

## PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT: A CATALYST FOR POSITIVE STUDENT BEHAVIOR AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS

*by:*

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Parental involvement can have a significant impact on student behavior and academic success. Parent involvement in a child's early education is constantly set up to be positively associated with a child's academic performance (Hara & Burke, 1998). This goes to show that parents' role in the academy can't be disregarded.

Middle class families in the Philippines are a diverse group, with a range of lifestyles and values. Generally, they have stable jobs that provide a decent income, allowing them to afford necessities and some luxuries. Although, in a typical Philippine set up we can't deny the fact that a normal middle-class family with a child that is enrolled in a public school has both parents working and with minimal supervision to their child will have difficulty being involved in their child's studies. Nonetheless, what are they missing?

**Academic Performance:** When parents are involved in their child's education, students tend to perform better academically. Children whose parents are more involved in their education have advanced situations of academic performance than children whose parents are involved to a lower degree (Topor, 2010). They are more likely to complete homework, have higher attendance rates, and demonstrate greater motivation to succeed. Parental involvement provides a supportive environment that reinforces the value of education.

**Enhanced Self-Discipline and Elevated Self-Confidence:** In an article by Center for Parenting Education entitled, THE DUAL ROLE OF PARENTS: PROVIDING NURTURE AND STRUCTURE, one of the benefits of the "Structure Role" of a Parent is that a child

will be capable of gaining experience making decisions and will become more self-sufficient and capable as they learn the skills to become independent. Parents who are involved in their child's life often establish clear rules and expectations. They provide guidance and set boundaries, which helps children develop self-discipline and self-control. Parental monitoring and involvement can reduce the likelihood of engaging in risky behaviors and promote responsible decision-making.

**Strengthened Interpersonal Abilities:** Students whose parents are actively involved tend to have better social skills. Regular communication between parents and children fosters effective interpersonal skills, empathy, and cooperation. Additionally, parental involvement often exposes children to diverse social settings and activities, helping them develop strong relationships and adaptability.

**Elevated Drive and Goal-oriented Mindset:** In a review of the research literature on Families and School Motivation by Grolnick, Friendly, and Bellas (2009), they found out that families can have a strong influence on a variety of academy issues, including the development and conservation of positive motivation. When parents show interest in their child's education, they convey the message that education is important. This involvement helps students develop a sense of responsibility, intrinsic motivation, and the ability to set and achieve goals. Students are more likely to be engaged in the learning process when they receive encouragement and support from their parents.

**Diminished Problematic Behaviors:** Parental involvement has been linked to a decrease in behavioral issues among students. The presence of caring and involved parents can act as a protective factor against negative behaviors such as aggression, substance abuse, and delinquency. Parents who actively participate in their child's life are better equipped to identify and address any emerging behavioral problems early on.

**Enhanced Self-Perception and Improved Confidence:** In an article of Nemours Kid's Health entitled "Your Child's Self- Esteem", self- esteem grows when parents pay

attention resulting to independence and plenty of positive reactions towards the challenges ahead. Parental involvement plays a crucial role in building a child's self-esteem. When parents show interest, provide emotional support, and celebrate their child's achievements, it positively impacts their self-perception. Students with high self-esteem are more likely to exhibit positive behavior, engage in healthy relationships, and take academic risks.

Overall, in any given situation, parents must not undermine their role in their child's academic performance, provision of material things and a good education is not enough, it should be balanced with moral support and attention. Each child is unique, and parents should consider their child's individual needs and preferences while fostering involvement.

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