

# Family influences essay

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“ Family Influences” There were three stories in particular that portrayed views of family. In each story a person that is influenced by their family. In Faulkner’s story “ A Rose for Emily”, Emily Grierson is influenced by her father’s control over her love life.

In “ The Glass Menagerie” by Tennessee Williams, Tom is influenced by both his parents, his father gives him an example to follow when it comes to abandoning his family, and his mother isn’t there for him when he needs her most. In William Blake’s poem “ The Chimney Sweeper” the boy is influenced by his father when his own dad sells him, being sold as a child would surely influence one’s life. All of these characters experience influence from their family. In Faulkner’s story “ A rose for Emily” Emily’s father was very controlling of who she could date and kept Emily to himself.

Growing up Emily always had her father looking over her shoulder telling her that a man isn’t good enough for her and whenever someone would come along her father would chase them away. Even after her father died he played a huge influence on her life and that was seen by everyone in the community. Every old tradition that she still carried on was signs of her father.

She couldn’t move on and live her own life because her father had so much control over her life when he was living. When her father died Emily Grierson carried on the traditions that her father had bestowed upon her. While outside Emily’s little world, in the community, life was moving on and advancing in several ways Emily was still living life through her father’s eyes.

Emily's father had always found a way to chase away a potential husband of Emily's in order to keep her under his control. After Mr.

Grierson died Emily still was affected by the way she had been brought up that she still couldn't have a normal relationship with another person. When she lost her father it was devastating to her because he was such a big part of her life, it was a hole that would never be filled, and it all started by her father being too controlling. When her father passed away Emily was made exempt from paying taxes.

Just by accepting free taxes several years after his passing proves that she really never let go. Faulkner makes sure to give us glimpses of her father so that we realize the importance of his influences. In "The Glass Menagerie" by Tennessee Williams, Tom is influenced by both his parents, his father gives him an example to follow when it comes to abandoning his family, and his mother isn't there for him when he needs her the most.

In this play we do not see Tom's father at all, he had already passed away but his presence was still with the family. The family had a painting of the father in their living room. This alone will not let the children move on from a life of sadness and loss.

The children lost their father at a young age and didn't have a father figure in their lives at all. This influences Tom in a big way because how is he going to react? Is he going to grow up and think that it is normal to leave your family? Or will he learn from his father and be a great father to his children instead? No matter what, Tom's father played a huge influence in his life by not being there. His entire life he grew up not having someone to talk to

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about guy things, bottling things up inside. While growing up without a father figure Tom was going through struggles in life, he was drinking and watching movies all the time. Tom and his Mother were always getting into fights. Once he lost his father the family essentially broke apart.

With Tom going down the wrong path and leading his life in the wrong direction, he needed his mother the most. Instead Tom's mother basically tells him that he needs to leave the house. This is a stubborn act by Tom's mother, if she would take his perspective into mind then maybe she could further understand his feelings.