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by Down Down

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Down Syndrome

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Down syndrome is a genetic disorder that occurs in situations where a child is born having an extra copy of the 21st chromosome. It is caused by the availability of all parts or even by the presence of a third copy of the 21st chromosome. Down syndrome is always allied with delays in physical growths, slight to moderate cerebral disability as well as characteristics that are facial features. In relation to the Atlantic Monthly article on Down syndrome, pregnant women realize that they are pregnant for babies who have Down syndrome after going for screening. Sarah Zhang is portraying some senses on issues that are concerned with Down syndrome. Challenges faced by people living with Down syndrome are given a special attention in this article. In most cases, pregnant women decide to have an abortion. This is attributed to a lot of sojourn questions such as: ¹ What is it like to raise a child with Down syndrome? Usually, they don't see the need of bringing up such a child. In many situations that specialists come across, there is either agreement between the couple to decide to go for the abortion or disagreement, whereby one of them is preferring to keep the pregnancy while the other is pushing for the abortion.

Further, the author shows how people are afraid of bringing up children who have Down syndrome because of many reasons. For instance, one can be afraid of their friends as well as the family members. As a result of avoiding some moral judgments of wanting or even not wanting to bring up children with Down syndrome, people are always forced to do questionable things. Others do abortion while others end up killing their children, something which can make others think that you didn't love your child that why you took away his /her life and you were not ready for another child and that is why you did an abortion.

In some countries like Denmark, there has been conduction of prenatal Down syndrome screening. This is done to all pregnant women without taking into consideration their age or even other risk factors. A high percentage of the women who test to have pregnancy for

babies with Down syndrome always decide to go for an abortion. In my perception, this should be avoided and every country should support children who are suffering from Down syndrome. For example, this can be done through the provision of health care to those children, education, and also money to help in financing for their shoes that are going to fit for their wider and flexible feet.

Denmark has been used by the author in the Atlantic Monthly article on Down syndrome. The author chose to use Denmark because, after Iceland, Denmark has emerged to be the leading country with the abortion of Down syndrome pregnancies. This has been contributed by the government by allowing pregnancies up to twelve weeks of pregnancies, even though is permitted after twelve weeks in conditions where the baby has a serious mental or physical disorder. I agree with the author's work on the Atlantic Monthly article on Down syndrome. This is because the author has addressed the subject issue well and given all the required information to supplement his work for better understanding and to address the issue well (Zhang, 2020).

I poses a sympathy reaction towards people suffering from Down syndrome. I sympathize with the way they are treated in the society with a lot of isolation. Moreover, I have a merciful reaction towards people with Down syndrome because of some challenges they go through as a result of the disorder, something which is not their decision to be born with a disability. A good example of such challenges is walking because they have wider legs and being short sighted or with slanting eyes. In addition to the causes of Down syndrome, it is also caused by a translocation that occurs between 21st and 14th chromosome respectively and presence of some cells that poses extra copy of chromosome 21. I know and have come across many people with Down syndrome. Because they are just human beings like us, I think they need and they should be treated well, fairly, and equally. Also, they should be given some facilities that should help them in relation to their disabilities.

Reference

Zhang.S.(2020). Health. The Atlantic. The last children of down syndrome.

<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2020/12/the-last-children-of-down-syndrome/616928/>

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