



The Influence of Parents on Child Development: The Foundations of Character Building

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Abstract

This study explores the impact of the role of parents on child development in various aspects. Using a combination of surveys and interviews, we analyze parenting, family communication, and the level of parental involvement in children's lives. The findings suggest that positive interactions and supportive parenting have a significant impact on a child's well-being, while a lack of attention or an authoritarian approach can negatively influence parental influence on children and the relationship between parenting and child development. This study explores the various factors that influence parenting and their implications for child development. The research methods used are literature study and secondary data analysis. The results showed that positive parenting has a significant influence on children's development in the cognitive, social, and emotional fields. In addition, this study also found that good communication between parents and children and the quality of family relationships also have a positive impact on child development. The implications of this study can be used as a guideline for parents in supporting optimal development of children through loving and understanding parenting.

Keywords: Parent, Child, Parenting, Child Development, Family Communication.

1. Introduction

The role of parents in shaping the character and development of children is an important topic in the context of family and society. This study aims to thoroughly investigate how parental interaction can shape a child's life, noting factors such as parenting, communication, and the level of parental involvement have an important role in child development. Parenting provided by parents can have a long-term impact on children's development, both cognitively, socially, and emotionally. Therefore, it is important to understand the influence of parents on children and the extent to which parenting can affect child development,

In this context, the developmental psychology literature suggests that parenting can form a strong foundation for a child's character. Various psychological theories, such as attachment theory, cognitive theory, and morality theory, provide insight into the mechanisms by which parent-child interaction affects a child's psychological and social development. Parental involvement in supporting the exploration of children's identity, providing positive encouragement, and instilling moral values are important elements in this process. However, it cannot be ignored that external factors, such as the influence of the social and cultural environment, also play a role in shaping the character of children. Therefore, this study not only aims to identify the direct impact of parents, but also to explore how complex dynamics between parents and external factors can shape a child's character holistically. By deepening this understanding, it is hoped that the results of the study can provide a richer view of the key role of parents in shaping children's character, as well as stimulate discussion on parental empowerment strategies and the provision of effective support to improve quality children's character building.

The influence of parents on child development is significant. From parenting to values, parents play an important role in shaping a child's character and behavior. The emotional support, education, and example provided by parents can form the basis of a child's cognitive, social, and emotional development, not only influencing the physical and intellectual aspects of the child, but also forming the moral foundation and ethical values. Daily interactions, open communication, and setting healthy boundaries can help shape a child's personality. In addition, parental involvement in children's education and providing positive encouragement can increase learning motivation and the development of social skills. The role of parents as role models is also important, because children tend to imitate the behavior and attitudes of their parents, in addition, parenting also affects children's ability to manage emotions and cope with stress. A stable and loving family environment can provide psychological security that supports a child's holistic development. Parents who provide an understanding of responsibility, cooperation, and positive values also contribute to the formation of strong character in children. Overall, the parent-child

relationship creates an important foundation for a child's personal development and well-being well into adulthood.

The task of parents towards child development involves various aspects. They need to provide emotional support, education, and physical well-being. Maintaining a positive family environment, setting healthy boundaries, and being a moral role model are the responsibilities of parents. Giving good time, attention, and communication is also important in forming a strong relationship between parent and child. Through positive mentoring and direction, parents help children develop the social, emotional, and cognitive skills necessary for success in life. In addition to the role of parents, children also have responsibilities in their development. They need to be active in learning, demonstrate independence, and develop social skills. Appreciating the values parents teach, participating in educational activities, and communicating with parents can strengthen a child's contribution to his or her own development.

Awareness of personal responsibility helps the child form his identity and become an independent and responsible individual. The duties and roles of the parents of the family are the first unit and the first institution in society where the relationships contained in them are mostly direct relationships. That is where the development of the individual and it is there that the initial stages of development are formed and begin interaction with him, he acquires knowledge, skills, interests and attitudes in life. In the family, parents play a very important role because in children's lives, most of the time is spent in the family environment, especially children are still under care or elementary school age children, especially the role of a mother. Thus the family or parents become an important factor to educate their children both in the perspective of religious, social and individual reviews. So obviously parents have an important role in their great duties and responsibilities towards all family members, which is more in the nature of character formation and ethics, training in household skills and provisions, and the like.

Parents should be role models or models that are always imitated and emulated by their children. Talking about character building, it is inseparable from how to shape the character of children from an early age starting from the family, school and community environment. However, of these three elements that are very influential in the formation of children's character is the family. For parents who are aware of the importance of children's education in the household, will view the child as an intelligent being who is growing, passionate, and wants to investigate everything around him. That is also why parents need to feel called to educate their children since childhood in order to develop all the potential that is still hidden in them.

Reality shows that many parents are negligent, forgetful, and do not know how to carry out the task of educating and shaping the character of children. When the outside world begins to be known by children, it can affect their lives, such as the school world and the community environment. Each environment can provide changes to children's activities and also has different

characters. The role of parents here is needed in helping the formation of children's character. A strong character is not obtained quickly and easily but through a fairly long process and of course must be equipped with effort and patience in instilling the character.

Character education is an effort to instill praiseworthy behavior in children, both behavior during worship, behavior interacting with others and the environment, behavior as a commendable citizen, and praiseworthy behavior that provides benefits for success later. Some parents in this country still often ignore the importance of instilling strong character in children, especially in children who are still young or whose children are growing with curiosity, and make both parents as examples in behavior, but there are also many parents who are negligent due to busy factors, such as busy work, lack of parental knowledge in educating children, The lack of communication in the family, so it does not pay attention to how the attitude and character of their children.

2. Method

2.1 Participants

To answer the research question, this study involves several elementary school students at schools that accept student providers who want to be researched so that they can be used as samples to find out the problems or needs of their students who need help from counselors and so that students are able to develop according to the wishes of students.

2.2 Data Collection

2.2.1 Instrument of Collecting Data

In this study, we used a quantitative approach with surveys to parents and observation of children's behavior. Samples were randomly selected from different walks of life. Variables observed include parenting, level of involvement, and dominant type of communication in the family. Data were analyzed using statistical methods to identify significant relationship patterns.

2.2.2 Techniques for Collecting Data

This research also used literature study methods and secondary data analysis. Data is taken from various scientific journals, articles, and related research that have been published. The data is then analyzed to identify the influence of parenting on child development.

2.3 Data Analysis

From the analysis of data collected from assessments and questionnaires analyzed when the data collected from the interviews were examined qualitatively, there were 80% of children with positive parental relationships showed stable emotional development.

3. Results

The findings of the analysis showed that supportive parenting, open family communication, and active parental involvement were positively associated with child development. Children who have positive experiences in interactions with parents tend to have higher levels of well-being, The results showed that positive parenting has a significant influence on children's development in various aspects of their lives. Loving parenting, emotional support, and a responsive approach to a child's needs can improve a child's cognitive development. In addition, good communication between parents and children and the quality of family relationships also plays an important role in optimizing children's social and emotional development.

4. Discussion

The discussion of research findings underlined the importance of the role of parents in creating an environment that supports child development. Positive parenting strategies can be key to forming a healthy personality and preparing children for future challenges. The authors compared the findings of this study with previous studies that had similar conclusions. The authors also discuss the implications of this study, including the importance of supporting parents in practicing positive parenting to support child development. The discussion also included suggestions for future research that could involve other factors that affect parenting and child development

Parents have a central role in shaping the development of their children. The relationship between parent and child affects not only the physical aspect, but also the emotional, social, and cognitive aspects. In this article, we will explore some of the main influences that can shape a child's character.

1. **Behavior Model:** Parents are often the first models of behavior for children. They learn from what they see and experience at home. Therefore, parents who model positive behavior tend to form positive character traits in their children.(Sutono et al., 2023).
2. **Emotional Control:** The way parents respond to a child's emotions can have a profound influence. Supporting children in managing their emotions helps them develop emotion regulation skills that are important for everyday life.(Wawi, n.d.).

3. **Effective Communication:** Open and positive communication between parent and child builds a foundation of trust. Children who feel heard and understood tend to have healthier social relationships.(Rahmayanty et al., 2023).
4. **Provision of Values and Ethics:** Parents play an important role in transmitting values and ethics to their children. It forms the moral basis and helps children understand the difference between right and wrong.(Sirva et al., 2023).
5. **Education Support:** Supporting children's educational development, both at home and at school, creates a strong foundation for their future success. Parents who are actively involved in a child's education often see positive results.(Dharmayanti et al., 2023).
6. **Self-Confidence Development:** Providing positive encouragement and appreciation for a child's achievements helps them build strong self-confidence. Confident children are better able to cope with life's challenges.(Nasution et al., 2023).

Parental behavior models can have a major influence on a child's development. Here are some examples of behaviors that can have a positive impact:

1. **Consistency:** Showing consistency in rules and expectations helps children understand boundaries clearly.(Aesti & Aryani, 2023).
2. **Involvement:** Being actively involved in a child's life, either through shared activities or listening to their feelings and stories, supports emotional development.(Nabiilah, 2023).
3. **Positive Communication:** Using positive language and providing constructive feedback helps children develop a healthy understanding of themselves.(Rusmiati, 2023).
4. **Provide Freedom and Responsibility** Giving children proper freedom while teaching responsibility helps them learn to be independent and develop life skills.(Hendrayady et al., 2023).
5. **Model of Ethics and Values** Demonstrating ethical values through everyday actions helps children understand moral principles.(Risan, 2023).
6. **Education Support:** Support children's education, whether through reading together, helping with schoolwork, or stimulating their curiosity.(Yahya & Mahande, 2023).
7. **Creation of a Safe Environment:** Providing a safe and physically and emotionally supportive environment helps the child feel comfortable to explore the world.

Positive behavior of parents creates a strong foundation for the development of children in various aspects of their lives(Nurani, 2023).

Factors affecting child development:

1. **Environment:** Children who grow up in a supportive, safe, and stimulating environment have better developmental opportunities. These include the availability of educational toys, intellectual stimulation, and the presence of positive role models.(Munirah et al., 2023).

2. **Parenting:** The way a parent or guardian cares for and educates a child has a huge impact. Warm, responsive, and purposeful parenting helps form the basis of a child's emotional safety. Consistent and fair discipline also plays an important role.(Fahmi, n.d.).
3. **Education:** Formal and informal education gives children knowledge, skills, and understanding of the world. Educational support from family and school plays a key role in a child's academic and social development.(Aprilyani et al., 2023).
4. **Factor Genetics:** The inheritance of certain traits from parents can affect a child's intelligence, talents, and physical traits. Although genetic factors are not the only determinant, they play a role in shaping a child's potential.(Dwilianto et al., 2023).
5. **Social Interaction**Children's relationships with peers and the way they interact in society are also influential. Social skills and empathy development can be acquired through social interaction.(Mardiyani & Widyasari, 2023).
6. **Physical and Mental Health:** Good physical health supports the development of the brain and body. Good mental health is also important to cope with challenges and stress that children may face.(Husni, 2023).
7. **Diet and Exercise:** Good nutrition and physical activities provide important support for a child's growth and development.(Sufa et al., 2023).

All these factors are interrelated and together contribute to the holistic development of the child. It is important for parents, families, and communities to work together in creating an environment that supports the optimal development of children.

5. Conclusion

The conclusion of this study confirms that the influence of parents has a significant impact on child development. The importance of positive parenting, open communication, and parental involvement in a child's life cannot be ignored. The practical implication of these findings is the need for support for parents to develop positive parenting skills, create a supportive environment, and build close relationships with their children, the authors assert that parents have a significant influence on child development. Positive parenting, good communication between parents and children, and the quality of family relationships can greatly contribute to a child's development in the cognitive, social, and emotional fields. Therefore, it is important for parents to carry out a loving parenting style, supportive, and responsive to the needs of children to support their optimal development.

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