

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my view on the topic "Schools should encourage children to be competitive.". Recently, I attended a debate on the above motion, and I was on the opposition team speaking against it. However, I changed my viewpoint and had an opposite opinion during the match. I agree that schools should encourage students to be engaged in competitions because the affirmative team put forward a sound argument. It states that children can adapt to the genuine environment of society in which competitions are omnipresent earlier. This reasoning makes me review my belief and changes my sentiment directly.

Firstly, children being competitive can build their mental toughness, handling the stress of competitive situations they will be faced. Having faced stressful and troublesome circumstances, most children will feel helpless and depressed, remaining in a miserable state. It boils down to their mental strength. As kids have not experienced arduous and grievous struggles, they do not know how to be resilient and bounce back from difficulties. Generally, companies look for employees who can handle the stress of competitive situations, the weak mental toughness of children can be a huge detriment to their future careers. Therefore, schools can hold more competitions, letting children bounce back from failure and cope with hardships. Not only does this help them learn to control their emotions, but this also teaches them to replace negative thoughts with more genuine feelings, having perseverance, persistence, and resilience. As a result, students being competitive ensures that they will not be defeated easily being assigned challenging duties the first time during their first jobs.

Secondly, schools encouraging children to be competitive can strengthen their academic self-identity, expediting their growth. Nowadays, many people say that academic competitions produce winners and losers, making the failures think they had a poor performance in academics. This thought affects their academic self-image and causes them to have lower self-esteem. Nevertheless, TV competition-based shows, the participants always lessen the negative consequences of not winning a competition and call attention to their participation when contestants are eliminated. They praise their achievement and thank the competition, providing them opportunities to enjoy every moment of the performance. As a result, having trials do not just let losers have nothing but unpleasant consequences. It does bring them knowledge and a new perspective to life. Competitions held by schools not only let children not diminish their self-concept, but they also lead children to explore their improvement in the challenges

frequently, trying to work better next time.

Thirdly, children being competitive always want to be the first in everything, leading them to have a huge desire to study hard, enhancing their academic performances. Being competitive, children are not afraid of hurdles and dare to compete in all the things. Comparison builds into human nature, and it is a common way of evaluating how we are doing on the things that matter to us. For competitive children, they are constantly comparing themselves to their peers. For example, they like to compare how many friends they have, how popular they are. Specifically, students perceive academics as a desirable area in which they contrast themselves via tests and examinations. Schools encouraging them to be competitive is an efficient method of improving their academic performances. Children want to surpass their companions, demonstrating their strength and wisdom through excellent performances, grades, and being the first in the competition. This phenomenon lets children not be reconciled to become weak people. They are eager to strive for good outcomes in academics. Therefore, a good learning atmosphere will then be generated on the campus with the passage of time.

Lastly, schools boosting children to be ambitious can increase their fundamental motivation, exploring new and novel things. Many people say that competitions will decrease students' inspiration because the tasks may be challenging and complicated. They trigger students' ambition to struggle during problem-solving. However, they also bring advantages to children. By encouraging children to be contentious throughout competitions, schools can let children partake in and spare no effort in competing, driving their motivation. Children start pursuing the process of the challenges and begin to enjoy it. They are more likely to explore knowledge before. Also, children become passionate and look forward to discovering more about the specific areas. This does inspire the curiosity of children towards all kinds of knowledge.

In the light of the above-mentioned reasons, I stand for the opinion that schools should encourage students to be competitive. It is hoped that competitive children can tackle the problems well and become influential people in the future.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Wong