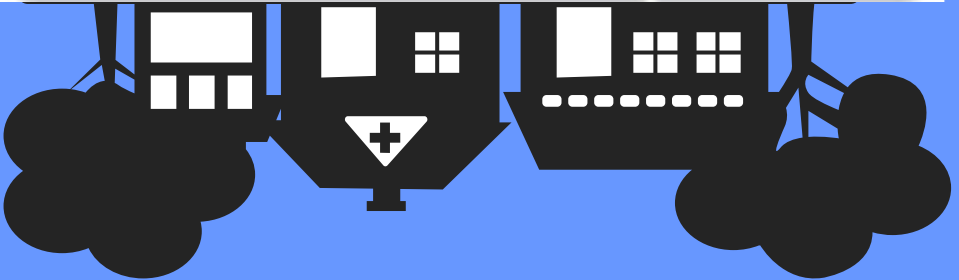
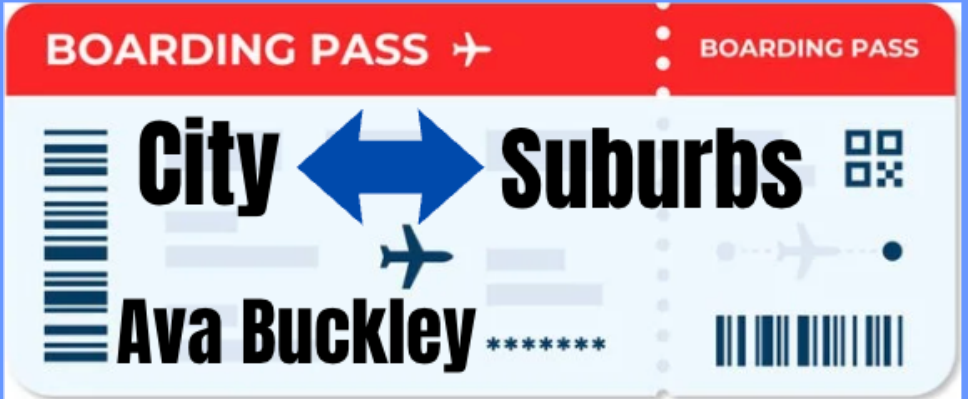


The Path That Shapes You



Introduction

Your environment raises you more than your parents do.

My Credentials:

I grew up in NYC



I also spend time at my house in Southampton, which has given me enough experience to compare city and suburban life.

I'm in college now and surrounded by people who grew up in the suburbs.



You don't realize how you were raised until you meet people who weren't raised like you.

City Independence

City kids are independent by necessity. Suburb kids get independence later.

Taking the subway alone



Sense of direction/ navigating streets with confidence

Time management



City kids develop independence early, becoming street-smart and able to think quickly and adapt in challenging situations.

Suburb Independence

City kids are independent by necessity. Suburb kids get independence later.

Driving/ in control of your own transportation



Relying on parents or siblings to take you places



Privacy within spaces

- More space means more alone time/ less overlap



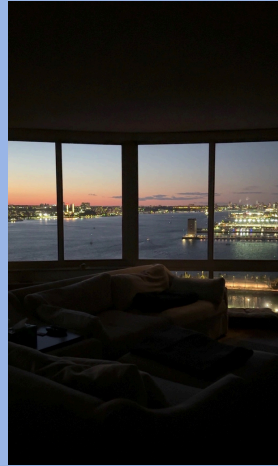
In my opinion, kids in the suburbs often prioritize book smarts over street smarts because they've had fewer opportunities to develop real-world problem-solving skills.

City Responsibility

Responsibility looks different depending on where you grow up.

Dealing with smaller living spaces

- Smaller living spaces mean having to keep your area clean with limited clutter.



Going to pick up packages (downstairs in a lobby or at the postal office)



Carrying groceries home

- Grocery shopping becomes a harder task since you have to walk home with all the bags.



Every task is harder because you have to walk everywhere, so errands often turn into multiple trips due to limited carrying space and distance between stores.

Suburb Responsibility

Responsibility looks different depending on where you grow up.

Yard work



Shoveling snow out the driveway

Upkeep on cars (gas, cleaning, regular maintenance, etc)



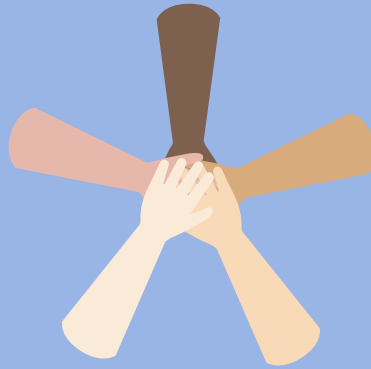
Suburban kids often know basic hands-on tasks like changing lightbulbs, using tools, managing trash bins, and handling simple home upkeep.

City Social Awareness & Diversity

City kids are thrown into diversity, not just around it.

Early exposure to...

Different races



Classes

and identities



Ultimately, this early exposure to different classes, races, and identities fosters a natural ability to accept and connect with diverse people in environments like college, work, and beyond.

Suburb Social Awareness & Diversity

City kids are thrown into diversity, not just around it.

Taught about diversity



Limited to a town that may lack diversity and may not always be accepting.

Exposure to diversity often comes later, typically in college.



City kids are often immersed in diversity early, making acceptance more instinctive, while suburban kids may have more of a choice in their exposure. In the city, you're almost guaranteed to encounter a wide range of cultures and identities.

City Fear & Safety

Kids in the suburbs who drive fast never dream they'll crash; kids who walk around city streets at night never dream they'll be mugged.

More aware of surroundings and potential risks



Able to stick up for themselves

Comfortable in chaos and quick on their feet



City kids are often immersed in diversity early, making acceptance more instinctive, while suburban kids may have more of a choice in their exposure. In the city, you're almost guaranteed to encounter a wide range of cultures and identities.

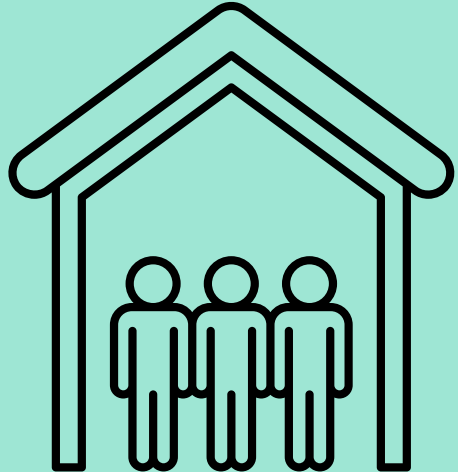
Suburb Fear & Safety

Kids in the suburbs who drive fast never dream they'll crash; kids who walk around city streets at night never dream they'll be mugged.

Reckless/ drunk driving



Sheltered from experiences



Sheltered from experiences

Suburbs are often safer than cities, which means fewer risky situations, but also less experience navigating them, making it both a positive and a negative.

Conclusion

Ultimately, where you grow up shapes how you think, act, and see the world. City and suburban upbringings create different strengths, perspectives, and experiences. Neither is better, they're just different, and those differences become clear as you meet people raised in other environments.

