

How can having less homework improve learning?

Majority of the Schools believe that stacking up students with more homework would improve their learning but the reality proves that it doesn't. Students who don't finish their daily homework would face many complexities. They get punishment either from their parents or teachers. Some teachers even send the students to the principal's office for not completing their homework. The entire approach for homework by both students and teachers be like, 'You either finish your homework or end up in trouble'. Most of them do not do it for its own sake. They do it to avoid trouble. The whole thing leads them to hypocrisy. I've observed some students completing their homework before the class starts, often copying from another person's notebook. If the fear of punishment is the only thing that triggers a student to finish the homework then what is the point of giving homework? What is it that they learn? Some teachers who find Mathematical or scientific problems and derivations to be hard to complete in the classroom shift that weight upon the students. If an educated professional is unable to do that in classroom then how could we expect the students to complete them at home? Not every student has literate parents. Some of the parents are illiterate. What about them? One of the main motives of education is to wipe out illiteracy and poverty. John. F. Kennedy says, "Not every child has an equal talent or an equal ability or an equal motivation, but they should have the equal right to develop their talent and their ability and their motivation, to make something of themselves."⁽¹⁾ Nothing can sustain a person than a good education in this advanced era. Ellen Ochoa, the first Hispanic Woman to go in space says, "I tell students that the opportunities I had were a result of having a good educational background. Education is what allows you to stand out."⁽²⁾ So, education is very significant but it should be given to students in the right way. Stacking up students with more and more homework is not going to do them any favor if they really have no interest. Mrs. Obama once spoke at a cultural event at Annandale High School. There she said "Now, a good education is about so much more than just learning geometry or memorizing dates in history. All of that is important, but an education is also about exploring new things -- discovering what makes you come alive, and then being your best at whatever you choose."⁽³⁾

Education just needs to point students to something they are passionate about. More of the Homework actually distracts students from learning itself. It distracts them from finding their passion by consuming time and depositing stress. What we need is an education with less homework and more learning. It is only possible when students are given less homework. Those interested in arts and sports may benefit greatly. They can spend time in doing those things at home once the school is over. We not only need great doctors, engineers, astronomers or mathematical geniuses but we also need great chefs, great farmers, great sportsmen, great musicians, great singers, great actors and so on. There is also a need for great thinkers. We hinder our future thinkers by making them do their homework which they have no idea why they do. Less homework is not going to affect interested students because those interested in doing more and more studies will do it whatsoever. Many Students would get the time and space to concentrate on music, sports, cooking and other artistic things which might be their God given

calling. We need an education that allows students to learn life and find their passion we don't need an education to turn them into monotonous workers always wanting to complete a work without any passion or interest.

References

- (1) Handbook of Education Politics and Policy by Cooper S Bruce, Cibulka G James, Fusarelli D Lance. See Preface
- (2) Ellen Ochoa: Pioneering Astronaut by Johnston Jones Lissa. See Page 12.
- (3) <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/10/13/remarks-mrs-obama-and-madam-kim-republic-korea-cultural-event-annandale->