

## HOMEWORK: BENEFICIAL OR DETRIMENTAL?

*by:*

**Maria Delmar M. Figueroa**

*Teacher I, Hermosa National High School*

In today's day and age, it is very important for teachers to be able to assess the competency of their students, whether or not the student can apply what they have learned in the classroom on a real-life situation and if they have truly understood what they have been studying. One of the ways teachers evaluate their students is by giving out home works, which is basically an activity or school work that is meant to be done at home, but does giving out homework give a clear-cut view of a student's progress, does it help in the overall learning process or is it just a nuisance and need to be revamped or even removed entirely?

Over the years this topic has been somewhat controversial, sparking many debates on whether it is good or not which even led to the creation of the no-home work policy bill filed by then senator Grace Poe which states that all primary and secondary schools in the country shall not allow teachers to give any homework or assignments to students from Kinder to Grade 12 on weekends.

But why don't we analyze the pros and the cons of the subject matter, and see whether what we've always believed was right or it's time to change our opinion.

One of the benefits of having homework is that it develops the relationship between students and teachers as they can closely work together and discuss topics and problems in the assignment before or after class. And also, families can be closer together since all the activities are to be done at home and the parents or guardian of the student can help supervise or answer the questions the student might have in the homework. Furthermore, homework can serve as a review for future examinations and it promotes

responsibility among the students which help ready them for their future jobs and career. Moreover, according to J. Bempechat of Educationnext.org most studies about the homework-achievement connection deems the two correlational, which means that the purpose and benefit of homework can be seen in a broader and lifelong distance.

However, it is also important to note the cons of homework, and if it actually helps with the progress of students. According to an article written by A. Goldstein from Stanford University, researchers found out that there is a very small correlation between the amount of homework and the progress of a child. This means that inside the metric that we use in schools to measure progress, homework doesn't seem to matter much and that it only brings negligible improvement. Moreover some studies suggest that homework is not a significant factor in improving success rate on a student's examination.

After knowing the benefits and downsides of homework, our question still looms whether it's beneficial or detrimental. Well according to a research study by H.D. Sadlier, homework has intended and unintended consequences, but ensuring homework effectiveness relies on the teacher and why he/she gives homework. The essence of a homework is not to give out extra work alone, but the reason on why we give out that work, whether be it for long term development or to simply give students more time to learn.

In conclusion, homework is very beneficial, but it can also be sometimes detrimental when not used effectively. Utilization of homework is key to a great learning environment, giving out work while not overloading the students is a part of building character and responsibility while not subjecting students to unhealthy studying habits and overworking themselves. Homework, when used properly can help our students, and there's just not a lot of substitutes for it that will do as good a job as it has done over the decades.

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