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April 3rd, 2013

English 1102

Academic Introduction

One of my fondest memories of being a child is trying to fake being sick just to get to miss a day of school. At least three times a month I would lay in bed early in the mornings and plot my miscevious scheme of how I would be able to get out of having to go to school. I would roll out of bed, stubble down the stairs and make my way into my parents bedroom. As serious as I could, in a sickly voice I would approach my mom and as her to feel my head because I was sure I had a fever. It never worked. She always knew I was faking and to her school was my most important obligation so unless I was really sick, I would be there.

Attendance policies in grade schools have always been a controversial subject. Although not a lot of research has been done, how attendance affects the education one receives has been a topic of interest. Several studies suggest that attendance is based upon the importance that is placed on it in the home and in schools. While studies discuss the importance that is placed on attendance a more specific area is how children of low income homes attend school less frequently than others.

In this paper I plan to discuss how attendance affects ones education. I will do this by first talking about several secondary studies I have looked into and then make my way into my own primary research.