

In recent years, it has been increasingly popular for people to own pets, and so are the scenes witnessed such as the pictures provided. Some families decide to raise children and keep pets at the same time, firmly convinced that they could live in harmony. Pets can not only keep humans company but also teach their kids the way to treat other animals. Other families opt for raising kids instead of pets since they believe that human interaction and raising kids play an indispensable role in their life, which is the only thing they should focus on enjoying. Still others, couples tend to keep pets instead of raising children. Viewing their pets as a member of their family, pet owners take great care of them by dressing them up, preparing delicate meals for them. They do so as if the pets were their kids.

As far as I am concerned, I have also witnessed the transition in people's preference in whether to keep a pet or nurture a child. Contrary to the

past, pet owners nowadays take care of their pets as if they were babies more vulnerable than human. For instance, pets that used to walk by themselves are seen in carts due to their "parents'" concern, worrying that they might get dirty or injured. I reckon that the popularity of pets mainly result from the surging cost of raising children in comparison with animals. It is definitely costly when it comes to schooling, garments, entertainment, and basic supplies, to name just a few. Additionally, pets are more controllable since they don't scream, cry, and run around suddenly. Though this trend seems no harm, it might influence our society slowly. With more and more people opting for pets, it's possible for a lack in labor and population in the generation to come. Also, the importance of the pet industry such as medicine, salon, and food are bound to face a rise, changing the service and manufacturing industry. In a nutshell, despite the trend of raising pets as a substitute for kids can hardly be resisted, it is crucial that mankind be aware of its gradual influence in the long term.