

# Austin's Honors Presentation

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# 01

## Paragraph 1



We all know the feeling. You're sitting in a public space, surrounded by people you don't know and have no intention of meeting, becoming more and more anxious by the minute. Your best attempt at silencing your surrounding is by whipping out your phone and playing that one game you find comfort in. Suddenly, the screeching, high-pitched sounds of a toddler who did not get his way, effortlessly flood the room. Naturally, our first instinct is to resent the child for this disturbance, but should we? Parents have a significant influence on their child's basic values and behavioral issues with or without intention. My proposal is to change the way we see the significance of parenting techniques and how they shape a child's behavior, maturity level, and future outcomes. It's a common problem for teenagers to lack the wisdom to think ahead and plan which stems entirely from our parent's lack of knowledge. The stronger the parent's relationship is with their child, the more influence they'll have because their child will be more likely to seek out their guidance and value their opinion and support.

## Bullet Summary

- Being disturbed by a toddler in public can lead us to resent the child, but we should consider the role of parents in shaping their behavior and values.
- Parenting techniques have a significant impact on a child's behavior, maturity level, and future outcomes.
- A strong parent-child relationship can increase a parent's influence on their child's decision-making and make it more likely for the child to seek out their guidance and value their opinion and support.

An illustration featuring a brown book with a white label on its cover that contains the number '02'. A yellow quill pen with a black nib and a gold band is positioned in front of the book. To the right, there is a large, irregular watercolor splash in shades of brown and tan. Three white plus signs are scattered in the upper right area. The entire scene is set against a light beige background with a thin brown border.

02

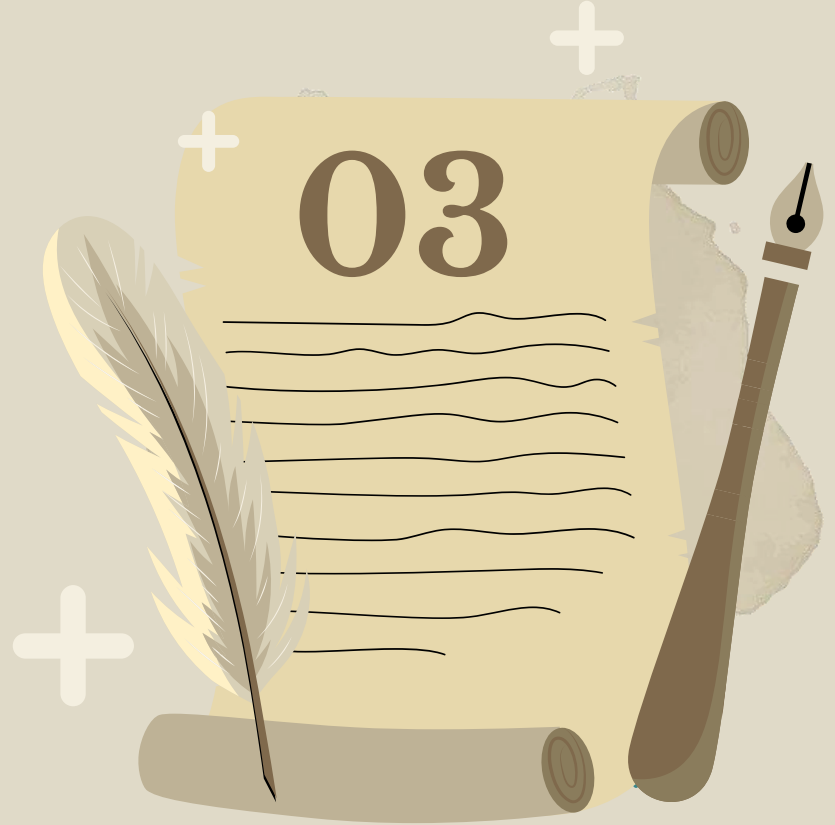
Paragraph 2

As baffling as it may sound, what we instill in our children will be the foundation upon which they build their future. This is exactly why it's so crucial to understand the importance of planning for a child. In an article by The Washing Post, it costs "about \$310,605 – or about \$17,000 a year" to raise a child until the age of 18. Preparing for a baby is so important that checklists have been designed and posted by many large child-necessity companies including Pampers. These checklists vary from steps to take before labor to bringing the baby home. After studying Pampers' checklists I have found that before labor it is recommended to take a childbirth class, eat a healthy diet, create a birth plan, get daily exercise, etc. Before bringing the child home, Pampers finds it essential to stock up on necessities, babyproof your home, choose your baby's healthcare provider and more. Lists and guides like this can be found all over the internet being shared by first-time mothers and also big corporations like banner health! This further demonstrates how critical it is that parent(s) plan for their baby to ensure that they are born into a safe and knowledgeable environment. The best time to start thinking about the pros and cons of having a child should happen when you make the decision to have sex with the person.

## Bullet Summary

- What parents instill in their children is the foundation upon which they build their future, making it crucial to plan for a child's upbringing.
- Raising a child costs about \$310,605 until the age of 18, and checklists have been created by companies such as Pampers to help parents prepare.
- Pampers' checklists include steps such as taking a childbirth class, creating a birth plan, babyproofing the home, and choosing a healthcare provider, highlighting the importance of planning for a safe and knowledgeable environment for the child.

# Paragraph 3



# Paragraph 3

With a topic as powerful and controversial as sex, ignorance has no place. In the eyes of a hormonal teenager, sex is nothing but a way to cure their deranged craving for pleasure. Teenagers and young adults alike can be very naive and lack the proper common sense needed when deciding to have intercourse with someone. Acknowledging the risks involved when planning to have sex is one of the most important things a parent can teach their teenage child amongst other topics including consent. According to one of the leading providers of market and consumer data, Statista, "Teenage pregnancy and births are related to a number of negative outcomes. Babies born to teenage mothers are more likely to be premature and have a low birth weight, and teen mothers often experience gestational hypertension and anemia. Additionally, there are significant adverse effects on socioeconomic and educational outcomes for teenage parents." Not only is teenage pregnancy dangerous for the mother, but it is also dangerous for the baby. Staying protected is so simple and drastically reduces the probability of getting pregnant which, in turn, avoids the physiological and emotional damage a surprise pregnancy can have on a maturing teenage girl. As much as society would love to pretend children are born with common sense and decency...they're not. Therefore, parenting techniques are essential to how a child will behave in their youth.

# Bullet Summary

- Acknowledging the risks involved in sex and teaching proper common sense and consent is crucial for teenagers and young adults.
- Teenage pregnancy and births have negative outcomes for both the mother and child, including premature birth, low birth weight, gestational hypertension, anemia, and adverse effects on socioeconomic and educational outcomes.
- Parenting techniques play a crucial role in shaping a child's behavior, and staying protected during sex can reduce the probability of a surprise pregnancy and emotional damage to a maturing teenage girl.

# Paragraph 4





As a young child, my siblings and I have always looked up to my parents and sought out their guidance and advice. I knew I could always communicate with them no matter the situation and as I have matured, I have begun to realize the effort and intention behind their parenting style. Though my youth was comprised of both my parents being around all the time and equally taking care of my siblings and me, I can understand that many do not have it this way. Children learn from their parents, plain and simple. They're all a child has, which is why parents need to understand that the way they raise their children will dictate both their maturity level and behavior. The four parenting styles commonly used in psychology are authoritative parenting style, authoritarian parenting style, permissive parenting style, and neglectful parenting style. All four of these parenting styles can have a diverse range of effects on children. Authoritative parents have high expectations for achievement and maturity, but they are also warm and responsive. Children of authoritative parents tend to appear happy and content, are more independent, are more active, achieve higher academic performance, develop good self-esteem, interact with peers using competent social skills, have better mental health, etc. (Parenting for Brain).

# Bullet Summary

- The parenting style of authoritative parents, who have high expectations for achievement and maturity while also being warm and responsive, has positive effects on children.
- Children learn from their parents and look up to them for guidance and advice. The way parents raise their children influences their maturity level and behavior.
- There are four commonly recognized parenting styles: authoritative, authoritarian, permissive, and neglectful, each with different effects on children.

# P.4 Continued...

High levels of parental control and low levels of parental responsiveness are two characteristics of the authoritarian style. Children whose parents have an authoritarian parenting style tend to have an unhappy disposition, be less independent, appear insecure, possess low self-esteem, exhibit more behavioral problems or conduct issues, more temper tantrums, etc. Permissive parents/passive parents set few amounts of rules and boundaries and are hesitant to discipline their children. Children of permissive parents tend to have the worst outcomes like being unwilling to follow rules, having horrible self-control, possessing egocentric tendencies, and encountering more problems in relationships and social interactions. Neglectful parents do not set boundaries or high standards. They are indifferent to their children's needs and are uninvolved in their lives. This could stem from a plethora of different reasons ranging from having mental issues themselves to child neglect when they were a kid. Children of neglectful parents are more impulsive, cannot self-regulate emotions, encounter more delinquent behavior and addiction problems, and have more mental issues (Parenting for the Brain). As you can see the behavior, emotional, and psychological issues portrayed in children is a direct result of the type of parents they have been raised by. Learning as a child doesn't only have to come directly from the parents, it can come from their personal experiences too.

# Bullet Summary

- The authoritarian parenting style, characterized by high control and low responsiveness, leads to negative outcomes in children, including unhappiness, dependence, insecurity, low self-esteem, and behavioral issues.
- Permissive parents, who set few rules and boundaries and are hesitant to discipline, have children with poor outcomes such as rule resistance, lack of self-control, egocentric tendencies, and difficulties in relationships and social interactions.
- Neglectful parents, who lack boundaries and involvement, contribute to impulsive behavior, emotional regulation problems, delinquency, addiction, and mental health issues in their children. Children's behavior and psychological issues are directly influenced by the type of parenting they receive, but learning can also come from personal experiences.



# Paragraph 5

Whether you're a parent of four or an older sibling, watching a child grow up and figure out their purpose in life is a truly beautiful thing. A big part of learning how to be a good parent that raises a well-behaved child is letting them experience things for themselves. You can only tell a child not to touch that hot pan so many times before curiosity devours them and they learn a painful lesson. Though this experience is undesirable, it is essential to improving a child's decision-making process in the future. According to Lifeskillsgroup.com five ways to improve a young child's decision-making skills are encouraging young people to use decision-making steps, involving them in everyday decisions, giving children the chance to practice making choices, encouraging children to set goals, and asking questions that promote sharp-witted decisions. The one thing that parents do that creates sneaky and disobedient children is not letting them become an individual. Every child is unique and deserves the opportunity to explore their wants and desires. It's a parent's job to ensure that they are safe, protected, and supported while they pursue life's challenges. Speaking of life's challenges, marriage and divorce don't only affect parents, they affect the children too.

## Bullet Summary

- Being disturbed by a toddler in public can lead us to resent the child, but we should consider the role of parents in shaping their behavior and values.
- Parenting techniques have a significant impact on a child's behavior, maturity level, and future outcomes.
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Paragraph 6



Marriage can be a great relationship that helps you discover a new dimension within yourself. It's a path to fulfillment and happiness in life. Not only is a healthy marriage desirable for good parents but it is also unknowingly valuable to their children. According to the University of Melbourne's professor David C. Ribar, "Reams of social science and medical research convincingly show that children who are raised by their married, biological parents enjoy better physical, cognitive, and emotional outcomes, on average, than children who are raised in other circumstances." In my personal experience, having two happily married parents has been detrimental to my understanding of many complex topics that have shaped who I am today. Inversely, those who have been raised in what Mr. Ribar explains as "other circumstances", will not have the same experience with growing up idolizing their parent's relationship.

## Bullet Summary

- A healthy and fulfilling marriage can lead to personal growth and happiness for individuals.
- Research shows that children raised by their married, biological parents tend to have better physical, cognitive, and emotional outcomes compared to children raised in other circumstances.
- Growing up with happily married parents can positively shape a child's understanding of complex topics and contribute to their personal development, while those raised in different circumstances may not have the same experience of idolizing their parents' relationship.

# Conclusion



# Conclusion

Being that we are all grown up and able to comprehend the struggles we may have faced in our youth, it is easy to see how complex and crucial it is to raise a child the right way. As mentioned previously, parents have quite a significant influence on their child's basic values and behavioral issues with or without intention. The deeper a parent's relationship is with their child, the more influence and direction they will be able to give them as they journey through their youth. Give your children what you wish you had as a child.

# Bullet Summary

- Raising a child in the right way is complex and crucial, as parents have a significant influence on their child's values and behavior, and a strong parent-child relationship provides guidance and direction throughout their journey.



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