

Home Schooling Myths You Shouldn't Believe

A myth is defined as a widely held false belief or idea. Let's face it most of us have that toke home schooling family in the back of your mind. While a lot of these myths about home schooling are just plain false, and sometimes utterly absurd, there are always sadly exceptions to these myths. As you read through these considers that these myths may be what has been holding you back from taking the leap and home schooling your child. With these myths torn apart, what is now standing in your way?

My kids won't make friends or be able to socialize.

Ugh! This phrase is like nails on a chalkboard to most of us that home school our children. It is quite the opposite. Think about it, how often do you hear from parent teacher conferences or report cards that "Susie, is to talkative." Or "Jimmy is too socially distracting for his peers"? Home schooling allows you as the parent to create unique and memorable social experiences for your child. Home schoolers often find themselves immersed in a variety of groups with people that are a mix of ages, interests and education. This helps prepare them for the working world in being able to talk with and handle conversations with a variety of people. Socialization can come in church groups, local youth sports, scouting groups, volunteering etc.

Giving birth to your child and getting to the school age point in their life, means you know your child. You know their strengths and their weaknesses, better than anyone. Also, there are plenty of curriculum's and programs out there that can help guide you through the process. There is a unique aspect to home schooling as well; you can learn right along with your child. Others sometimes outsource or have tutors or services or even another parent who can help teach those tougher subjects for you.

I'm not even qualified to teach; how can I teach my own child?

I have zero patience, so I won't be able around my child all day.

Home schooling is not all sunshine, rainbows and unicorns by any means. There are absolutely amazing days, and there are horrible days, and countless of in between days as well. What you will be able to do is find a balance for the horrible days. Those are days you can stop, take a break and not do school that day, or move on to lighter subjects and circle back to the difficult section later.

Times are changing and more and more colleges are recognizing home schoolers and admitting them into colleges. No longer do home schoolers feel the need to use accredited curriculums or do GED testing for their children. Also, just like in the public-school children can dually enroll in college classes while still in high school. An added bonus to homeschool education is that you can tailor you child's education not only to their interest but to their future career paths as well.

But will my kids still be able to go to college?

I am not very religious so there isn't a reason for me to home school. OR I am not free spirited enough to home school.

Personal beliefs and philosophies of life are definitely reasoning some people chose to home school, but it is usually not the only reason or benefit. With mounting peer pressure, school violence, poor funding in schools, many are choosing to home school out of safety and concern for their child. Others have many other reasons. If you refer back to my checklist for **Is Home Schooling Right For Me** most of these are reasons people home school. Not all of those reasons are on the list deal with religion of life philosophy only a handful (if that).

Goodness NO! Only if you want it to be can it be that long. Some subscribe to the philosophy that ALL DAY is a school day in their homes. Everything counts for them. Think about cooking. In cooking a meal, you have math, science, history and reading in just one chore. Actual instruction time in public school isn't even 6-8 hours. Home schoolers do not take as long to do formal lessons because we do not have to line up students to go from one place to another, take attendance, meal counts etc.

Shouldn't a school day be 6-8 hours long?

Most home-schooling parents are just too lazy to send their kids to school

Most home school families don't make the decision to home school lightly. They have taken careful care and consideration into prepping and planning for it. If a parent were to be a lazy home school parent, they would only be doing a disservice to their child. This child would then not be able to function successfully out in the real world.

Yes, sometimes you do have to stay home, but not all the time. Learning can happen anywhere. Most home schoolers plan field trips, park days, co-ops, errands and vacations and take in account the educational benefits from these activities and apply it to their child's learning.

You must stay at home all the time to home school successfully.

Aren't most home schooling parents abusive and neglectful?

Not the case. Again, I refer you to the stereotypical and newsworthy cases you are referencing. This is not the norm by any means. Homeschool parents typically invest a lot into their children in order to make them successful.

Some states also children to dually enroll in public school courses as well in order to participate in sports, choirs and other school activities. In addition to this there are a lot of unseen home school communities that also sponsor home school sports, dances, classes, co-ops etc. If you want these periences for your child, you can make them happen.

My children will miss out on

(insert activity here).

You have to be wealthy to home school.

This one is funny to me. Not even close. You can homeschool from free to thousands of dollars. It is your choice and what you can afford and what you want for your child. There are even ways to get curriculum cheaper by buying second hand. I even recommend when you first are starting out to go the free route until you develop more routines and find your families learning style and establish your own teaching style more.

While we can be seen to safeguard our children from things, it is because the world around us has changed and its not because we home school. We are allowing our rights as parents to determine when a child is subjected to certain things, versus letting society enforce these things on our children at an early age. We can talk through these incidences more and offer clearer understanding than that of those from peer pressure and medial influences.

Most homeschool families shelter themselves or are just out of touch with reality.

There must be a full time stay at home parent to dedicate the time to home schooling.

While it can be more complicated as a single parent or in a low income parent household it is still very doable. But who says school has to be done during the morning, daytime or even during the week? Both parents can teach different parts that fit into their schedules, or one parent can. If you want to or you need to, you can make it work. Routines and schedules will be more important in these cases, but it is very doable.

Again, so many curriculums will lay it all out for you. There are also a ton of books and resources that can give you guidelines for what children can or should know when. But you are also in control and you can determine those standards for your child. What do you want them to be able to do and when do you want them to be able to do those things?

I don't even know what I need to teach my child

We struggle with doing homework together now, home school won't be able to be successful either.

Home schooling creates such a new dynamic for your household. You get to work with your child not at the end of the day when they are worn out from the 6-8 hours at public school. Now you get to help teach and guide them when their minds are fresh and restored. With homework you didn't get to sit in on the lesson in their classroom that day. With homeschool you gave the lesson, and all the work is "homework" you are doing it at home.

In homeschool another unique advantage is that you get to set the benchmarks of your child. You determine where they should be at and when. You set those goals and you work towards them. Plus, you can work on retaining the information through mastery instead of learning it in order to pass a test. If your child doesn't get something you can pause and stay at that lesson until they do. They won't be forced to move on because the rest of their class is ready to move on. You have the authority to make those decisions now.

I don't want my child to be behind academically.