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Assignment: Essay on single parenthood.

Single parenthood/ Single parenting

What is single parenting?

Single parenting/parenthood is a situation or a condition whereby a parent has to bring up a child alone without a partner. Single parenting over the ages, has been caused due to several reasons, like: divorce, death of one partner, abandonment by one partner and so on. This situation or cases leaves the one parent to carryout and single handedly raise the child/children. That parent automatically becomes the father and mother at the same. Sometimes or rather most times, being a single parent has is not as easy as it seems. People may say, that they prefer to single handedly, raise their child or children so that they could train them in the ways that they want to without interference of the other partner. Sometimes it is easier said than done. A child growing up deserves to have both parent figure around to feel loved and cherished and nurtured in the right way, but doesn’t also mean that a single parent can’t do it but it would be way harder because they lack support of the other partner.

The face of single parenthood has changed in recent decades. It’s no longer synonymous with “broken homes” or “illegitimate children”, probably at least in part because single parenting is more common now, and parents are more likely to be on their own because they choose to be. For example: Former president of the United States of America was brought up in a non-traditional household and it didn’t keep him from reaching the highest political office of the nation. This example is just trying to say that children who are being brought up in a single parent home doesn’t determine their future or restrict them from achieving their full potentials.

However, while kids raised by single parents are less likely to be stigmatized than they once were, many are still at risk for certain psychological and developmental problems. For example, children from single parent homes may be more likely to drop out of school and they are also more vulnerable to alcohol and drug abuse. To fully comprehend the effect of single parenting on children and how it is difficult for a single parent to steer their kids away from these pitfalls, it is important to look at the various factors that can have negative impact. Single parenting sometimes is not necessary the source of these problems, but a combination of economic pressures, family instability and conflict between parents. In most cases single parents produces a child or children that are well nurtured and disciplined than a child who comes from a complete home. Now the question is, does single parenting affect any particular child? The answer is, it depends. A single parent with adequate resources may provide a stable, nurturing home in which children thrive just as well as those who come from complete parent homes. On the other hand, a single parent who is scraping by and has little time, energy or skills for parental duties might have children who are at risk for variety of problems.

Some of the problems of faced by children in single-parenting households include;

* The need for extra hands around the house may sometimes reduce the time a child can take part in typical children’s activities such as hanging out with friends or playing.
* If a child is used to having a near-equal say in the household, they may clash with teachers and other authority figures who expect unquestioning obedience.
* The child may not appreciate that their parents neeed adult companionship at times and so on.

Some single parenting problems include:

* The child is more likely to misbehave for the day-to-day disciplinarian than for the parent who lives outside the home.
* It can be hard work to be the only disciplinarian in the house- you may feel like you are the ‘bad guy’ all the time and so on.

However, everything in this life has to do with the good and bad and this essay doesn’t just involve the negative side of single parenting but also portrays the positive too. The positives for single parent and child include:

* A child from a single parent home who is loved and supported has no more problems than a child from two-parent home.
* The child is typically mature and responsible.
* The parent is typically self reliant and confident and so on.

In conclusion, single parenting has occurred for different reasons over the years and different organizations have been put in place to help children and single parents who are both in need for every form of help. These days single parenting has been improved upon, single parents are now able to cater and nurture their children well and it has yielded more positive results than negative ones.