

Chapter Two

Shortcomings of schooling using the public education system

When our children turn 5 here in New Zealand which is the legal entry age for beginners at school, it is at this point in the lives of our children that big decisions are about to make a huge difference in their lives. We have decided that, they are going to get a quality education. Notes will start coming home every day asking for this amount of money and that amount of money to participate in this activity and that activity and to buy what is necessary for tools that will be used for the rest of the year. Here in New Zealand our education system boasts a FREE education, however I can assure you that there is nothing free about it and yet we let them get away with that very same advertising that lures us to that establishment in the first place. So, two questions loom:

- Are your children getting value for money?

- what is the benefit from using the types of learning processes offered?

Some say that the public-school system offers a great socializing atmosphere. That this is where they will pick up necessary social skills that will stand them in good stead the rest of their lives. However, if truth be told, they only really socialize with those of their own age in their own classroom. The potential to bully children younger than themselves or at most be afraid of the older ones begins to surface. How and when do they learn how to behave in the company of adults?

A homeschooling atmosphere automatically is a more genuine community setting.

A young person who attends a public facility will not be encouraged to study or even read collected works from major contributors of those past or even contemporaries. There would not be the opportunity to sit quietly and ponder upon things that are learned. Those around him or her might present behaviour that is loud and boisterous and not be felt as an encouraging atmosphere to learn inwardly simply because the school system is not flexible and is always coming across as “busy”.

Learning is always pointed in the direction of the pending examinations that are approaching, therefore, being able to learn and absorb anything just for the heck

of it would not be given any thought or priority. There would be no connection of facts with life itself therefore how to apply certain learning would not be associated with life itself because there is no point in it.

I remember myself cramming geometry and trigonometry into my learning periods and couldn't understand how this could be applied to me in the life I had pictured ahead of me. But you do it anyway without question because it is not your right to question the education system because what you are studying is all part of the curriculum you have chosen.

Many years into my adult life I was given the opportunity to use this knowledge when I became employed by my father-in-law who stressed continued education in all areas and taught me how to do the work of a quantity surveyor in his construction business.

Before I entered the secondary education system the principle of the intended college, I was destined to attend came to visit our primary school to learn about his new future pupils. My mother had specifically said to enrol in the typing classes as that was her forte.

However, the principle had other ideas and said that I should start out with languages and subjects in the academic system he encouraged, and if I didn't like it then I could change after the first 3 months.

Well the opportunity to change was not offered and therefore my typing skills were not learned at school and I remained in the academic classes the entire college duration. Much to my mother's disappointment and great rage when I went home and told her that night. It never occurred to me at the time to ask her to come and intervene and ask herself on my behalf. But of course, I was brought up in the clutches of a wicked and evil stepmother, therefore, I just took my usual punishment that night in silence.

In the public-school system, the knowledge that is acquired by a child may be vast in quantity, however, when it comes down to understanding what he has learned, then the understanding of this huge amount of knowledge is non-existent. There has been no time to absorb this new knowledge completely into one's inner system. You will notice a huge difference between a homeschooled child and one that is in the public system – the homeschooled child is given the time to understand what they have and are constantly learning. There is plenty of time allotted to one on one teaching so that new knowledge is absorbed into the learning system of the body in a very natural and peaceful way. You will find that the child who is given every opportunity to stretch and learn is far better equipped to face the vast world around him.

Watch out for more from me in other areas.

As usual, my email address for your ideas for book titles, correspondence, criticisms or just some love from you is stories4debbie@gmail.com.

Kindest regards

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