

# **Critical Analysis of Parenting**

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#### ABSTRACT

In the structure of our society, there is still a presumption that parenting is only a mother's job. This paper intends to conduct a critical analysis on the assumptions of parenting, using the theory of feminist post structuralist. The results of this study show that the concept of parenting is strongly influenced by the gender construction that exists in our society. This gender constructed puts the mother as a caregiver in a very ideal context. There are many conditions that are not perfectly faced by a mother when doing parenting. The results of this study show that there needs to be further research to explore the role of mothers in situations not ideal.

**Keywords:** Parenting, feminist post-structuralist.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The smallest institutions in society are families with their own structures and systems. Family is a basic unit of parenting and a place of interaction between members. Duties and roles in the family have been divided based on the prevailing culture around them. Such relationships seem to indicate a tendency to have a sense of responsibility and tend to be willing to make sacrifices for parents [1].

In the marriage law article 31 paragraphs 1 of 1974 which states that the rights and positions of wives with husbands are the same in domestic life and in society. In reality, the position of the wife with the husband is different. Based on the Law on marriage article 34 paragraphs 2 of 1974, which states that the wife must take care of household affairs properly. Trace from the Emergence Of The Law comes from the culture of the community. The clause does not correspond to gender equality.

Parents in parenting have two main dimensions that are different, namely the demands and to the response [2]. Parental support is reflected in behaviors such as helping with everyday problems, praising a child's achievements, and showing compassion [3]. Family becomes a place that can spend time for children in interacting. The role of parents as a guide in various matters has authority and is responsible for coaching. Continuous treatment is given to children as an effort to shape the personality of the child after the prevailing rules [4].

Parents in accordance with the ordinances or culture provide their own parenting. Culture can form beliefs so

that parents can provide parenting for hereditary habits [5].

Parents have an important role to play in their children's development, and life [6] Treatment is determined when parents meet the child's needs in overcoming challenging situations that may require help from others [7]. Research reveals that children living with parents, especially mothers will have positive experiences when facing tougher stay [8]. A child with confidence may be able to fight in the future. The role of the mother in providing warmth in her child's life is very important in the child's future. [9] The formation of the child's character is strongly influenced by the right bond between mother and child [10]. The mother has a desire to know about the child's activities with psychological control. Others communicate norms in response to moral transgression. Most mothers state that there is nothing they do not want to know, but that they do not need to know everything [11]. The closeness of a child to a family is more dominated by the mother. A mother's happiness is reflected in the right state with her child. This is because parenting activities are more dominated by mothers. Physical and development has the potential to have an impact on emotional relationships in the future [12]. Empirically it can be reviewed that there is a division of roles in the household between mother and father. The role of father is necessary in parenting activities towards children normatively in terms of gender equality. The existing parenting culture forms an understanding of the division of roles in the family [13]. The dominant parenting perspective that belongs to the mother is the language in this study. The approach is literature study between parenting and feminist poststructuralist theory.



### 2. PARENTING

Parenting is a form of interaction between children and parents in daily life that will have an impact on the child's next life. Parenting can provide guidance and protect the child until the end of his adulthood, because parenting is a reflection of the attitude of the parents during guiding him [14]. Parenting is a fundamental need for a child's life because parenting can provide an experience for the child so that it changes emotionally, socially and intellectually [15], [16]. Parenting given to children can be in the form of attitudes, dispositions, behaviors, habits, communication and characters displayed in daily life [17], [18]. Aristotle believes that the child will have a mature and stable person who comes from a family that can provide parenting according to the development of the child. The purpose of parenting is to dive into the child's development so that the child is able and ready in life in his adulthood [19].

A common form of parenting is severe, democratic and permissive parenting. Parenting with authoritarian forms uses one-way communication, with characteristic that all the rules that parents apply must be followed by the child, without the child being given the opportunity to argue or reject it. A democratic form of parenting is using two-way communication. The position of parents with children is the same in communicating. All decisions are taken based on joint decisions taking into account the common interest. Children are given freedom without abandoning their responsibilities, meaning that all children's behaviour is under parental supervision and morally accountable. Furthermore, permissive parenting uses one-way communication. Parenting is the opposite authoritarian parenting. In this parenting, the parents must follow all the wishes of the child, so that the parents do not have power over the child [20].

## 3. FEMINIST

Feminists use every means to investigate the condition of women in society. Qualifications serve as the basis for emphasizing to obtain important features of every characteristic in the feminist theorem. There are clear differences in the placement of characteristics within the framework of socialist, radical, liberal and Marxist feminists. Thus, various matters relating to feminist methodology are interpreted in a broad sense [21].

The general environment sees that feminism is growing liberal and radical. Progressive feminism mobilizes the right of individuals to gain access to the public sphere, while essential feminism develops the essence of womanhood seeking to outweigh the abilities of men. The bridge to mediate is two types of feminist post-structural concepts emerged. The analysis begins

with the application of discursiveness and regulation by adopting the texts of science, literature, philosophy and daily life. The final hope reveals a narrative in which humanist/modernist individuals are made to be heroic and creative, and related to others. Post-structural feminist theory focuses on the process by which individuals are made to be gender subjects. Through analysis shows how the relationship of power is built and maintained by providing normality, rationality and communal un-serenity to individuals [22]. The following Table 1 briefly presents the role of women in the public environment according to the feminist theory.

Table 1 The role of women in the social environment

Feminist Category	Characteristics
Socialist	The reverse concept of the patriarchal system. The liberation of women from the system of capitalism
Radical	Resistance to oppression  Gender equality by abandoning masculine-feminine terminology  Women have unlimited freedom over everything.
Liberal	Men and women have equal opportunities.  Encourage respect for individual rights  Tackling gender inequality  Have the freedom to choose without intervention
Marxist	Integration of women in the world of work in ending patriarchy  Women can be said to work if they are in a public area.  Women's participation in public spaces for exemption from expression
Post- structuralist	Gender and sexuality are understood and determined through language structure, social structure, subjectivity, relationship strength and cognition.

The assumption states that the woman is categorized into several groups, i.e., women share, individual, and group. Experience in performing roles both individually and jointly are built socially and politically. Onto logically the characteristics of women lie in a set of experiences rooted in the material world. As one example in sharing experiences is oppression. The social context in which another type of women styled,



worked, struggled and understands their lives differ widely around the world [21].

Women in the family according to feminist glasses are people who are treated unfairly [23]. The problem can be seen in the division of functions. The role of women in the family is based on the culture of patriarchy. In this, division of labour is usually for men to play a role in the part related to society, in contrast to the role of women given in the domestic section. The roles and functions of fathers and mothers are different, which are influenced by prevailing cultural norms. Father's roles are guarantor of life and sustainability of family members. While a mother plays a role in taking care of all domestic affairs such as managing the emotions of family members, especially children, giving affection, tenderness, love, and parenting, so that a father feels stiff when dealing with his child. Fatherhood and a balanced mother's role in parenting are needed for the development of children [24]. At first glance, this internal role looks easy but the reality is arguably endless so that women do not have time to explore themselves. So is parenting for her child, who mentions that it is a mother's job because judging by the position of her duties in the house [25]. Mother constructed as primary caregiver and father as "helping hand" [26]. Actually, bonding with a father is important for the child but is rarely discussed when the role of father is mentioned. Whereas child welfare requires functional relationships between parents and children so that it becomes a binder of child development, seeing this dominant parenting belongs only to a mother. Normative the formation of motherhood is combined with the concept of certain femininity so that it becomes strong [27]. The basic discourse of post feminism is a landscape culture which means populist culture. The specific markers that make post feminism can be detected as an empirical phenomenon. Female subject understood to be post feminism subject [28]. Which means that women are required to be independent and be able to decide their own fate, as well as a mother in her family whose role is not only around the house but can do something outside the home.

## 4. CONCLUSION

Warm communication between parents and children must remain intertwined, so that the pattern of family education is not lost. The view of parenting is not the main task of a mother. It takes a father figure to fill each other's feminist and masculine behaviour. When the role of one parent is more dominant, then there is an imbalance of roles in the pattern of foster care. The available time is expected to be utilized to the maximum extent possible even in various limitations.

The conditions and situations are awakened shows that the relationship of parenting between the child and the father is less than the relationship between mother and child. According to the post-structural feminist, theory states that gender equality is done through language structure, social structure, subjectivity, relationship strength, and cognition. Thus, gender equality must be found in all areas, including child care.

Empirically from various studies stated that this imbalance is caused by the height and duration of father's activities outside the home. Anticipation to stay in a psychological relationship is to choose the type of foster care pattern and try to balance the role of father and mother. The dominant weighing of surrogate care patterns is the diversity of ways of information, the position of communication, and the rules of the child. Based on the results of balancing the category of foster care patterns is expected to create closeness, attachment between father and mother to a child. It is expected that a child does not feel alone in making decisions, always remember the figure of parents, create open, warm and accepting communication, and parents can follow developments (specially fathers) although not directly. The paradigm of ethical human relations is often characterized by equality and justice, egalitarian use of power, reciprocal freedom, responsibility, commitment and compassion, especially in the context of family. Further research is needed related to abnormal conditions. The conditions force a mother to be separated for a long period of time.

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