

21.Family

Today most people live in small nuclear families, and many wives work outside the home. This situation has led to the "latchkey kid" phenomenon. After school, children go home to an empty house, with both parents gone. It is feared that kids with career moms are lonelier than those from large families, and that they have more trouble adapting to society. On the other hand, latchkey kids do not necessarily become problem children, if their parents spend time with them whenever possible. The solution seems to be love and adequate discipline. If parents are good role models, and perform their parental responsibilities well, most of the time their children grow up to be conscientious adults no matter what their family structure is.

Comprehension

1. What is a nuclear family?
2. What does "latchkey kid" mean?
3. According to the paragraph, are large, extended, families better than nuclear ones?

Express Yourself

1. Who is the boss in your home, you or your spouse?
2. Who should do the dishes, the husband or the wife?
3. Should wives work outside the home?
4. Should husbands do household chores if their wives have a job?
5. Should wives work even after they have children?
6. How should a man feel if his wife makes more money than he does?
7. If a woman made enough money to support the family, should her husband quit his job to look after the house?
8. Who should be in charge of disciplining the children?
9. What did you do, and how did you feel, when your first child was born?
10. Did you expect a boy as your first child?



11. Describe how your family members share household duties.
12. What do you think about living with your parents-in-law?
13. Do you enjoy taking care of your children?
14. Talk about the roles of a mom and a dad in disciplining children.

