art studios are not available at home.

Why Public school is better than Homeschool?

Teachers are experts

Teachers have the degree and they studies years to be a teacher. So, they are more knowledgeable than parents and they have better pedagogical skills and competences.

Socialization with friends

This is the main reason for why public schools are better than homeschools. When students go to schools they interact with their friends, exchange ideas, thoughts and they get motivation when their friends show great academic results.

Less expensive education

Public schools are free and do not ask any tuition fees for studying at school in most of the countries.

Cons of Public schools

Negative peer influence

Bullying is one of the big reason of choosing homeschool education among parents. It affects students' education, mental and physical health.

Lack of student consideration

Every child is different and their perception skill of knowledge is also different. Some students are gifted and others are a low-achieving learner. So, they need different approaches to teach the topic in the class.

Is it possible and effective to set homeschool education in Uzbekistan?

Homeschool education is not available in Uzbekistan. Children go to public schools and private schools and go to schools from elementary through high school is compulsory in Uzbekistan. Public schools are totally free and do not require any tuition fees. Private schools set their own tuition fees and parents choose whether their children go to public school or private school. However, there is no opportunity for parents to educate their children at home.

Most of the parents work and do their career, while others do not have enough knowledge and competence to teach their children at home. During the coronavirus pandemic, many parents do not stand with several children and they could not teach their children. I do not think many teachers would choose homeschool education in Uzbekistan. However, it would be better if homeschooling were available in Uzbekistan as well. Some children are not able to go schools, they do not have good health or some problems with their character or behavior. For that reason, if government allowed homeschooling, it would be the best opportunity for parents who have some difficulties of attending their children to schools.

Conclusion

Both homeschooling and public schooling have advantages and disadvantages. It is parents' choice to choose the best education system according to their children behavior, learning style and others. In addition, parents should think about themselves when making decision whether they have enough time, competence to teach their children at home. It is important to consider the allowance of homeschooling in Uzbekistan to give better education to students who have some health problems and behavior.

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