

Stacie Garcia

Eng 102

Professor Garcia

1 May, 2020

### Two versus One

There is a saying that goes, “two is better than one.” However, this may not be the case in every situation. Sometimes one parent, instead of two, is more than enough for a being. Circumstances such as: finance, abuse, rape, the usage of drugs or alcohol may hinder a child’s lifestyle. An individual with a past like this can choose whether or not he or she will allow it to shape who they ought to become. One can let their past define them or learn how to face their past and learn how to heal. Consequently, when a child lives with one, instead of both parents, he or she not only do they struggle emotionally and mentally, but they also look for something to fill his or her vacancy.

Different cases have shown why having both parents involved in a child’s life is better than one. Children need both parents, because each parent plays a different role. A father is meant to be the head of the household. He is supposed to teach discipline, and give them that sense of security. A mother is meant to be the nurturer. She is supposed to understand her child, while providing love and compassion. Furthermore, the article “Comparative Study of Children’s Adjustment in Intact and Single Parent Families,” focuses on the impacts that an absent parent may have on a child’s life. The authors specify how “‘children from divorced mothers had more internalizing and externalizing problems’ (Wood and Repetti, 2004).” This could be a reason why children often gravitate to delinquency, drugs/alcohol, and sex. Individuals who go down this road may feel like their actions can be justified, may be looking to fill a void that has been

absent due to an unknown parental figure, or may be desperate and seeking for someone to notice them.

Equally imperative, having both parents to raise a child is highly significant. Families are bound to have their issues, but the outcome is salient, especially if children are involved. One decision can make or break a relationship with a child. That is to say, in the film, *Courageous*, the protagonist Adam Mitchell, played by Alex Kendrick, had to go through a traumatic experience in order to rekindle his relationship with his only son, Dylan. Unfortunately, he had to lose his daughter, Emily, in order to learn how to be a father in Dylan's life. Again, Adam was so blinded by his job that he lost sight of his responsibilities with his family at home; because of this, he knew that he had to reform. Alex Kendrick made sure to include an impassioned speech toward the end of his film, "I Will." The speech was meant to inspire those fatherly figures to be more than average. It is an awakening for action. Alex articulates "that as a father, you are accountable to God for the position of influence He has given you"(Kedrick). Moreover, Kendrick encourages fathers to be involved in their children's lives, along with guiding and teaching them the word of God; he also portrays how it's never too late to learn how to be a good parent to his child. Nevertheless, the outcome varies for every individual that takes part in a family.

Hence, having a mother and a father who can love and guide a child to be the best version that he or she can be is important. An intact family who is active in their children's life can provide a healthy environment. In the same way, if a child feels secure and loved by their parents they are more likely to bond with them, and confide in them. Whereas, if a child feels alienated and abandoned, he or she will most likely get involved into something that can be regretted. He or she can get mixed up with the wrong groups of friends in the cruel world. Resulting in missed

opportunities, crimes, and ultimately of an unfavorable life. Thus, both parents provide unique benefits when it comes to raising their children. Especially, when both parents are present in their child's life. The child not only reaps the benefits, but also has a greater example to live by. To conclude, the child may grow up having the best qualities of the father as well as the mother, this in turn would sow good seeds into the next generation.

Work Cited:

Sohail, Mughera, and Syeda Shamama-tus-Sabah. "Comparative Study of Children's Adjustment in Intact and Single Parent Families." *Pakistan Journal of Psychological Research*, vol. 31, no. 2, Win 2016, pp. 495–508. *EBSCOhost*,

[ezproxy.nyack.edu/login?url=https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=psyh&AN=2017-22295-010&site=eds-live.](https://ezproxy.nyack.edu/login?url=https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=psyh&AN=2017-22295-010&site=eds-live)

Hunter, Perry. "Part of the Final Speech from the Movie Courageous." *Relationships*, coachperryhunter.blogspot.com/2012/01/part-of-final-speech-from-movie.html

Or

<http://coachperryhunter.blogspot.com/2012/01/part-of-final-speech-from-movie.html?m=1>