**FAMILY TIES**

Children do better in school when their parents are involved, research shows, but increasing that participation is no simple equation.

By Andy Hall

While parents are known to be the most important influence on their children's academic performance, the school setting is growing in importance because of challenges parents face.

FAMILY TIES, Please see Page 10A

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**Barriers to involvement**

Percentage of Madison parents who reported the following items create some or major problems in becoming more involved in their child's education:

- Transportation: 28%
- Family obligations: 26%
- Financial resources: 23%
- Time: 20%
- Work: 10%

*Source: Schools of Hope survey*

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**Work is biggest barrier to parent involvement**

Survey finding challenges the Madison School District and employers to work together

By Andy Hall and Dee J. Hall

We let you ask Enrique Sardi: How important is it to involve only child, George, in a good education? Because he is a teacher, too.

Enrique finished high school in his native Peru, and he's aiming higher than anyone else.

Sardi, who works two jobs and doesn't speak English, ended up at Madison Area Technical College in two years.

Sardi, who only child, George, and his wife, Shahrani, own small business, is a teacher, too.

Sardi said he wants more involvement.

**Survey finding challenges the Madison School District and employers to work together**

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**No '97 tax bills for Rockdale Village operates debt-free**

By Business Journal

Rockdale residents pay no taxes. The village has been running as a debt-free community for nearly a decade.

**Will warming accord affect Wisconsin? Some predict costlier fuel; environmentalists disagree**

By Ron Desty

Environment reporter

If it seemed strange last week to read about global warming talks in Kyoto, Japan, then you won't find it surprising for now or your weekend, you are not alone.

For what happened in Kyoto last week will eventually make a difference in our everyday lives here in Wisconsin. Exactly what kind of "difference? It depends on whom you talk to.

Environmentalists say the Kyoto accord will help stop climate change. However, the Bush administration and other right-leaning groups have said the accord is unnecessary — the major culprits in warming the earth are now the nations themselves — so the agreement will have little or no noticeable benefit to Wisconsin (like the one that killed more than 700 people across the Midwest in the past two years), help make up...

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**CHILDREN FOR HIRE**

Despite laws against underage labor, it's still a problem in the workplace.

Report in FORUM, Section B

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**Who teaches best? Schools Families Both**


National Survey of American Families

The national survey of American families was conducted by the Pew Hispanic Center and the Pew Research Center from March 2000 to May 2001. The survey included interviews with a representative sample of 6,000 adult residents of the United States, including 2,000 Hispanic adults.

Survey results

- 8 in 10 Hispanic adults said they were proud of their children's educational achievements.
- 6 in 10 Hispanic adults said they were proud of their children's athletic achievements.
- 5 in 10 Hispanic adults said they were proud of their children's artistic achievements.
- 4 in 10 Hispanic adults said they were proud of their children's volunteer work.
- 3 in 10 Hispanic adults said they were proud of their children's community service.
- 2 in 10 Hispanic adults said they were proud of their children's leadership.

Survey methodology

The survey used a random digit dialing (RDD) sampling frame to reach a representative sample of Hispanic households in the United States. Data were collected using computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI), with calls made to landline and cellular telephone lines. The survey was conducted in English and Spanish.

Survey findings

- The majority of Hispanic adults said they were proud of their children's educational achievements.
- Hispanic adults were more likely to be proud of their children's educational achievements than their children's athletic achievements.
- Hispanic adults were less likely to be proud of their children's volunteer work than of their children's educational achievements.
- Hispanic adults were more likely to be proud of their children's artistic achievements than of their children's leadership.

Survey limitations

- The survey only included Hispanic adults and may not be representative of the broader Hispanic population.
- The survey was conducted in English and Spanish, which may have limited participation from those who do not speak either language.
- The survey was conducted in 2000 and may not be representative of more recent trends.

Conclusion

The national survey of American families provides valuable insights into the experiences and attitudes of Hispanic adults in the United States. The results highlight the importance of education and the pride that Hispanic adults take in their children's achievements.

Acknowledgments

The national survey of American families was conducted by the Pew Hispanic Center and the Pew Research Center. The survey was funded by a grant from the Ford Foundation.

For more information, please visit Pew Hispanic Center's website: pewhispanic.org.

References


Note: This is a fictional representation of the survey methodology and findings. The actual survey conducted by Pew Hispanic Center and Pew Research Center would have included more detailed methodology and findings.