Radu Enachi

Online English 101: Hasmik Barsamian

Essay One Final Draft

The parental negligence and importance of the family in the child’s life

In 1990, the film "Home Alone" was released. This movie is a critical, evil, and brutal action movie. In equal honor, I think it is one of the most amusing movies I have ever watched. For those of you who do not recount this movie, it was about the Mc-Allister family's holiday and somehow Kevin was mistakenly left home alone. Meanwhile in that Christmas morning Kevin thinks that like in magic his dream has become true; eureka, he's finally got rid of his family! He can bounce on the beds, watch action/drama videos, eat ice cream and potato chips, and look through his older brother's belongings. In the movie, Kevin also must deal with the scary stove in the basement which seems to be a monster for him, the old man next door who is a snow-shoveling slayer, and finally the two criminals who try to break into his residence. Left alone home for a little Kevin, could be one of the most traumatic experiences of his life because the kids are still in the stage of development, despite; Kevin’s mom proves that she is willing to do anything to protect his son. Being a little kid, Kevin has not understood what surprise comes with independent life yet. His ambition of living independently from his family derives from anger that he kept inside. The scene begins when all members of Kevin's family been gathering together including his uncle and aunt, at the McCallister residence midnight before a Christmas vacation to France. All the excitement makes Kevin anger because nobody gives him attention. Probably many of us had a similar feeling of jealousy around the Holliday season because when we were kids, we expected to receive something from parents. And if we didn't receive the desired attention or even worse, if other brother or sister received a better gift than you, the jealousy erupted.

The kid personality is still fragile in the early ages of development so the feeling of loneliness or left behind might have a devastating consequences. Kevin awakens with nobody in the home which at the beginning gives him worries that his demanding wish became real, but this concern quickly changes into delight because of independence from his family. As he is enjoying the time, because his dream becomes true, two burglars scheme to steal the entire community while everyone is gone for the holidays and their special focus is on the McCallister residence. The movie sequence warns us how dangerous is to leave your kid alone home because you never know what might happen. Kids, in particular, are very helpless so they could not distinguish between bad and good. Because of that, the parents must take special attention during the complete process of his development until he reaches adolescence. Education in the process of transformation from kid to adult life plays the most important factor which every parent must provide to their children. And if the parent fails to demonstrate his involvement in the supervision and education of the minor the legislation has the power to take parental rights away from the progenitor. Macfarquhar in the book “*Rereading America*” write, “...she saw that Leslie had pulled the hot curling iron off the sink by its dangling cord, and it had fallen on her legs and burned them.” (134). The quotation above is another example of parental negligence which could lead to serious charges. Even if there are many justifications that the parent was taking decent care, like the example with Leslie the child service has all the rights to take the kid away from the parent. Ones the process of limiting parental rights is started a parent in many cases might lose all rights. Unhappy, left behind or unwatched baby would cause lifetime trauma to their personalities. The surprises that comes with freedom can bring you different challenges and a little fragile kid might assimilate them wrong.

In addition, a “Selfless” is the right word to describe the mom's effect because everything a mom does for her infant is exclusively for her child's welfare. When the family got in a plane, Kevin’s mom realizes that Kevin is missing and as shortly as they arrive in France, they start requesting to be taken back home. This scene in the movie tells us that despite family's bad attitude towards Kevin at the beginning of the film because of his age, and nature, they worry for him because he is a part of their family and they are ready to do whatever in their powers to get back home to make sure he is safe. This confirms the value of the linkage among the members of not only the nuclear family but for other members as well. The importance of belief sometimes has no boundaries. Kevin's mother sacrifices herself and lets the family to go to their hotel room in France while she waits at the terminal and eventually negotiates with an old couple to let her to fly back to the United States in their plane seats. This scene in the movie tells us that Kevin’s mom repeatedly is demonstrating the sacrifice connected with love towards her son. She is cursing herself for what happened, and she understood the severity of the situation that she has done. A mom loves her baby unconditionally and nevermore demands anything in return, besides she goes to impossible to defend her child. Everything that Kevin’s mother sacrifice and does is because of him, she desperately tries everything she could in her powers to get home and see that her baby is safe. No matter how grown and influenced a man may be, for a parent he will forever be a kid. She will protect him whole her life, and support him and beg him to be careful and eat on time.

The sense of relationship is certainly visible in this film, and as my siblings and I sit down and spend this quality experience collectively, I am noted of the importance of everyone in my family and the enjoyment we have that is manifested throughout every Christmas period.

Sources:

Hughes, John. *Home Alone*. Twentieth Century Fox, 1990.

Colombo, Gary, et al. *Rereading America: Cultural Contexts for Critical Thinking and Writing*. Vol. 11, Bedford/St. Martins, 2019.

L., Van Voorhis Frances, et al. *The Impact of Family Involvement on the Education of Children Ages 3 to 8: a Focus on Literacy and Math Achievement Outcomes and Social-Emotional Skills*. Distributed by ERIC Clearinghouse, 2013.