

Only Child vs. Siblings

PREPARATION OUTLINE

General Purpose:	To persuade
Specific Purpose:	To persuade my audience that having siblings is better than being an only child
Thesis:	Having siblings is more beneficial for the child than being alone.
Organization:	Topical Pattern
Question of:	Fact

INTRODUCTION

- I. How many of you have siblings?
 - A. Unlike many of you, I happen to be an only child.
 - B. I always ask my parents why they didn't have another one.
 - C. When I was a child, I wanted a sibling for all the wrong reasons.

- II. Today I am going to be talking about:
 - A. The advantages of having siblings.
 - B. The disadvantages of being an only child.
 - C. How this affects their future.

BODY

- I. The advantages of having siblings
 - A. The relationships with your sisters and brothers will likely last longer than any others in your lifetime. (Russo, 2013)

 - B. Kids learn to negotiate conflict with all the fighting they do as children.
 1. This helps for when we have to interact with bosses, co-workers, or people that we might not necessarily agree with
 2. Siblings sometimes squabble, but they are also helping each other become more trustworthy, conscientious, and optimistic individuals (Williams, 2013)

 - C. Ultimately, sibling relationship comes down to the parents
 1. Good marriages tend to make for kids to get along better (Russo, 2013)
 2. They learn how to interact with people through how their parents interact with each other.
 3. Treating each child fairly will result in a positive connotation on siblings.

[Now that we've looked at the advantages of having siblings, lets look at the disadvantages of being an only child]

- II. The disadvantages of being an only child (Winder, 2012)
 - A. An only child may grow up lonely
 1. They don't have anyone to play with during their childhood so it may be hard for them to socialize in the future

 - B. He/she might grow up to be selfish

1. Because they get all the attention from their parents, they don't learn early on how to share material things and people's attention.

C. An only child feels a lot of pressure from parents to be good at things.

1. Because they are the only child, they feel that they have to exceed all their parents expectations
2. I've felt a lot of pressure through my childhood to meet, what seemed to be too far to reach, my parents expectations.

[Knowing the advantages of having siblings, and the disadvantages of being an only child, lets look at how this might affect them in the future.]

III. What will happen in the future?

A. The future for the sibling

1. The way they interact with their sibling shapes their relationships, their happiness, and even the way they view themselves for the rest of their life (Russo, 2013)
2. If children have siblings of the opposite sex, this will help them with their relationships in the future
 - a. They learn about how the opposite might interact in daily life, and understand them.
3. Family is the closest thing anybody has
 - a. Memories with siblings stay with you forever (Blondie's Blog, 2013)

B. The future for the only child

1. As parents become ill, the children might have to take care of them.
 - a. All that burden will get put onto me when my parents become ill or even die; I have to do all the work. (Russo, 2013)
2. I will never get the chance to be an Aunt
 - a. I will be missing out on not only a sibling bond, but a bond with their children.

CONCLUSION

- I. Knowing all of these things now like the advantages of having siblings, the disadvantages of being an only child, and how this will shape their future, I hope that when it comes time for you to have kids, you will provide your children with the chance to have that sibling bond.
- II. They're not always going to like their siblings, but they will always love them.
- III. Ill leave you with a quote by Jeffrey Kluger
 1. Your parents leave you too soon and your kids and spouse come along late, but your siblings know you when you are in your most inchoate form.

References

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