**Is It Good to Be a Child Celebrity?**

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Despite there are a lot of career opportunities and types of jobs in the world, a lot of teenagers and children want to become a celebrity when they grow up. 54% of teenagers want to become popular (Kershaw, 2010). Today, when such social media as YouTube and Tik Tok exist, children spend a lot of time in it, watching videos of rich popular bloggers, and want to become celebrities. For example, the most popular child-youtuber Ryan Kaji has more than 33 million subscribers and his annual in 2020 was $29,5 million (Ryan’s World’s Net Worth, n. d.). Children see that young celebrities have a lot of expensive toys and clothes, travel a lot and have opportunities to see popular singers and actors, and this make them want to be a famous. So, there are a lot of people who think that being a child celebrity is good. However, a many people have an opposite point of view. They believe that being famous as a child is too much of a responsibility, and also popular children do not have enough time to play because they have to earn money, and this can harm the child's psyche. Despite young celebrities have a lot of opportunities, connections and money, their lives are still very hard because of lack of free time, difficulty finding friends and problems with psyche.

Although all doors are open for famous children, they often do not have time to try everything they want. Unfortunately, a lot of children do not have a choice because their parents decide for them and, in some cases, it ruin childhood. For example, the popular singer Taylor Momsen was given by her parents to a modeling agency when she was only two years old and it made her life really hard: “My whole life, I was in and out of school. I didn't have friends. I was working constantly and I didn't have a real life” (Taylor Momsen Blames Her Parents for Bad Attitude, 2010). Every child should have free time that he will spend playing with friends or relaxing alone. But being a celebrity means being constantly on the lookout, because every minute the public figure needs to watch their words and actions as the paparazzi and crazy fans can use this against the celebrity. It is very difficult to be so circumspect in childhood, because children rarely realize the weight of the responsibility that lies on them. But being famous is a hard work not only because of these circumstances, but also because these children must actually work. They take part in photo sessions, play roles in movies, do sports, rehearse a lot, learn new things for their roles such as breakdancing or juggling. For example, a child actor can work up to 8 hours a day and 40 hours a week (Jacobs, n. d.). And he still needs to go to school, do homework, eat and sleep at least 8 hours. With such a busy schedule, it is difficult to get a minute even for rest. In brief, having a lot of opportunities does not mean having a possibility to use it, especially for people who are famous.

Another argument for being a child celebrity is having a lot of useful connections from the childhood. But in most cases, it does not play any role because celebrity connections don't last. Some people who work in filmmaking industry say that celebrities build short-time relationship only to make some kind of collaboration or business project and when all plans are completed, they diverge as easily as they converged (Galloway, 2019). Actually, it is really hard to find a real friend for those who are famous. Many public figures feel themselves very lonely almost every time because people form opinions about celebrities based only on what they learn about them on the Internet or on TV, so they can be they may be prejudiced against a popular person even before actually getting to know him. A popular singer Billie Eilish says, that when she became famous her life was turned upside down, because some fans started to recognize her on the street and it scares her, but the biggest problem is that she has no friends (Billie Eilish Doesn't Have Friends After Becoming Famous, n. d.). And another popular singer Ed Sheeran mentioned in some interviews that sometimes he feels like he's like an animal in a zoo, because in public people are watching him every minute and this makes him anxious (Law, 2019). Little celebrities can have the same problems, and loneliness hurts children harder than adults. Thereby, not only does fame not give you an advantage when it comes to making friends, it makes it harder to build healthy relationships with people.

Lastly, the most popular reason why people want to be popular is money. Nowadays, money plays a big role in the life of every person. Some people think that it is cool when child makes big money, because in this case he will not need anything and will even be able to provide for his family. But the flip side of the coin is that in most cases, parents simply cash in on their child, making him a tool for making money. But another big problem is that celebrity children are often spoiled because parents buy them everything they want. All this has a detrimental effect on the mental health of the child, which is why popular children are often mentally unstable. Time passes more slowly for a child than for an adult, because of which the child quickly gets used to fame and money and his habitual level of happiness becomes much higher than that of unpopular children, because little celebrities are constantly surrounded by attention, gifts and expensive things, and it becomes a regular thing in their lives (Eveleth, 2013). Very often celebrities get criticized. The difference between young and adult famous people is that adults know how to react on rude comments and do not pay attention to it, and children often do not know how to react, and criticism and rude comments hurt them, which can lead to low self-esteem and depression (Hovsepians, 2017). Therefore, money and fame can make child mentally unstable.

To sum up, there are many advantages of being famous, but not in childhood. Children are very vulnerable creatures and sometimes even a carelessly spoken word can lead to psychological trauma, and such a big thing as fame can do much harm. Despite famous children have money, opportunities and a lot of attention, fame puts their mental health at risk, as the lack of friends and free time and a lot of criticism negatively affects the mental state of the child. A child who grows and develops in a loving family, goes to school and spends time with friends is much happier than a popular child who act in movies all day long, learns scripts and receives a lot of criticism from strangers. Therefore, parents must think twice before trying to make their child a celebrity.

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