

HOW DO EXTERNAL FACTORS AFFECT A CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT?

A person's personality and moral values are usually developed during their childhood according to the experiences in this period of their lives. Childhood is one of the most delicate stages in a person's lifetime. Therefore, it should be taken seriously within the individuals that surround them. Being careful with the actions and decisions that they make in their presence, which may be crucial for the youngster's development. The basic reason I opted for this topic is that many people aren't aware about what factors can affect a child, and how these factors influence them on upcoming stages of their life. The external factors that affect a child's development are: technology, economy, and vices.

Technology has a great influence in a child's development . In today's society we are surrounded by high-tech devices and other kinds of products that ease our everyday life. Children that live in suburban areas, or in the countryside, mostly in undeveloped countries, are usually unaware of these devices. Therefore, they may be taken as ignorant in today's society. Whilst children in big cities are usually familiar with these gadgets. Unfortunately, sometimes there are side effects, such as: misuse of technology. This happens when an individual doesn't give the device its proper function. For instance, spending too much time on the Internet, cell phone, etc. As result, it can bring inner isolation to the individual. In other words we could say that technology, whether high tech, low tech or no tech, does not and cannot perceive the intent of the user. It simply obeys. Whether we're talking about high technology or stone tools, the technology just does whatever it does, blindly obeying because it has no conscience or self-awareness. In simple terms, technology is a lever to

amplify a man's will. A lever can be used to move a heavy object. A computer can be used to rapidly calculate or communicate. How technology is used is up to the person using it. Technology can be used to amplify a benevolent will and accomplish much good, or it can be used to amplify a malevolent will and do much harm. The use, or misuse, of technology, continues to be a human issue that is not easily discerned by even intelligent systems. Take for instance, anti-virus programs, firewalls, intrusion detection systems: they are designed to repel ill intent, but the perpetrators of ill will are always one step ahead. As long as evil is permitted to exist in the world, it will always find a way. It is up to the rest of us to do the best we can to be prepared and do what we can to minimize risk.

Another factor that affects a child's development is Economy. It can affect the youngster's physical and/or mental health. How is this possible you might ask? Well, if the individual's caregiver doesn't support him economically, can lead into serious consequences such as malnutrition which can lead to mental impairment. Children who live in impoverished areas have harder time socializing than their more affluent peers. In towns with a comfortable economic level, there are usually organizations that offer fun and enriching experiences for children, but in communities where money is an issue, residents do not have the necessary funds to support extra-curricular activities that provide kids with opportunities for social development.