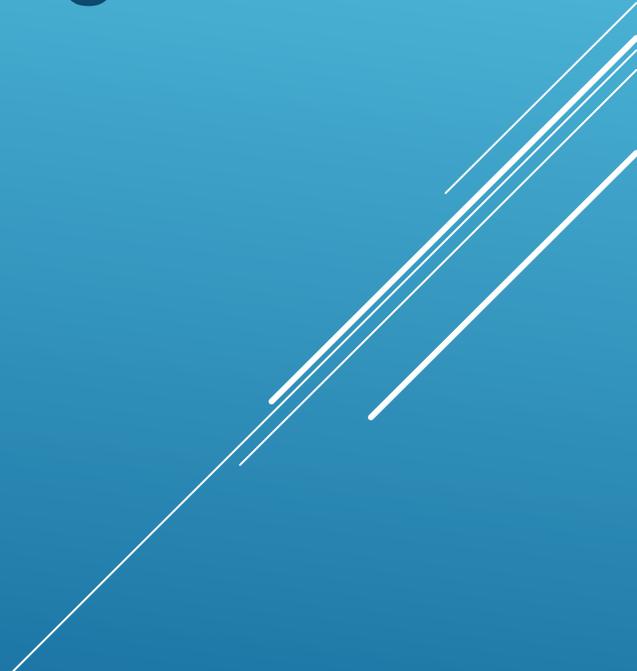


**What are your fears of  
Homeschooling?**

**Why are you  
Homeschooling?**

Please answer the questions above, use a separate card for each question. Please put in jars when finished.

A decorative graphic consisting of several parallel white lines of varying lengths, slanted upwards from left to right, located in the bottom right corner of the page.

# AFRAID OF BEING JUDGED?

Chris Redford

**Fears often come about because of things you've heard others say about homeschooling or because you've known homeschooling families that seem to have problems that you want to avoid. Some of these common fears can be put to rest with a little information.**

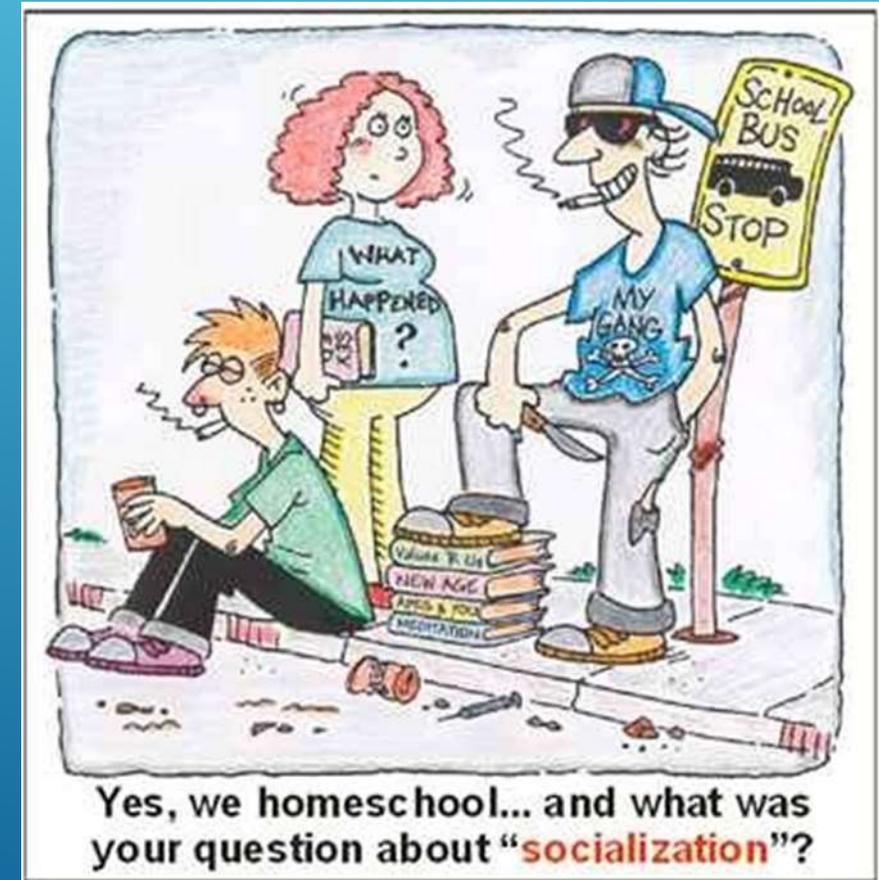
- ▶ Maybe your family isn't supportive of your homeschool journey.
- ▶ Maybe your friends think you're crazy.
- ▶ Maybe you excitedly shared your decision to homeschool on social media and felt a negative backlash.
- ▶ Possibly none of that has happened *yet*, but you are paralyzed with the worry that it *might* occur.

**Your fear is real, but it can be dealt with and you can feel confident.**

**Lets review top 5 homeschooling fears.**

Per [www.theoldschoolhouse.com](http://www.theoldschoolhouse.com)

# The Fear of Having “Unsocialized” Children



# The Fear of Having “Unsocialized” Children

What is “socialization” - agreeable companionship

**Public School** – Do most playgrounds, cafeterias, and hallways have children mingling in “agreeable companionship”? What do they have instead? Why?

While some of the kids enjoy hanging out, many are not--by the above definition--experiencing socialization.

**Homeschool** - Exposed to a variety of people of a variety of ages in many different circumstances. What kind of activities do they do outside the home?

Smaller teacher to student ratio, better attention to teach how to behave in social situations.

# The Fear of Having “Unsocialized” Children

Jessie Wise ...“many parents ask, ‘What about my child’s social development? Does he need peers?’ Children need friends. Children do not need to be surrounded by large groups of peers who inevitably follow the strongest personality in the crowd.

The question for any parent is: Do I want my child to be like his peers?

Or do I want my child to RISE above them?”

# The Fear of “Curriculum Gaps”

Subjects that fall through the cracks and are never covered in your homeschool, especially when developing your own curriculum.

**Public School** – Rarely finish a text book. Change curriculum. Skip or repeat info between years. Bad teacher = lose a year due to struggles. School assemblies, pep rallies, holiday celebrations, field trips, fire drills, that rowdy kid who pushes the teacher’s buttons every day, movie days, substitute teacher days

**Homeschool** – Similar story.

Can you learn the entire body of knowledge there is to know in the whole world? No!

**What is the point of school?**



# The Fear That Children Won't Get One on One Attention With a Large Family

Is it easier to do 5 at a time or 25-30 at a time?

In a family with an age spread, older students work more independently while a parent teaches the younger ones. Younger ones play while parent helps older ones. Constant rotation.

Many times lessons can be taught to all, like history, geography, and English.

Can be hard to balance. But teacher/student ratio is better. At times older kids can teach younger and both benefit.



# The Fear That Your Kids Won't Get In To College

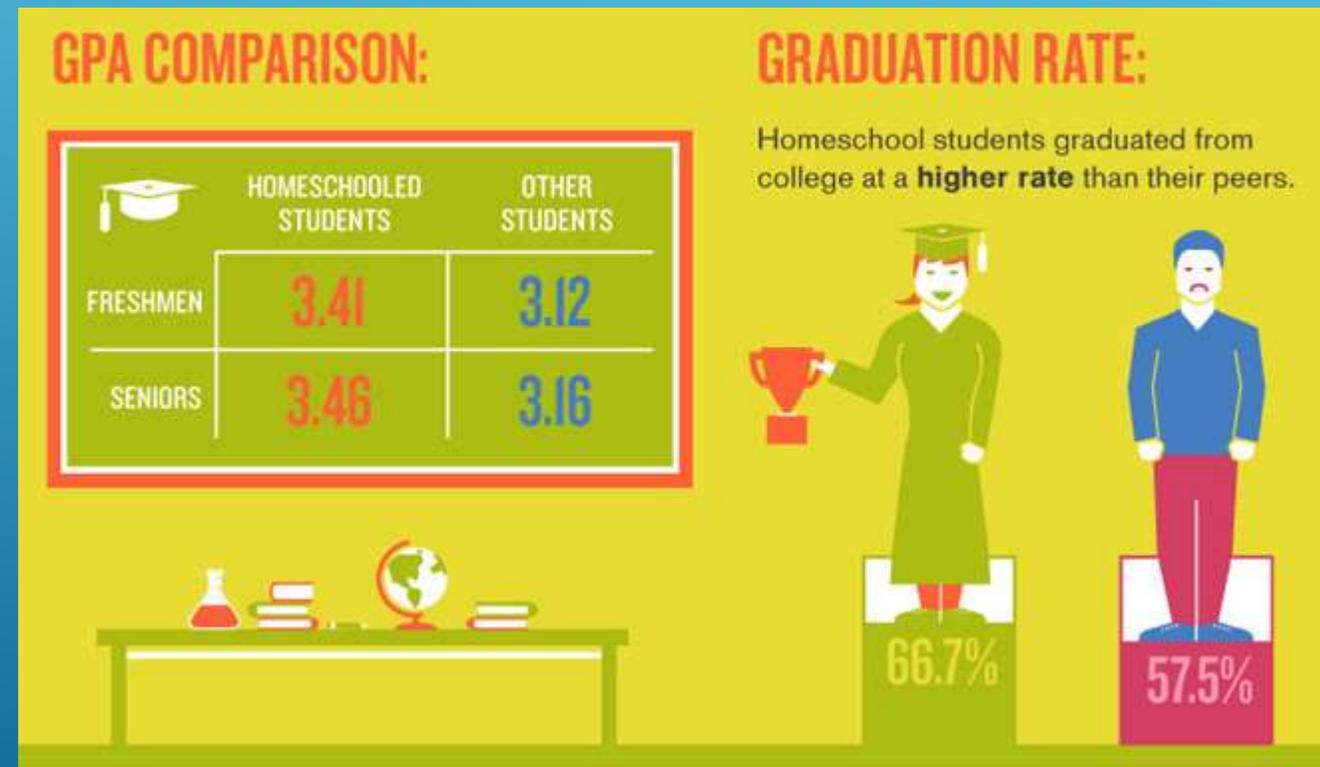
Parents worry that they aren't keeping a good transcript or aren't offering kids the opportunities for enough elective classes or they will not be ready or accepted.

Actual research:

- ▶ Higher ACT scores.
- ▶ Higher graduation from college rate.
- ▶ Higher grade point average during college years.
- ▶ Better at tasks like registering and talking to professors.

Many homeschoolers have applied to college, I don't know of any that have not gotten in. Many end up going to college early.

It could be said that homeschooling is a **GREAT** way to prepare for college.



# The Fear That Your Kids Will Be “Different”

There’s the fear that your kids will somehow be, you know, “different.” That they’ll be the ones people glance at in public and mutter “There are some of those weird homeschooled kids.” Most of us don’t like to stand out, to be too different, so we don’t want that for our kids either.

**Yes, absolutely yes, your kids will be different!**

Just like the other 2 million+ kids being homeschooled in America.

But don’t fear it, be glad of it. It’s a good different.

## BUT ARE HOMESCHOOLERS A LITTLE ODD? STUDIES SAY NO

In a study measuring communication, daily living skills, socialization, and maturity, homeschoolers outscored public school kids on every level:



Mallard's **TOP-10** Reasons **NOT** to Home-School your Children: #9...

Colleges MAKE A LOT OF MONEY WITH THEIR REMEDIAL PROGRAMS THAT TEACH FRESHMEN TO READ AND COUNT!



ARE YOU TRYING TO TAKE MONEY AWAY FROM AMERICA'S INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING!?

Mallard's Top **10** Reasons **NOT** to Home-School your child: #1...

HOMESCHOOLED KIDS SCORE 72 POINTS HIGHER THAN THE NATIONAL AVERAGE ON THE SAT....



How ELITIST is THAT?

Mallard's **TOP-10** REASONS **NOT** to HOME-SCHOOL YOUR CHILDREN: #8...

"LEARNING," SCHMERNING...



...THINK OF ALL THE FREE CHILD-CARE YOU'RE GIVING UP!

# Lets review your fears

Mallard's **TOP-10** Reasons **NOT** to Home-School your children: #10...

WHY GET DONE IN THREE HOURS A DAY...

WHAT YOU COULD ACCOMPLISH IN SEVEN, PLUS AN INVIGORATING BUS RIDE?



Mallard's Top **10** Reasons **NOT** to Home-School your children: #6...



I SUPPOSE YOU THINK YOUR KIDS ARE TOO GOOD FOR HEAD LICE?

# So What Can You Do

Embark on the journey to create the best YOU and your CHILDREN. Have strength in knowing that you know best with what your children need and can accomplish. Exercise your faith that the Lord will not let you fail.

## 4 Tips for Building Confidence



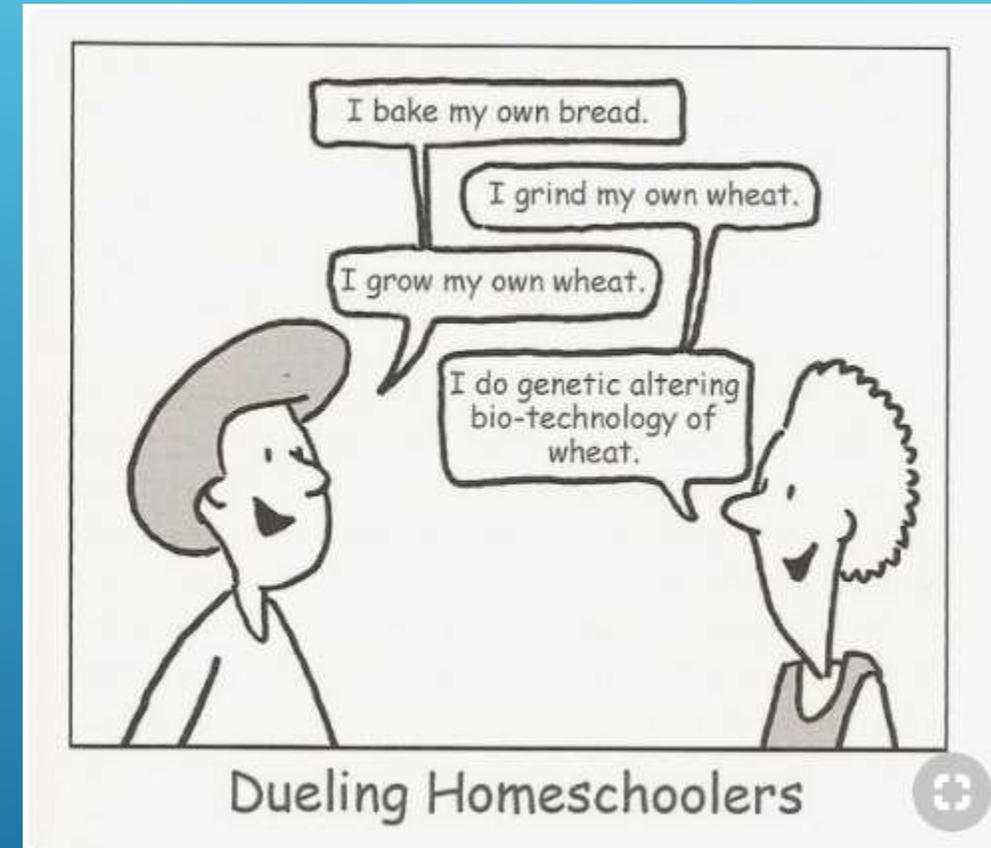
# Surround Yourself with Like-minded People.

Find a tribe that makes you feel great about homeschooling.

Get a close friend to give a pep talk when needed.

Vent on a Facebook group of homeschool parents.

Knowing you're not alone in your homeschool challenges helps you feel confident and not worry so much about those who would judge your decision.



# Realize People May Be Projecting Their Fears Onto You



When people say things to you like:

- ▶ "Oh, I could never do that!"
- ▶ "How will you teach chemistry?!"
- ▶ "Don't you worry about socialization?!"

Realize these statements are usually not about *you* at all. Often these questions and exclamations say more about themselves than about your choices.

It is likely that their hearts are in the right place—concern for you and your child—but often their own fears color their opinion.

**They can be concerned, but it doesn't have to affect you!**

# Personalized Learning is a Strong Method of Instruction

The core idea of homeschooling is the idea that kids need to learn at the speed, and in the style, most appropriate for them.

In the education world, enthusiasts call the approach "personalized learning". Huge fans are Bill Gates and Mark Zuckerberg.

Homeschooling parents can take the method a step further. As parents, many are in the best position possible to know, and provide, the right kind of instruction.

**Students can learn more about what they really care about. Talk about motivation!**



# Be Confident in Your *Why*



There is a reason you've chosen to homeschool.

Because homeschooling is such a tremendous commitment, your **why** is something of great importance to you, your child, and your family. Determine your **why**.

When we have a clear handle on that drive, that desire, that **why**, it is easier to shrug off judgment and feel confident in our decision. When **you know and can clearly articulate** that you are doing what is best for your child, you can focus on that assurance when fear of judgment rises.



# 20 Great Reasons You Homeschool

Written & Illustrated by Jim Erskine

Feel free to reprint or pass this along to a friend



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