

With the trend of raising pets increasing, the role of pet has evolved. Namely, people nowadays tend to view pets as their family members rather than merely animals. As illustrated in the left picture, it is commonplace to see individuals — no matter young or old — taking a stroll with their adorable dogs or cats. Basking in the sunshine, their pets usually lie in the stroller with soothe. Interestingly, the strollers once used only for infants are now occupied by the pets. While the picture on the left showcases the prevalent scene in the park, the right one offers a glance in home. Couples once raised human children are now converting into taking care of their "dog son" or "dog daughter". The lovely animals wearing well-designed clothes, having their tantalizing cuisines. Treating them as their own children, parents look at their pets with love. The phenomenon showed in these two pictures not only illustrates the shifting love from children to pets but implies the overloading pressure suffered by the generation.

From my perspective, the root causes of these phenomenon stem from the revolution of technology and overwhelming stress and strains. To begin with, the widespread use of the Internet and AI gradually leave individuals less likely to interact with people. Specifically, they prefer immersing themselves with those non-judging companionships, such as AI and pets. They even find out that talking with people puts stress on them while playing with pets allows them to relieve and recharge. Moreover, with the tremendous pressure from works and personal relationships, individuals are often longing for escape. The pets, in turn, offers them not only the sense of understanding but also the emotional values. However, the rising rates of raising pets as children reveals the alarming problem of population structure. The low birth rate will cause the lack of working population as well as the weakening protection of our island. Additionally, when we reduce our interaction with each others, it may be more challenging to foster empathy to people, leading to the loss of morality and mutual understanding. To conclude, while relishing in the companionship our pets, we should also show our cares to people of around us. With the balance, can we create a better society.