What Are They Doing Now?  
by Dr. Jay L. Wile, Ph.D.

Qualifications

- University Professor From 1990 - 1995
- Helped Develop Indiana’s Only Residential High School for Gifted and Talented Students
- NSF-Sponsored Scientist with More Than $200,000 In Research Grants
- Became Interested in Homeschooling Because of Excellent University Students Who Were Homeschooled
- Currently writes junior high school and high school science courses for homeschooled students

A Few Statistics First…

In 2003, Dr. Brian Ray conducted the largest research study ever done on adults who had been homeschooled. Over 7,000 adults who had been homeschooled were surveyed, and more than 5,000 had been homeschooled for at least seven years and were age 18-24. The statistics presented here come from that second group. The title of the study is Home Educated and Now Adults: Their Community and Civic Involvement, Views About Homeschooling, and Other Traits.
This is Seen at Other Colleges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>HS Grad GPA</th>
<th>Everyone Else</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boston University:</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td>2.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baylor University:</td>
<td>3.36</td>
<td>3.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>York Technical:</td>
<td>2.99</td>
<td>2.67</td>
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</tbody>
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Stanford admissions officer Jonathan Reider says:

“The distinguishing factor is intellectual vitality. [Homeschooled] kids have it, and everything they do is responding to it.”

http://www.baylor.edu/content/services/document.php/119942.pdf
http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1038&context=cehsedaddiss]

Who answered “YES” to the Questions?

Have you read a book in English in the past six months?

Homeschooled: 98.5% Average U.S.: 69%

Do you volunteer in an ongoing community service?

Homeschooled: 71.1% Average U.S.: 37%
Are politics and government too complicated to understand?

Homeschooled: 4.2%  
Average U.S.: 35%

Do you know how to use the internet for research?

Homeschooled: 99.6%  
Average U.S.: 31%

Have you used a public library in the past year?

Homeschooled: 90.3%  
Average U.S.: 56%

Do you attend religious services once a month or more?

Homeschooled: 93.3%  
Average U.S.: 41%

**Taken all together, how would you say things are these days —would you say that you are:**

[Graph showing comparison between homeschooled population and average population on happiness levels]
In general, do you find life:

![Chart showing the comparison between homeschooled and population average for exciting, routine, and dull aspects of life.]

**Looking at Just the Homeschool Graduates**

I am glad that I was homeschooled:
- St. Ag. 75.8%  Ag. 19.4%  Nther. 2.8%  Disag. 1.4%  St. Disag. 0.6%

Having been homeschooled was an advantage:
- St. Ag. 66%  Ag. 26.4%  Nther. 5.7%  Disag. 1.5%  St. Disag. 0.4%

I would homeschool my own children:
- St. Ag. 54.8%  Ag. 27.3%  Nther. 13.5%  Disag. 2.8%  St. Disag. 1.6%

**NAME: Christopher Stout**

Education: Homeschooled K-12 Graduated with Honors, USC Film School
Occupation: Creative Director of The Story Locker

He looked at USC and the “reasonable” option, University of Delaware. “The time had now TRULY come for my parents to put their money where their mouth was. Either all things were possible for me, or all things within reason. Either greater was He who is in me than He who is in the world, or greater was He than pretty much everything but the darkness in Hollywood.”

“I’m just getting started on this whole life thing, and there’s not a whole lot of wisdom I have to impart from experience, but my experiences have encouraged me to confidently assert one thing

Dr. Jay L. Wile

“What Are They Doing Now?”

p 4
– trust your kids. If my generation is called to make disciples of the nations, we’re going to have to get our hands dirty. We might have to go to college with tax collectors and sinners…I’m confident that there was no better place to learn how to do that than at the front line of the battle between light and darkness.”

Stout’s film company has landed contracts for commercials, viral videos, and documentaries. Their short film Nimrod is a story about redemptive love, and it premiered on 5/9/2009 to rave reviews.

NAME: Naomi Thomson
Education: Homeschooled K-12
Occupation: Owner, Silver Spoon Cakes

As a homeschool assignment from her father, she started her business, which has now serviced over 100 events, mostly weddings.

“Home schooling has been my life. It was not a time in my life spent behind a desk listening to someone teach me; my school experience has been at home. Learning about life in the context of life.”

“Dad always said, ‘They need to learn how to think.’ I have learned to use my head, practically, academically, and spiritually. I have learned how to learn, and as a result of that, my ‘Homeschool’ experience is not just something that has been in my life, but it is something that continues in my life...I've been given the responsibility of my own mind. Which has been one of the greatest burdens, and greatest blessings, I have ever been given.”

“Thinking back, I love that every childhood memory I have is at home with my family...I have lived a homeschooled life; and what a joy it has been! I consider myself very blessed.”

NAME: REDACTED
Education: Homeschooled K-12 University: REDACTED
Occupation: Active spy for a U.S. government contractor

She was thinking about being a speechwriter for elected officials or being a part of a public policy team before going to college. She majored in Government at REDACTED.

“I never guessed in a million years I would be doing this, but God has worked it out so well.” Homeschooling helped her learn how to learn independently, and “…that skill is universal.” It helped her learn how to interact with lots of different kinds of people, and that helped her in college and helps her in her work today.

“I went to…school…[with] homeschoolers and have watched them go out to the workplace, and THEY STAND OUT. There is no question about it. They don’t have the baggage that others have. They know how to think and how to learn, and that’s an incredible gift.”

“I remember times when we were doing math, and I was in tears; my mom was in tears. But it was so worth it. I have been given such an amazing gift.”

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NAME: Dr. Brandon P. Brown
Education: Homeschooled K-12, Graduated with Honors, (premed) Univ. of Dallas, (MD and Mst. Philosophy) Indiana University
Occupation: Practicing Physician, Pediatric Radiology

In early high school, he thought he was going into politics, preferably as an elected official. In 10th grade, he took a chemistry course, and all that changed. He eventually decided to be a physician, but to blend it with political science by also getting a masters in philosophy (bioethics concentration).

While he loves being a doctor and helping people one-on-one, he considers one of his greatest achievements to be a chapter he co-wrote in the book *The Ethics of Embryo Adoption and the Catholic Tradition* (edited by Sarah Vaughan Brakman). A while after the book was published, the publisher (Springer) received a letter from the Vatican, thanking the publisher for the book and indicating that it helped the Vatican form its official statement on frozen embryos.

“I wouldn’t be where am I today if I hadn’t been homeschooled.”

NAME: Sydnee Tuckett
Education: Homeschooled K-12
Occupation After Homeschool: African orphanage supervisor

When Syndee was 17, she graduated homeschool and decided to follow the Lord’s leading to work in an orphanage in Monrovia, Liberia (Africa). The orphanage specializes in adoptions, mostly to foreigners.

“My parents were not all that crazy about the idea at first, but after a lot of prayer, they came around. I am so glad they did.”

“I saw parents meet their children for the first time today... for this I was tearing up. These parents have waited so long, taken out loans, done so much paper work, have loved so much even when they have never even met the child.”

The orphanage has a hospital, and Sydnee helped there as well. She watched children die, watched parents scream at God for taking their babies. One particular parent was so exhausted by her outbursts, Sydnee gave this woman her own bed to sleep in until she was rested enough to walk home.

When I asked her if it was hard to adjust to the culture she said, “Yes... when I got back. In Africa, it’s all about relationships. Strangers talk to you because they care. Here (in Canada), no one cares about strangers.”

NAME: Nathan P. Hay
Education: Homeschooled K-12 Graduated (EE) Cedarville Univ.
Occupation: Network Engineer

Nathan initially thought he would a pure electrical engineer, working on hardware systems. The more he got experience in Information Technology, the more interested he became in it.

He took a fifth year at Cedarville in order to get several certifications for network engineering, and decided to stay at Cedarville because he liked it. He took over his boss’s job.
Homeschooling helped him to be independent, both as a student and as a network engineer. In the job he is doing now, he is the ONLY person who can do what he does. Thus, there is no one who can “supervise” him in the traditional sense. He does a lot of decision-making in terms of computer initiatives and upgrades.

He is working on his Masters in Information Security through Nova Southeastern (FL) distance learning. Since it is much like homeschooling, Nathan feels perfectly “at home” with his masters work.

He says he thinks his math was not quite up to speed with his fellow students, but “Because homeschooling taught me how to learn independently, I quickly caught up to them.”

NAME: Rebecca Christopher
Education: Homeschooled K-12 Graduated (His) Asbury Coll., (Gov.) PHC, (Law) Indiana University
Occupation: Full-Time Mother

Her parents were true pioneers in Indiana homeschooling. They homeschooled before it was clearly legal in the state. This was back when Abeka would not sell to homeschoolers. She wanted to become a judge so she could make court rulings based on a Biblical standard.

When she was about to graduate from Asbury, she heard about PHC and thought what it was doing would help her be a better lawyer. She also was excited about being part of a college’s inaugural class. She interned with the RNC on Capitol Hill while a student at PHC. While in Law school, she met Jonathan and married him within 10 months. She began work at the clerk’s office in the Indiana Supreme Court’s appeals division. When she learned she was pregnant, she worked up until two weeks before delivery. She is not sure what she will do with her law degree now. She plans to stay at home and home school all her children.

NAME: April Mason
Education: Homeschooled K-12, Currently in Northern Kentucky University, elementary education.
Former Occupation: Caregiver and Educator for missionary children

After spending three years in college, April felt the Lord’s call to serve missionaries in an East Asian country where missionaries can be jailed for what they do. She didn’t feel led to BE a missionary, but to SERVE missionaries.

She and her roommate prayed that God would show her a way to do this, and three days later, her church had a guest speaker…a missionary who was planning to go to an East Asian country in which it is illegal to be a missionary. The missionary said he and his wife were praying that the Lord would send him a young person who would homeschool their children while they did their intensive language training in that country.
When I asked her if she was afraid of being caught doing something illegal in a foreign country, she just said, “God led me there. What was there to fear?”

**NAME: Melody Waring**
Education: Homeschooled K-12 Graduated with honors, (Gov.) Lawrence Univ.  
Occupation: Social Worker for the Chicago Jobs Council and PhD student at the U of Chicago.

She was one of the most gifted pianists I have ever had the privilege of hearing. She originally began studying music, but in her freshman year, she developed a (still undiagnosed) condition that makes it painful for her to play or conduct. She decided to change her major to something that would allow her to directly serve those less fortunate.

She took a short-term trip to work with rural farmers in Belize and decided that those were the kinds of people God wanted her to serve.

“My freshman and sophomore year, I took a total of 3 classes that were not music. My junior and senior year, I finished a government major, wrote a senior paper on international trade regimes and how our trade policies affect the global poor, wrote another senior paper on how Fair Trade works, and graduated summa cum laude.... a pretty fast turnaround from all-music!... [my goal is to connect] the landless, homeless, displaced, and refugees to sustainable, proven models of development. I see myself as a bridge between people with needs and resources that could be tailored for them.”