

# The Main Role of Family Environment During COVID-19 Quarantine

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**Abstract.** This paper describes the role of the family environment during the COVID-19 quarantine. COVID-19 outbreak has attacked various regions in Indonesia; this has made both central and regional governments issued an appeal to avoid crowds and activities at home, including teaching and learning activities. However, home learning activities undertaken by students were considered less effective; there were still many students who left the house and did not do learning activities at home. This phenomenon could be minimized by the involvement of parents in learning activities during the quarantine period, which until now has not been certain when it will end. Parents need to increase their children's awareness and guide them to learn. In addition, during this quarantine period, children can use the time to memorize the Al-Qur'an. This program was carried out to educate parents about the importance of parents' involvement in learning activities at home and memorizing the Al-Qur'an for children in the environment around the Matahari Poci Community Reading Park. This activity involves the Matahari Poci Community Reading Park as a partner and society around. The results achieved by this activity were children were able to memorize the Al-Qur'an in accordance with predetermined targets. Some children could memorize independently, while some others still need to be reminded. Other results showed that parents were involved in memorizing the Al-Qur'an and teaching and learning activities during the quarantine.

**Keywords:** *family environment, COVID-19, memorizing Al-Qur'an, learning*

## INTRODUCTION

Indonesia currently is facing the national scale of the holocaust, which can cause every activity is delayed or stopped. The holocaust is about the

plague of COVID-19 that comes from the coronavirus. According to [1], in the early stage, the coronavirus infected two people in Depok on March 2nd, over time, the victim of this virus increased significantly to be 1000 people. This holocaust causes the government to make new regulations to do activities at home, including to work, study, and pray as instructed by President Joko Widodo[2]. The purpose of the instruction is to restrain the Indonesian to do activities that implicate with the crowd so that the transmission of COVID - 19 diseases can be decreased. This new policy makes teachers and students do the teaching and learning activities from home. Unfortunately, the teaching and learning from home processes are not working as it is supposed to be. Many learners did not abide by the regulations to study from home. One of the examples is there were 98 learners in Tangerang that netted raids by Police because of playing in the internet cafe when the appealed from President was being announced [3].

The problems of the effectiveness while learning from home during prevention from COVID - 19 can be done through a family approach. Family is everything for everyone, including children. Family is the first and the main part where the children are raised and grew up with. As a resolution from UNO, a family is a place to educate, nurture, socialize, and develop function of the family members so they can run their roles in society, also to give satisfaction and a healthy environment to achieve a prosperous family.

Soekanto reveals that family has so many roles such as (a) as the patron of the individuals at home (b) as socioeconomics that meets the needs of its member, (c) as a place to develop basics rules of social intercourse, and (d) as a forum where humans experience the initial socialization process, which is a process where humans learn and obey the rules and values that apply in society [4]. According to the roles above, a family must be able to empower each family member in achieving a common goal, which in this case is the ongoing activity of teaching and learning during quarantine at home.

The current initiated program aims to maximize the role of families in dealing with COVID-19 disease. Researchers collaborated with Matahari Poci Community Reading Park in implementing this program. Matahari Poci Community Reading Park is a reading park located in Bakti Jaya Village, Setu District, South Tangerang City. This reading park has permission from the local government. Matahari Poci Community Reading Park has several collections of books and pages for reading and playing activities for the surrounding community. In addition, this playground has also learned Early Childhood Education (PAUD) activities but has been temporarily closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The community also has a permanent program related to memorizing the Al-Qur'an Juz 30 and tread holy exercises, which are held every Sunday and followed by children in the neighborhood.

The quarantine period can be used by children around the Matahari Poci Community Reading Park to carry out a variety of positive activities besides learning about school lessons, one of which is memorizing the Al-Qur'an. Memorizing the Al-Qur'an has the benefit of increasing concentration [5], cognitive intelligence [6], and academic achievement [7][8] so that the memorization of the Al-Qur'an can help students achieve their learning goals in school. Memorizing Al-Qur'an also can strengthen students' character [9] and religious character [10]. Parents can directly monitor the memorization process of their children. It can also be used to establish effective communication between parents and children. Parents are expected to be able to guide children in memorizing the Al-Qur'an so that children are able to reach the determined targets. By memorizing the Al-Qur'an, the quarantine period with more free time can be used as well as possible. Additionally, the activity of memorizing the Al-Qur'an can be done both in Matahari Poci Community Reading Park and also at home.

## **METHOD**

Researchers want to examine the function and role of the family during learning activities at home through the Al-Qur'an memorization program. This program is designed to be applied by parents in facing the COVID-19 pandemic and after the end of the pandemic. An indicator of the achievements of this program is that children are able to memorize the Al-Qur'an Juz 30 as long as the program can be carried out at home. This program can be applied by parents who have a goal to help their children memorizing the Al-Qur'an. Not only for parents, but this program can also be applied by institutions or agencies that have the Al-Qur'an memorization program.

Subjects participating in this program were nine children consisting of six boys and three girls.

They are children who live in the neighborhood around the Matahari Poci Community Reading Park. The age range of the children is 7 to 13 years. The restriction of participants in this program aims to keep the social distancing principle during the program implementation. Selected children will participate in memorization activities for one month. They are required to take part in memorizing the Al-Qur'an at Matahari Poci Community Reading Park two times a week, on Saturdays and Sundays, while on Monday through Friday, they memorize the Al-Qur'an at their homes. The activity of memorizing the Al-Qur'an runs for 1 hour, which starts after the morning prayer. When memorizing the Al-Qur'an, children are given a distance of 1 meter as the social distancing principle urged by the government.

Children who take part in this program will be given a memorization manual Juz 30 and an activity evaluation sheet. Parents of each child are also given a statement containing the willingness to participate in this activity. Every child who joins the program, they are asked to memorize the Al-Qur'an as best they can and report their memorization to the research team. The research team working with the Matahari Poci Community Reading Park will also confirm that there are still errors in reading the Al-Qur'an made by children. The research team will also help children who are not fluent in reading the Al-Qur'an by turning the verses they are memorizing using a smartphone repeatedly.

The research team will fill out an evaluation sheet regarding the achievement of each child's memorization and evaluate the five daily prayers. After the activity is finished, the children are asked to report their memorization results to their parents, and then the children are required to get parents' signature on the evaluation sheet that has been provided. It is intended that parents are also actively involved during this program.

## **RESULT**

Based on the program that has been running for one month, children are able to improve their memorization of the Al-Qur'an. There are two children who have finished memorizing Al-Quran Juz 30, and continue memorizing Al-Qur'an Juz 29. Seven other children are still memorizing Al-Qur'an Juz 30 and are able to memorize other letters. Based on observations and interviews, two children who are able to memorize the Al-Qur'an Juz 30 not only memorize when the activity takes place, but they memorize when at home assisted by their parents. During the activity, there were three children who did not participate in the activity until the end.

In addition to the memorization of the Al-Qur'an, based on the evaluation sheet report, some children admitted that they had performed the five daily prayers regularly, yet there were still some

children who did not do 1 to 2 prayers, namely the morning prayer and evening prayer.

Children who successfully memorize the Al-Qur'an Juz 30 will get a gift of savings, and other children who are diligent in memorizing the Al-Qur'an will get a hat for the boys and a veil for the girls. Cap and veil given to children will be embroidered in the form of a star as a sign of their efforts to memorize the Al-Qur'an.

#### DISCUSSION

The Al-Qur'an memorization program can run effectively if it gets full support from parents. Parental support could make children have the confidence to be able to memorize the Al-Qur'an [11]. Parents need to be actively involved when children memorize at home. Parents' activeness can be in the form of asking the extent of their children's memorization, reminding children to memorize, and supervising the five prayers done by the children. Filling the quarantine period of COVID-19 with positive activities such as memorizing the Al-Qur'an can fill the children's free time so that it could reduce the boredom experienced by the children. In addition, this activity can also reduce the intensity of children playing throughout the day.

Parents can help recite verses of the Al-Qur'an being memorized by their children if their children cannot read the Al-Qur'an fluently. In addition, parents can also play the verses of the Holy Qur'an in their spare time with their children so that the children are accustomed to listening to Al-Qur'an. Parental involvement would encourage children to be more active in memorizing the Al-Qur'an. Parents have a significant role in motivating the children to memorize the Al-Qur'an [12][13]. Parents are also expected to continue monitoring their children in learning activities (not only memorizing the Al-Qur'an), especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is intended that children continue to be able to carry out teaching and learning activities at home effectively [14] so that they can still follow the material set by each school.

During the activity, there were several obstacles, including a few children chatting more often than memorizing the Al-Qur'an; there were children who were still sleepy, so they did not focus on memorizing the Al-Qur'an. In addition, other factors such as location, weather, and environment also influence this activity. However, the program can still be developed during the quarantine period by involving the role of existing technologies. Children, with the help of their parents, can report their progress in memorizing Al-Qur'an through electronic media such as smartphones using Zoom or WhatsApp. Through this online system, children can memorize the Al-Qur'an at home and still be able to report their progress every day. However, it is still recommended that children meet in person so that

social interaction between children and their friends and children and teachers is maintained.

#### CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the program that has been carried out, it can be concluded that the memorization of the Al-Qur'an program carried out at the Matahari Poci Community Reading Park can increase the memorization of each participant. This program can be run effectively if parents are actively involved in the memorization process carried out by their children at home. Parental involvement can be in the form of helping children to memorize the Al-Qur'an, asking the extent of their memorization progress, and monitoring prayer five times.

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