

Exploring the Impact of the Absence of Parents on the Left-Behind Children and Its Countermeasures *Take G Village in Guizhou Province as an Example*

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ABSTRACT

"Left-behind children" refer to children whose parents or one of them go out to work in the city all year round. Due to the education conditions in the city, they stay alone in the countryside. Because they are separated from their parents all the year round, the lack of good family education in their growth environment has brought many negative effects on their growth and also caused more serious social problems. It can be seen that the research on the family education of left-behind children in rural areas is very necessary. Therefore, this study takes G Village in Guizhou Province as an example. This study includes literature review and a interview of 40 left-behind children and 20 guardians in G Village, Guizhou Province. Also, the physical and mental health and safety hazards of left-behind children and their causes were analyzed. The result of the study is that the absence of parents has a major impact on the physical and mental health of most left-behind children. The huge negative impact caused the alienation of their growth environment. Regarding this problem, this article believes that the corresponding countermeasures from the family, school, society, and government are proposed. The main purpose is to pay attention to the special group of left-behind children, combining the various forces of society, and giving them more care. Let the left-behind children whose parents are absent grow up healthily.

Keywords: *Left-behind children, family education, absence of parents, rural areas*

1. INTRODUCTION

Since the 1980s, with the continuous acceleration of China's modernization and urbanization, social economic development has promoted population mobility, and rural labor has begun to transfer to cities on a large scale. However, due to the limitations of farmers' own economic conditions, farmers cannot bring their children to the cities to receive education. Therefore, their children have to stay in the countryside and are taken care by other people. Due to the lack of family care, they lack the correct guidance, and many children's physical and mental health are left with great problems. In June 2015, a left-behind child taking pesticide suicide occurred in Guizhou. The occurrence of this incident is closely related to the lack of family education. Because their parents are not at home all the year round, this reduces the care of left-behind children, and these children are in a critical period of emotional transformation. Because the long-term separation from their parents is their psychological needs and the lack of

various aspects of life care, the four children think of taking medicine. Pesticide suicide. This incident made people once again focus on the special group of "left-behind children". Therefore, this article takes the lack of family education as an entry point, and takes left-behind children as the research object to focus on exploring the status quo and problems of left-behind children.

2. STATUS OF LEFT-BEHIND CHILDREN

In 2018, the latest statistics from the Ministry of Civil Affairs show that there are more than 6.97 million left-behind children in rural areas across the country. The reason why the education of rural children has become a problem is that left-behind children in rural areas have suffered varying degrees of damage due to their growing environment, and their physical and mental health, learning, and socialization are facing many problems.

Summarizing the former study found that left-behind children mainly have these problems [1]: (1) They need to undertake a lot of housework and take up their own study time. (2) There is not only a generation gap, but also a lack of substantial learning guidance. (3) Parents are not at home all year round, leading to psychological and many bad performances passed on to academic performance. (4) Under the theory that reading is useless, many villagers do not realize the importance of education, which leads to the lack of motivation for learning among rural teenagers. (5) Constraints on educational resources in rural areas.

According to the research results, it can be found that the restrictions of the rural social atmosphere and economic conditions are eliminated. The most important thing is that the lack of family education has led to the imbalance of the stability of the family structure. It should be a stable family structure composed of parents and children, but the parents or one of them need to go to work in distant cities, which leads to the imbalance of the whole family structure. The children lack the parents' care for their own lives and emotions, which leads to the lack of children. Enhance the sense of belonging and attachment of the soul [2]. This has a great impact on left-behind children. The specific manifestation is the left-behind children in G Village as an example.

This research mainly uses data analysis method, interview method, and literature reference method to understand the performance of left-behind children's lack of family affection, so as to explore the impact on left-behind children, such as left-behind children's physical and mental health problems, safety hazards and so on. Therefore, this article surveyed 40 G primary school students and 20 guardians. The content of the interviews mainly focused on the economic conditions of the entire family and left-behind children eating and living at home. Through interviews with their home living conditions and guardians to initially locate the living environment of left-behind children growing up, and then through data analysis of the child's contact with their parents and the number of times their parents go home for the negative impact of the country.

Table 1. Ways to contact parents

Contact Information	Left-behind children (%)
Call up	45
Texting	15
Video call	25
Give a message	10
Other	5
Total	100

It can be seen from the table 1 and 2 that when parents go out to work, the parent-child relationship is mainly maintained through remote contact. The popularization of telephone in rural areas promotes the communication between left-behind children and their parents. According to the survey in Village G, the main way for left-behind children whose parents are out to contact their parents is to make phone calls, accounting for 45% of all contact methods; among them, message-messaging is a minority, but this communication method is used by a third party. It is communicated to the children, thus creating a barrier of communication between parents and children.

Table 2. Frequency of seeing parents

Frequency of seeing parents	Left-behind children (%)
Once every six months	55
Once a year	45
Total	100

The study found that most of the parents of left-behind children began to go out when they were very young, and for some left-behind children, their fathers started to work outside before they were born. Most of the parents who go out to work in Village G go to Guangdong, Guangxi and other places. The opportunity cost of these migrant parents to go home is very high, especially for those migrant workers who work outside the province. Unless there are important things to deal with at home or a major holiday (such as the Spring Festival), they generally will not go home easily and few people can frequently travel between home and work place.

Left-behind children spend a very short time with their parents. At the age when children should rely on their parents for their growth, their parents are not around all the time. It is true that these migrant parents are unable to give their children too much care, both in life and spiritually, and gradually increase the communication barrier between parents and children. Therefore, it can be concluded that the biggest price paid by left-behind children is the separation from their parents and the lack of affection.

However, the company of parents is very important. Childhood is a period when a person's physiology and psychology changes and gradually matures, and it is also a period when a person's outlook on life and values are gradually established. In this early stage of socialization, the company of parents helps children in life and spirit. Get a great sense of satisfaction and easily form a good character [3]. However, without the company of their parents, the surrogate guardian cannot sincerely care for the children like the parents, and can only be responsible for meeting the material needs of

the left-behind children, so they often neglect the psychological and moral education of the children. Therefore, left-behind children are often in a state of lack of psychological comfort, which not only affects their cognitive problems, but also has many bad behaviors. It can be seen that due to the short time that parents spend with them, it has many negative effects on the growth environment of left-behind children.

3. THE IMPACT OF THE ABSENCE OF PARENTS ON LEFT-BEHIND CHILDREN

The family is an important place for the healthy development of children. Parents are the first teachers of children's growth. The physical and mental health of children cannot be separated from the care of their parents and the normal family living environment. However, due to rural poverty and backwardness, many parents of families who go out to work have become left-behind children who lack normal family life and lack of parental care. The education problems of children of left-behind children are mainly manifested in the following aspects:

3.1. Physical development problems

The conditions in Village G are generally poor, and they usually do what they do if they have food reserves at home. This is a relatively fixed diet. Since the parents of left-behind children can no longer take care of their children, the inter-generational guardian is only responsible for solving the child's food and clothing problems, thus ignoring the nutritional structure of the diet.

Case 1: S01, 6 years old, has a 9-year-old brother in the family. The mother died early in a car accident. The father returns home once a year. The children are taken care of by 78-year-old grandparents and they are given one yuan for breakfast every day. Because the two elderly people are physically inconvenient, they are unwilling to get up in the morning to make breakfast for their children. Therefore, the two brothers and sisters eat very unhealthy junk food for breakfast every day, which is not only very nutritious, but also affects the healthy growth of children's teeth during the dental replacement period.

According to a survey of 40 primary school students in G Village, 95% of children's teeth suffer from tooth decay. Children suffer from tooth decay because they do not have mature discrimination skills and do not know the consequences of not paying attention to dental health. More importantly, as their guides, parents cannot pay attention to and teach their children to pay attention to personal hygiene due to long-term work outside. It can be seen that the lack of the role of parents in the growth process of the child has many negative effects on the healthy development of the child's health.

3.2. Mental health development issues

In the process of growing up, people need to meet certain psychological needs in addition to the nutritional balance of the body. People can experience the feeling of attachment and be loved in the process of being cared for. Family affection is the driving force behind the psychological development of children. If there is no emotional care, it will have the opposite effect on the healthy development of children's mental health. The lack of family affection in life causes most of the rural children to be introverted, inferior, and sensitive. From a psychological point of view, left-behind children have higher anxiety and tension than other children, and have lower trust in their parents and teachers than other children [4].

Case 2: S02, 10 years old, family education structure is complete, parents are around. He is usually happy to express himself in class, loves sports, and has many friends of his own in school.

Case 3: S03, 10 years old, only 80-year-old grandmother and father who returns twice a year in his family. He usually doesn't like to communicate with others. He goes to school by himself and he doesn't want to talk to his classmates at school.

Therefore, from the comparison between children with parents and lack of parentage, it can be seen that the lack of a normal family atmosphere will lead to a general insecurity of left-behind children in rural areas, and the brothers will lead to relatively poor interpersonal skills.

3.3. Decline in academic performance

Because parents go out for a long time, children often miss their parents during class, which makes it difficult to concentrate in daily class and affects class efficiency. Furthermore, without the supervision of their parents, children's self-control is extremely immature and easy to be tempted by the Internet and become addicted to games. On the one hand, it has a very bad effect on the body and mind. Moreover, left-behind children lose interest in learning because their parents can no longer succeed or fail. Parents who are far away in the city cannot directly give correct encouragement and guidance [5].

3.4. Lack of family discipline, bad daily behavior

According to the investigation, some children in G village have smoking, drinking, stealing and other phenomena. Because children in this period have poor right-and-non-discrimination skills, and there is no proper guidance from their parents at home, the guardian of the next generation can only be responsible for the children's diet and daily life, and sometimes they

cannot find the existence of these problems. Therefore, in the absence of parent-child education, some left-behind children lack the necessary consciousness and self-discipline, have weak moral will, and some may even embark on the path of crime [6].

3.5. Get out of parental supervision and safety hazards appear

Parents neglected to take care of them. Due to their old age, the guardian of the next generation is unable to truly exercise the power of guardian. As a result, left-behind children cannot be treated in time and suffer accidental injuries frequently.

Case 4: S04, 9 years old, accidentally fell from the second floor while playing in G Elementary School. The child's head hit the ground. The child's condition was more serious. The local teacher contacted the 75-year-old grandmother. The grandmother agreed that she should not take her grandson to the hospital. It will be better if you lie down at home for two days. Finally, with the teacher's insistence, the child was sent to the hospital for treatment.

The survey shows that young children lack the ability to protect themselves, but because their parents are not around and the trustee's supervision is weak, there are often certain hidden safety hazards. This case also reflects that the elderly do not pay enough attention to safety and health issues, so they do not want to send their children to the hospital.

4. EFFECTIVE COUNTERMEASURES TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF LEFT-BEHIND CHILDREN

The problem of left-behind children in rural areas is worthy of attention. The author will explore a possible solution from the perspectives of family, school, and society.

4.1. Guide parents to fully understand the importance of family education

For the first time, it is necessary to strengthen the sense of responsibility of parents and enable them to establish correct educational concepts. Learn to communicate with children emotionally, the government can guide the community to form a parent mutual aid committee, teach parents the inner ways of caring for their children, actively guide their children, and let them understand that their parents are not abandoning themselves but loving them when they go out to work. Another way [7].

Secondly, parents should learn to communicate with their children on an equal footing, because left-behind children are generally more sensitive and have strong

self-esteem. Parents should respect their children's wishes and needs, sincerely listen to their children's ideas, and choose an appropriate conversation. Find a way to solve the problem.

4.2. Strengthen the attention of school education

After paying attention to the problems of left-behind children, schools should effectively grasp the various aspects of left-behind children. According to the established files of left-behind children, boarding schools are arranged appropriately, and three meals a day are provided at the same time. Such a big family atmosphere can not only satisfy the children's spiritual needs, but also ensure the children's physical health from another aspect. At the same time, a corresponding psychological consultation room is established, with corresponding teachers and volunteers, to accompany the children to talk, communicate, and meet the demands of students' emotional expression. Furthermore, more children's books and magazines will be provided, and entertainment facilities will be added to help left-behind children as much as possible to solve their life, learning and psychological problems.

4.3. Build a remote education platform

Makarenko once said: "The correct education does not require parents to stay away from their children", "Education is being carried out at any time, even when you are not at home[8]." Modern information methods are used to establish distance for left-behind families. The family education platform is feasible in terms of the guarantee of the material foundation and the actual needs of the parents of left-behind children. The use of current scientific and technological means can not only focus on children remotely and understand their living conditions, but also supervise the safety of left-behind children, which is conducive to the establishment of an education and protection system for left-behind children. For example, Qianxi County, Bijie City, Guizhou Province, relying on the management of the "Internet +" big data platform, wears safety bracelets for left-behind children in elementary school of compulsory education, and shares data resources with the county public security bureau's Skynet to realize the protection of left-behind children without blind spots, Full coverage.

4.4. Government policy regulation

The government should provide corresponding subsidies for the children of migrant workers and migrant workers to reduce the pressure on migrant workers to support their children. At the same time, the publicity of the policy should be increased so that the people in the village are aware of their available economic subsidies and medical security, so as to

improve the quality of life in the village. As the economic pressure of life decreases, the family education of the children of migrant workers will be relieved accordingly.

5. CONCLUSION

In a word, this article focuses on the left-behind children who lack a family education environment, a special group of children. By analyzing the status quo of left-behind children and the problems presented by left-behind children who lack parental care, the conclusion can be drawn from the family's care. It is very important for left-behind children. The family environment has a certain influence on a child's behavior and personality. Therefore, the family school society should unite to pay attention to this special group of children, actively pay attention to their physical and mental health, and give them more care, so as to promote the healthy development of the growth environment of left-behind children.

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