

Should parents with mental health problems raise their children?

New Argument

Subject: Reading

Title: Mental health v.s. Parenting

Topic: Should parents with mental health problems keep their children?

Mental Health V.s. Parenting

Let me tell you a story about a boy named Jack ,who one day awoke to see his mother was nowhere to be found. The sun shining through into the tent was what woke him up. He was pretty glad he decided to take the larger of the two sleeping bags with him because the night had been chilly. He got out of his sleeping bag then out of the tent. That's when he noticed right when he got out of the tent that the rental car his mother had gotten was gone. **At first he didn't panic: but then he started to worry.** The day before coming to Mount Desert Island Jack and his mother had an argument. The argument was a pointless one but that was at the time his mother was at her 'spinning' time. He thought to himself his mother would never leave him alone she loved him too much to do that...But his mother had abandoned him she had gone somewhere else and had forgotten about the child she had.

The problem i am trying to figure out is this: Should parents with mental disorders problems keep their children.

Before i begin, let's define terms

Mental disorders: a wide range of mental health conditions that affect the mood, thinking, or behavior of a person.

On one hand , the answer is yes, because parents with mental health issues can feel alone, but the comfort of having a child makes them feel better. For example, a woman named Shona who is 38 suffers from bipolar disorder and is raising two children- Janey 8 and Andrew 11. Her husband then thought she was unfit mother but the custody worked out at 50/50. Even when she was high her children understood her. Even though she may or other parents may have a disorder they are still capable of raising a child as long as they know how to try and control themselves they are fit parents. Joanne Nicholson, Ph.D is a psychologist that directs the Child and Family Research Core of the University of Massachusetts Medical School Center for Mental Health Services Research. He says that " When you are living with any kind of chronic or severe illness, like mental illness, diabetes, or cancer, there are times when your functioning will be compromised by that illness," "But that doesn't mean that you can't have a healthy family."

On the other hand some people might say no because they think the parents are irresponsible and would only harm their children if they keep them. For example even though *Small As An Elephant* is a book it is a story that is realistic fiction which means it could happen. In the story Jack is struggling to look for his mother who abandoned him in Mount Desert Island in Maine. She was irresponsible enough to

leave her 11 or 12 year old alone in a state he doesn't know a lot about. This did harm Jack in a way when he thought she had completely forgotten about him and didn't care. Also the grandmother of Jack is said to have wanted to take Jack away from his mother this must have been what the grandmother wanted to do because she might have been worried that Jack would one day get hurt by his mother's actions from her mental health problems.

What i think i have learned from thinking about this problem is that it depends on the parent, or parents. Some parents are capable of taking care of their children if they feel like they can control themselves well enough to maintain a family. On the other hand some just have a hard time, struggling through their mental health and can't control themselves well enough to maintain a family.