

## Abstract

A comparison of the social competence of children in single-parent and intact homes was undertaken. Questionnaires were administered to 54 single-parent divorced families and 54 intact families, respectively, comprising parents' and teachers' ratings. Children from single-parent families showed significantly less social skills behaviors in the dimension of responsibility and self-control than children from intact families. More internalizing behaviors was identified in children of single-parent families. No significant difference was found in externalizing problems. To understand these findings, mothers' associated life stress and cultural influences are important. Positive parenting were found to be predictive of children's social skills and problem behaviors.