## Too much homework

 essay
## ASSIGN BUSTER

I decided to do my project on the amount of homework students receive and how it is affecting their interpersonal relationships.

Most of us have siblings, relatives or kids in grade school and can relate to this issue. We can all agree that they generally receive too much homework and it is causing them a lot of stress. Homework can be both good and bad. Some homework help reinforce the material already covered in class room while others are just worksheets and drill work. The truth is that students usually receive " busy work" more often than actually helpful homework.

It takes up so much of their time that they practically have no time to spend with their family. Sometimes, homework gets so hard that the parents get involved. This can create a lot of stress on families. We all know that some projects elementary and middle school students receive usually cannot be done without a considerable amount of help from their parents. According to Mr. Baker, a researcher and professor of education and sociology, " increasing homework loads is likely to aggravate tensions within the family, thereby generating more inequality and eroding the quality of overall education".

I don't think it is worth it to have so much stress and tension in the family in the name of homework. In my opinion, teachers should start assigning less homework. I have a sister who is in middle school and I'm sure she does a lot more homework that she needs to. Just this week she received a paper to do in which she has to write a 5 page essay and a 10 slide presentation about 10 important battles of the American Revolution. Last month, she had to construct a device that could accurately measure the mass and volume of
solids and liquids for her science class. Needless to say, she got so stressed over it that my father had to help her finish it.

She already has enough homework every day to keep her busy until bed time. I think kids should have some time for sports or just to spend with their friends and family. Homework is taking up most of their time and it is causing them to become more and more detached from others. According to Harris Cooper, a professor of psychology and director of Duke's program in education, " homework crowds out children's opportunities to take part in other activities like soccer and Scouts, in which they learn important life skills".

The overload of homework causes kids to stay home without any physical activities. Sometimes students don't even have time to eat right and they depend on fast food. So many students just eat while they are typing on their computer. That is no habit that will help them to lead a healthy lifestyle. Homework is clearly causing a lot of stress in families and it has also caused a decline in interpersonal relationships among students.

Most high school students work at least part-time. Thus the fact that they get out earlier from school doesn't really help them much. Middle school students come home at around 4: 15 and they have so much homework that they work on that until bed time. This keeps them away from other activities and communicating with others. Most of it is just drill work anyway. I think teachers should only assign homework that will really help the students and avoid " busy work".

The " rule-of-thumb" should concentrate on the quality of the homework rather than saying 2nd graders should have 10 minutes of homework, 3rd graders should have 15-20 minutes of homework and so on. Teachers need to ask themselves, " Will this really help my students? According to a Duke study, Middle schoolers who reported that they were doing more than ninety minutes a night were doing no better than the students who reported stopping at ninety minutes. This shows that doing a lot of homework doesn't necessarily make kids get smarter. Teachers need to find out the right type of homework that will help their students. Right now, students are bombarded with low-quality homework that is keeping them away from forming healthy relationships and communicating with others.

The amount of homework needs to be reduced for students to live a healthier and less stressful life.

