

# The relationship between family structure and child development

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## Introduction

- Child development is affected by many different aspects of one's particular lifestyle.
- Physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development all depend on both nature and nurture. Nature being the physical development. Nurture being the social, emotional, and cognitive development.
- A change in family structure is one source of explanation for a decline or standstill in the developmental process.
- Things such as divorce, cohabitation, remarriage, etc., are hard on children.
- Helping children adjust to changes within their family gives them more opportunity to show positive growth and development.

## Coverage

Articles were included based on...

- The information involving changes in family structure.
- The information that gives evidence to the relationship between family structure and child development.
- The information that shows a delay in child development because of a parent getting divorced, remarried, dating, etc.
- these are the things I included because they provide the most support to the topic.

Articles were not included based on...

- The information being completely irrelevant.
- There being excessive information.
- These articles were excluded because they were not helpful in showing the relationship between family structure and child development.

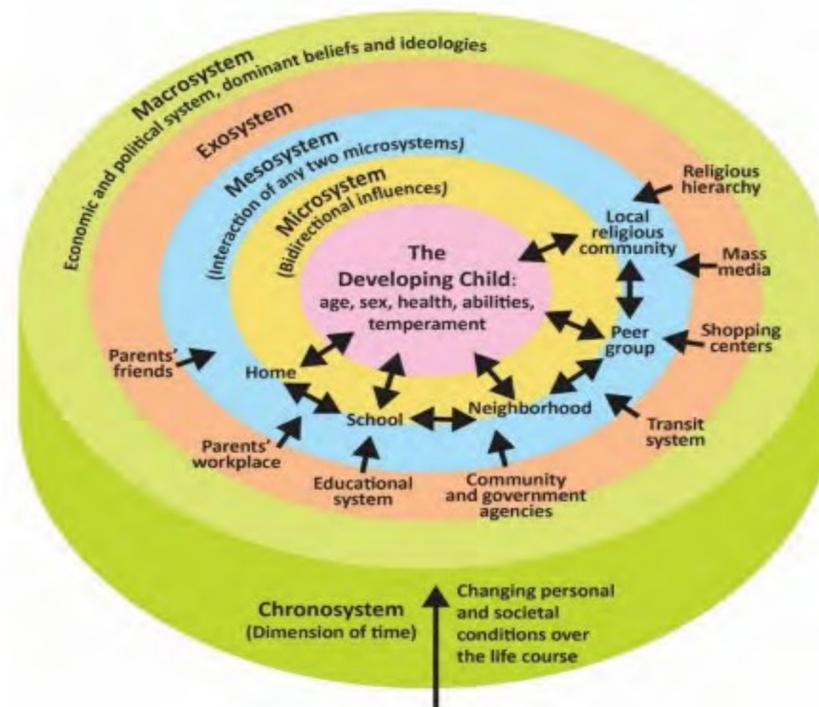
## Methods

- The technique used for this poster is a literature synthesis.
- A literature synthesis reviews articles and draws attention to the information that best identifies with your work.
- It also explains similarities and differences found in the articles

## RESULTS

- Research by Berger and Bzostek (2017) suggests that there is a bigger differences in behavioral issues between children that are born into a different family structure and children who have or have not experienced transitions within their family ( p.527).
- There is a greater distinction in the behavioral changes that children exhibit when experiencing a transition from a stable two parent home to a single parent or cohabitating structure. Starting out in a single parent home and experiencing family transitions does not show as much of a change in development of children (Lee & McLanahan, 2015, p.13).
- Boys showed more changes than girls. Boys were not as good at interacting with their peers. They showed an increase in likelihood of externalizing behaviors (Cavanagh & Huston, 2008, p. 1265).
- Child-care changes are also a big reason for these developmental declines (Cavanagh, Crosnoe, Prickett, & Smith, 2014, p. 469-480).

## Bronfenbrenner's theory



Family types



Development stages

## Significance

- The research reviewed and analyzed for this topic is important to parents, child-care workers, and anyone else interacting with children.
- It provides an understanding and explanation for how children might react to a change in family structure within their home.
- Culture, environment, social class, etc., can help or hinder a child experiencing this kind of change.
- This research draws attention to these things and provides them with data on the commonalities of the way children react developmentally.

## Conclusion

- Overall, children did show an increase in behavioral, cognitive, and social issues after having experienced a transition in family structure.
- This conclusion was reached differently in each article..
- All children will show a negative change in some part of the developmental process, but they might not all show it in the same way.
- Girls and boys are going to react differently.
- Knowing the impact that family structure can have on children is valuable to many people.
- Parents and care givers can be advised on ways to make the transitions smoother.
- Child-care workers can be an outlet for children who need someone to listen.

## References

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