

Valarie Maldonado:AOW 2 Response.pdf

by Valarie Maldonado

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Valarie Maldonado
Mrs. Wood
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AOW 2: Homework is Stressful

In recent discussions of how effective and useful homework is, a controversial issue has been whether students are actually finding homework helpful, easy, useful and what teachers can do to make sure they are assigning helpful work and not just busy work. Denise Pope draws attention to this issue in their article "Does Homework Work When Kids Are Learning All Day at Home?". On the one hand, some argue that homework should be eliminated altogether. From this perspective, students' main cause of stress, also known as homework, will be eliminated and they will no longer have that burden of having 5+ hours of work. On the other hand, however, others argue that homework is in fact beneficial and we should be assigned it. According to this view, in order to make sure we understand the concept and to practice, study, and review for tests we should be assigned almost 3 hours of homework each night including weekends. In sum then, the issue is whether students are being assigned too much homework without it actually being beneficial and just being busy work. My own view is that homework should be eliminated as a whole but an understandable amount of it is necessary to make sure students understand how to do the work independently.

Students should not be feeling overwhelmed or stressed by the amount of schoolwork being assigned to them on a daily basis. The amount of homework being assigned can also affect students' physical and mental health. Having an understandable amount of homework for example like just an hour of it each night can "alleviate some of the stress that so many students are experiencing right now" (Pope). I personally receive 3-4 hours of homework each night. This causes me to be stressed because I have 7 different classes to do work for but I still have other chores to do after school. I think overall homework should be eliminated because it just causes us unnecessary stress and takes up a lot of our outside school time. Another reason I think it should be eliminated because if we have to go to school 7-8 hours everyday then we should not be having 3-4 hours of homework.

I agree that homework should be eliminated altogether but a certain amount of it is definitely necessary. For example they can narrow down homework to just 1-2 hours. The homework we are being assigned should be purposeful instead of just busy work. The homework should also be over the material we know because "students are more likely to disengage when an assignment feels either too hard or too easy" (Pope). If students do not understand the assignment or it is too easy for them they will be less likely to actually want to complete it. I have had a personal experience with this. One time before fall break, I was assigned a Math project with a group of four people. We were all assigned our own part of the project to do. Our teacher gave us fall break and an extra three days to work on it. But I did not understand what to do so instead of asking for help I procrastinated and did not do my part of the assignment until the night before it was due. I think a reason I procrastinate because I did not understand my part of the project it was too difficult. From my personal experience I think we should be assigned homework we are learning in class and actually know how to do. Instead of trying to give us

In conclusion, I think homework should be eliminated altogether but a certain amount of it is necessary if it meets the criteria so we will not just be assigned hours of busy work. Teachers can contribute to this change by making sure their assignments are actually purposeful. We need to stop being assigned unnecessary work it is not helping us improve academically but instead

just causing us stress. We all need to come together to make this positive change for all of us teens.

Work Cited

Denise Pope."Does Homework Work When Kids Are Learning All Day at Home?" *The Washington Post*, The Washington Post, 1 September 2020,
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/education/2020/09/01/does-homework-work-when-kids-are-learning-all-day-home/>