



## CHILDREN'S FAMILY SITUATION AND THEIR SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS IN SCIENCE

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### ABSTRACT

A contemporary family undergoes quick changes, which can upset the uniformities of educational influences on young generations. Therefore, cooperation between family and school is essential (Okoń, 2004, Kupisiewicz 2009, Szychowska 2001). Family environment is one of the factors influencing child's development, it stimulates intellectual and emotional development, shapes values, etc., which has a great impact on their school life. Nowadays, we face family life crisis. It happens because of , among others, the negative influence of the media promoting violence, abortion, euthanasia, divorces, sexual deviations and lack of morality (Bębas, 2009).

The research was conducted among primary school students (level 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>) in Jaworzno (Poland). 80 respondents of science classes participated in the research. The research method was a diagnostic survey. The questions of the questionnaire concerned, among others, children and parents' forms of spending time together, place and time of doing homework, help and difficulties in achieving better school results. The questionnaire has taken into account the students' perspective as well as it referred to parents and families of the respondents.

The research proved that the school results are connected with the family situation. Both children's and parents' interests, ways of spending their leisure, atmosphere at home and mutual relations between children, parents and teachers have an influence on students' results as far as science classes are concerned. Poor school results are the consequence of psychological and environmental factors, but they are also greatly affected by educational mistakes made by parents. It is, thus, important for the parents to emphasize the huge role of education in their children's lives. Parents' attitude towards their children shapes behavioural patterns, their personalities and their attitude towards a range of issues, including school and science.

In the light of the research it turns that: students who meet friends after school have better results in biology learning. They meet for fun, but also to learn nature and observe it. An especially important aim for this research was the emphasis on the fact that students met also to learn science.

The survey research revealed that meeting other students is not a barrier or a problem in children learning. The research emphasized that it is necessary to teach students cooperation in biology lesson in the classroom. School should have an important role in these activities because its an intermediary between children and society

## INTRODUCTION

Man learns the whole life. The first knowledge and abilities to do something he learns in a family, then he develops them at the nursery school, later - at school which includes several stages of education. The difference between children - their way of behaving, making a reference to science, their intellectual possibilities, we can notice in a school environment and in a class. We can see here which pupils can assimilate knowledge better and what is the most important - what results they have [ for example excellent marks] and which ones have a poor progress or haven't got it at all. The level of the pupils' achievements is always very different at school. Certainly, there are many causes of such state of affairs. Most pupils care about the best results because they try to receive the recognition of their parents, teachers and classmates. At the same time, their self-esteem is growing and it is a motivation to continue with their studies, in order to have a good education and have better position in future- professional, social and family. There are some pupils who have lack of success in education. It is very worrying phenomenon which causes child's low self-esteem, so a kid feels worse than his or her peers. Such child hasn't got any motivation to learn and to have

good marks. It causes psychological, pedagogical and personal problems and, as a result, influences his or her future and adult view of the world.

Family undoubtedly influences the child's function in school. A present-day family changes and it can shake upbringing of a young generation. Co-operation of parents and teachers is necessary. A family environment is a factor of the child's emotional and mental development. It shapes a self-esteem and has a huge influence kid's school life. A child's behavior at school and his or her learning, depends on parents' requirements [if they have ones]. A kid observes parents and it influences his bias in favour of education and school requirement. Parents are interested in children's achievements, teach them that the education is very important in future. However, a pupil has bad marks and rude behavior when they don't care of child and are unresponsive. Unfortunately, these problems are in many families, so we must try to change such situation co-operating with parents.

### **THEORETICAL BACKGROUNDS**

Family is a basic of society and her members have different physical and psychical traits, but family is still natural environment for every human being. Child is connected with his family through: biology, feelings, culture, material and legal situation. Family has got her own system of value and norms, connected with behavior of her members (Zborowski, 1980). Members of the family are responsible for each other, they have their own moral norms, traditions, they are connected with love and acceptance (Rembowski, 1972). Bond in family is necessary. Parents need that to give their children proper education and imbue values. In present family we can find friendship and understanding. Now the circumstances are much better to raise a child, then in the past. To give children proper education there must be cooperation between family and school (Okon 2004). Child who is starting education, has got already concept about world, knows how to live in society and knows their basics norms and rules (Rostkowska, 2000). Family is trying to create in child proper attitude to society, build in appropriate way his personality (Ziemska, 1979). Thanks to that, child is learning fast how to act in present society (Szychowska 2001).

In today's world we can find very often that marriage and family life is treating like something unnecessary. It happens because of the media and progress of medicine.

They trying to convince us about it with abortion, euthanasia divorces and even cloning. Cheating in marriage, putting children to orphanages and general profligancy, are treating as something normal. More 'trendy' now is raising child by only one parent and free relationships between people – including sexual relationships (Bebas, 2009). Society accept this form of relationships and because of that proper model of the family is vanishing.

## RESEARCH METODOLOGY

Analysis of child's family situation was the aim of undertaken investigations, in context her meaning for school achievements with nature.

**The following research problem was formulated as:**

1. Have many different kind social phenomena got, in this pupil's family situation an essential meaning for education?
2. In what extent the social consciousness, opinions and the opinions of definite communities, tendency and increasing of functioning on passed on at school knowledge the different glance they have the influence on the children's educating formulation: school, family, social?

The following hypotheses were assumed:

1. There is an essential relationship between child's family situation and his/her achievements at school supported by the influence of model of family on education.
2. Social consciousness and opinions on subject of school knowledge have large influence on children's education.

The research aim verifying the hypotheses and was conducted among the pupils classes of IV- the VI of basic school. 80 pupils - both boys, as and young girls participated in the research. The method of diagnostic probe survey was carried out. The contained in inquiry concerned between different forms spending with parents the children's time in context of interest the natural questions, place and the time of doing the homework, help as well as the difficulties in achieving in science the better results.

## RESULTS

Investigation showed, that:

1. The way of pupil's free time spending has an essential relationship with team works with nature opinions. Pupils who spent with peers their extra school time are able to co-operate in group and to help one's colleagues in solving difficulties.
2. Division of home duties between all members of family has the positive influence on the student's behavior in time carrying out the natural experiences. Children from such families mark with good organization of work and they are able to direct correctly with work in team.
3. The higher education of parents is, the smaller care of family about ecology occurs. It turns out, that children from rich families whose parents finished studies, they do not segregate litters, and they do not save water and energy.
4. Parents who have not solid work dedicate less time to their children. Children from such families spend their time watching television, playing on computer, and these who are more interested with nature participate-for instance: on natural wheels.
5. The students who meet with their peers receive higher results with science.
6. Children, whose parents do not permit to spend with peers free time, are not able to work in group.
7. Now then, the higher education of parents, this the child is more prepared to lesson as well as it shows greater with sport activity as well as the activity range of cognition nature - the more interests has which can be realize.
8. Students, whose parents have not higher education, more often take part in education and equalizing occupations.

## DISCUSSION RESULTS

The unreeling skill of observation is the basis of education in range of natural objects and the experimenting in aim of meeting of surroundings us world. Students should learn first of all across practical meeting, because this just independent cognition nature as well as practical using school knowledge, it most encourages children to science.

Conviction about this by row of last decades reigned, that shutting oneself off from peers improves in science his results. It was considered, that the child who assimilates lessons

passed by teacher in loneliness, contents as well as learner on memory of only contained messages in text of school textbook, it will win the best opinions and to distinguish oneself on background class with messages. Such way of children's educating was very general and accepted by all. Child working on lesson, learning in loneliness it receives good tests results and oral answers. Fact was reason for this, contemporary school placed the largest pressure on assimilating by pupils of only message. The student who learnt on memory of chapter of book and recited it on the centre of class in time of oral answer he received very good opinion. This brought however to pupil's alienation, social separation. When it was noticed, that such way of teaching is not to end proper, it was begun lying down pressure formation students' skill, it turned out, that children are not able to deal with it. Separation caused with independent learning showed, that children were not able to work in group, they did not know how to help in science mutually, they felt uncomfortable to report on the observed phenomenon and conclusions to what came in time of co-operation with colleagues. The conducted on need of present work research confirm this also. It turns out as, from children whose parents do not permit to spend with peers free time, they are not able to work in group. These children dedicate their free time on science in house, but this it is not translated on their school opinions fortunately. Time dedicated on science is not adequate to get by them opinions .What is more, these children posses only theoretical knowledge on given subject but they are not able to shift her on formation skill as well as finding in work near executing natural experiences.

Model of the students achievements changes. Nowadays, pressure is lied down on students' ability to assimilate information over facts, theory and practices concerning phenomenon being close to the students and skills enabling to take advantage of purchased information while solving their problems and works, and additionally for creating pupils' mental attitude ensuring proper functioning in the contemporary world (MEN, 2008).The modern model of learning is directed on purchasing knowledge across communication, experiencing and working (Felder, Soloman 2004).

Research showed, that the child who learns and it acts on lessons severally, not always receives high opinions. However the child who spends time with peers, integrates with them and is able to co-operate near realization of experiences and natural projects it achieve better opinions, despite, that a lot of time in house does not dedicate on science. The respondents

way of learning bases on science by working -not individual but treat team. This getting by them the good results in science of nature causes. Kolb (2001) was precursor of this type of opinion, that this our own reflections, observations understanding phenomenon, it becomes with our capital with which we in any circumstances can use. The adjustment the way of learning to preference of own style is very important with point of sight of efficiency process teaching and learning. Investigations showed, that students who learnt in surroundings of their peers had better results occurring better school achievements in science. The results of inquiry show, that the styles of learning across listening and speaking propagated by Keller, Gillingham or Montessori (Chapman, 2005), one's can notice during the peers who were examined mutually' common science and they repeat this, what they heard on the teaching occupations. Pupils who more integrate from class team achieve better results with nature, what is translated on high skill of work on lesson, for instance: across observations and extraction with experiences accurate conclusions as well as free way of expressing one's opinion.

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