Parenting...

What Role Do Parents Have in the Development of Their Children?

Presented by
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Genes & Behavior
Overview

- The Nature vs. Nurture Debate
- Parenting Styles
- Birth Order
Introduction

Who are parents?
- The people who created you
- Biological or adoptive caregivers
- Guardians
- People who oversee the development of children
- Who do you classify as a parent?
Introduction

How Does Parenting Relate to Genes & Behavior?

~ Nature basis
   - Parents essentially provide the genetic basis for one’s development

~ Nurture basis
   - Parents influence the development of an individual
The Nature vs. Nurture Debate

- Is development all based on nature? Do genes determine everything in one’s development?
- Is development all based on nurture? Does the environment determine one’s development?
- Is development an interaction or even a fusion of nature and nurture?
- What role do nature and nurture play in the development of individuals?
Nature vs. Nurture

• We have concluded through various discussions that one’s development is based on an interaction of genes and environment
• What role do parents play in the development of a child?
• What role do others play in the development of a child?
  - Peers
  - Teachers
  - Extended Family
  - Siblings
  - Mentors
Developmental Influences

It is evident that parents are not the only people to influence a child’s development, but how do they compare to others including peers, teachers, etc.?
Background

~ Decreased Role of Parents throughout development
~ Increased role of peers, teachers, etc. throughout development
Parenting

- Baumrind’s Parenting Styles
  - Authoritarian
  - Authoritative
  - Permissive
Authoritarian

- Value Control & Unquestioning obedience
- Rejecting & Unresponsive
- Try to make children conform to a set standard of conduct and punish when they violate the standard
Permissive

- Value self-expression & self-regulation
- Make few demands in regards to behavior & conduct
- Allow children to monitor their own activities
Authoritative

- Value a child’s individuality
- Stress social constraints
- Explain reasoning for rules and encourage verbal interaction
- Set sensible & realistic standards
- Accepting & Responsive
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Accepting, Responsive</th>
<th>Rejecting, Unresponsive</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demanding, Controlling</td>
<td>Authoritative</td>
<td>Authoritarian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Undemanding, Uncontrolling</td>
<td>Indulgent</td>
<td>Neglectful</td>
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Maccoby & Martin

- Authoritative
  - Highest academic achievement
  - Highest social skills
  - Few behavioral problems
  - Few psychosocial problems

- Authoritarian
  - 2\textsuperscript{nd} highest academic achievement
  - 2\textsuperscript{nd} lowest behavioral problems
  - 3\textsuperscript{rd} highest social skills
  - 3\textsuperscript{rd} lowest psychosocial problems
Maccoby & Martin

- **Indulgent**
  - 2\textsuperscript{nd} highest social skills
  - 2\textsuperscript{nd} lowest psychosocial problems
  - 3\textsuperscript{rd} highest academic achievement
  - 3\textsuperscript{rd} lowest behavioral problems

- **Neglectful**
  - Lowest academic achievement
  - Lowest social skills
  - Highest psychosocial problems
  - Highest behavioral problems
Dr. John Gottman’s Parenting Styles

- Dismissive
- Disapproving
- Laissez-faire
- Emotional Coaching
Parenting Discussion

Based on these theories and perspectives on parenting, what is your take on the issue?

Do you believe the research and that authoritative parenting is the best method of parenting?

Do children of authoritarian, indulgent, and neglectful children develop just as well or do just as well in society?

Based on your own personal experience, what is your perspective?
Movie Clip

- From this clip, what is your take on the role of parenting on development?
  - How did the different lifestyles and parenting influence the development of the twins?
  - What aspects of development did environmental influences not alter?
Birth Order

Movie Clip

While watching the clip, examine how birth order influences the development of the children.
Birth Order Activity

~ Separate into groups based on birth order
  ~ Oldest Children
  ~ Middle Children
  ~ Youngest Children
  ~ Only Children

~ While in your group, come up with a list of qualities that the majority of the group possesses such as creative, organized, controlling, etc.
Birth Order

- What are some common characteristics your group came up with in regards to your specific birth order?
- What are some personal examples that display these characteristics?
Birth Order

- How do your perceptions of birth order compare with the children in the movie?
- Do the children exemplify what you would believe is a typical characteristic of the oldest child, middle, etc.?
Research Findings on Birth Order

- **Oldest Child**
  - Dominant
  - Independent
  - Intelligent
  - Ambitious
  - Responsible
  - Caring
  - Friendly
  - Leader
  - Nurturing

- **Middle Child**
  - Sociable
  - Thoughtful
  - Insecure
  - Rebellious
  - Intelligent
  - Ambitious
  - More Relaxed
  - Sometimes quite outgoing
Research Findings On Birth Order

- Youngest Child
  - Very Sociable
  - Thoughtful
  - Dependent
  - Friendly
  - Spoiled
  - Less Demanding

- Only Child
  - High Achievers
  - Responsible
  - Intelligent
  - Ambitious
  - Spoiled
  - Self-Centered
  - Shy
Thoughts

- Do you agree with the various research findings?
- How and why do you think that some children do not align with the typical birth order characteristics?
- Do you believe that the timing of the birth influences birth order characteristics?
- How does parenting influence birth order characteristics?
Closing Remarks

Commentary Question

How do you think your birth order and your parents’ parenting style have influenced your development?