

The set of images illustrate a striking juxtaposition between having pets or having children. In recent years, there has been a prevalence of having pets instead of raising children among the young generation. As the image on the left shown, we can often see pet owners taking their baby pets on the street for a stroll and parents bringing their lovely kids out for exposing them to sunlight simultaneously. Sometimes, the number of pets we encounter are more than kids, which is extremely contradicted to our old notions. Besides, family functions have relevantly altered as the image on the right shown. Those should be feeding and parenting their kids are now putting an enormous amount of efforts and time into taking care of pets. As this phenomenon becoming prevalent, it's high time that we figure out the reasons and impacts behind the trend.

There are multiple reasons lying under this phenomenon. To begin with, raising kids requires a large

amount of money in this high-expense society. Nevertheless, the young generation aren't capable of earning such wealth owing to numerous heated social issues in Taiwan, such as the huge salary gap, high housing price and so on. Considering the difficulties, many choose to have pets, a cheaper and easier choice while receiving similar sense of accompanying. On top of that, people have chosen to get married at an older age nowadays, some would simply choose to own a pet rather than put themselves at the risk of giving birth at such age. Although having a pet might provide the same benefits as having a kid to individuals, it might bring about several adverse consequences to the society. As young generation tend not to giving birth, the birth rate would slow down, and the population in our nation would eventually decrease. If so, the issue of labor shortage could be more serious, the function of a country might thus be influenced, too. In recapitulation, having pets instead of raising kids has become a common trend. As far as I'm concerned, the government should take actions to solve the social issues so that the young generation would be willing to give birth.