

# Fathers' Role in Developing Child Emotional Development

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Parents are examples and role models for children. Children are excellent imitators and they will imitate what their parents do. The role of a father is very important in raising and taking care of children. If there is no balance between the roles of mother and father, it is feared that the child will grow up not according to parents expectations. The roles of the father are indeed so crucial for the growth of a child considering that there are many fathers who do not want to be involved and think that the affairs of the child are the business of a mother. The relationship between father and children is established if there is regular interaction. Father's attention and time also greatly affect the bonding between children and fathers. Father will be a figure so that children are able to learn discipline, firm, independent and responsible. And when children involve fathers when they are doing something they can better tolerate stress and frustration, are better at problem solving, and have better control over their emotions and impulses. early childhood education programs.

Keywords: father's Roles, Emotional development of children, kindergarten

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Growth and development are two terms that have different meanings, but both have a very close relationship and cannot even be separated from one another. Growth can be observed through weighing, measuring height, head circumference and so on. Meanwhile, development is a qualitative process that shows increasing abilities (skills) in more complex body structures and functions in regular and predictable patterns as a result of the maturation process. Development is concerned with the overall personality of the individual, because the individual personality forms an integrated holistically. In simple terms, the main aspects of personality can be distinguished as follows: physical motor aspects, intellectual aspects, social aspects, language aspects, emotional aspects, moral aspects, and religious aspects.

The period of early childhood is said to be the golden period, this period is often referred to as the sensitive period, namely the period of maturity of

physical and psychological functions that are ready to respond to stimulation provided by the environment. Serious attention from educators (parents and teachers) is very much needed at this time because this period is a period that lays the foundation for developing cognitive, motor, language, socio-emotional, moral, and religious abilities which of course will greatly affect children's lives in the future. will come. Parents are role models as well as examples for children. They will follow what their parents do. The role of both parents means a lot to them. The role of the father is indeed so crucial for the growth of a child considering that there are so many fathers who do not want to be involved and think that the affairs of the child are the business of a mother. So far, many fathers think that their main task is to earn a living and provide materially for their children and wives. The lack of communication between father and son is certainly not very good for the mental condition of the child. There are even some children who feel shy and afraid of their father because of the lack of communication. Indeed, the image of a father must be a firm one so that his children always pay attention when

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they are advised and guided. But if it is only feared, then this is one of the mistakes in educating children.

### 2. FAMILY NATURE

The family as a social system, the family of a constellation of subsystems defined in terms of generations, gender and roles. The division of labor between family members determines sub-units and certain attachments determine others [1]). Each family member is a participant in some subsystem. Some family systems in which Dydic (involving two) children are one of the subsystems of the family. Mother-fatherchild is one of the polydic subsystems, mother and two other siblings The role of the family in the 21st century has undergone many changes in the family, where as a result of social trends, the family is constantly changing. These trends also include an increasing number of working mothers, the number of fathers absent from the family, an increasing religious culture, and a changing perspective on marriage. As a result, the definition of family changes as society changes. Look at the changes in the family in the 21st century [2]: a. Structure Many families today are the result of structure, not nuclear family forms. Many families today include single-parent families, headed by either the father or the mother; step family, and including individuals who are related by mother's marriage, adoption; heterosexual, gay, or lesbian couples live together as family and relatives, including grandparents, aunts, uncles, other relatives and individuals who are not related. The role of grandparents as parents increases and As families change, the roles of parents and other family members change. The more parents work and the less time they have for family and children. Working parents must combine the roles of parents and employees (working). The number of parents' jobs increases as the family changes. c. Responsibilities As families change, many parents find it difficult to afford quality childcare for their children. Some parents feel that they cannot prevent their children from watching television and they cannot protect their children from social violence, child abuse and crime. Other parents are preoccupied with their own problems and have little time and attention for their child. Nonetheless, parental responsibility remains, and more and more parents are turning to early childhood education experts for help to meet the demands and challenges of raising children.

### 2.1 Parenting

A strong relationship between each parenting pattern and the behavior of children according to Baumrind, can be seen from the parenting that parents give to their children [3] 1. Authoritarian parents are parents who value control and obedience without

question. They try to get children to adhere to standards of behavior and punish them strictly if they violate them. They are more distant and less warm than other parents. Their children tend to be more dissatisfied, withdrawn and insecure about others. 2. Permissive parents are parents who value self-expression and self-regulation. They make very few requests and allow children to monitor their own activities wherever possible. When making rules, they explain the reasons to the children. They consult with children on policy decisions and rarely punish. parents are warm, uncontrollable and undemanding. Their preschoolers tend to be immature, have the least self-control and are not very adventurous. 3. Authoritative parents are parents who respect the individuality of children but also suppress social boundaries. They believe in their ability to guide the child, but also value the child's independent decisions, interests, opinions and personality. Parents love and accept, but also demand good behavior, are firm in setting standards, and are willing to apply limited and fair punishment when needed in the context of a warm and supportive relationship.

# 3. FATHER'S ROLE ON CHILD DEVELOPMENT

In the family, each family member has their own role, especially father and mother. The roles of fathers and mothers are very important for children, and often the role of parenting is interpreted as the main responsibility of the mother. However, the parenting roleS will be more optimal if the father is involved in the parenting role because basically the parenting role is the responsibility of the father and mother. The parenting role of the father towards the child will become clear when the father is aware of his role for the child. Not many fathers recognize their role for their children, most fathers assume that their role is mainly in terms of meeting physical needs in the form of materials or facilities needed by children or other family members. With the belief that the father has a role in meeting physical or material needs, it is the father who takes on the role of breadwinner. When the father is already working, then he feels he has fulfilled his obligation or role in the family. Some research evidence shows that the role of the father which is limited to the role of fulfilling physical or material needs by working will create a lack of close affection between father and child and have an impact on less than optimal child development. This is actually not surprising because basically men are always keeping their distance when interacting with subjects or objects. This becomes more obvious when a father plays the role of breadwinner. In contrast to mothers, based on maternal characteristics, many roles can be played for children and make the affection closeness between mother and child stronger.



The long-term impact will appear on children's social skills, cognitive and emotional development so that they become less than optimal in their lives. Many cases that show violent behavior towards children physically, psychologically, or sexually are usually carried out by a father who fails to live up to his role in parenting and does not have the skills to play the role of a father for children [4] Judging from his role, the role of the father is not only limited to meeting the material or physical needs of the child, the father has another role. The following will describe some of the roles of a father in parenting. a. Educating discipline, a father has the basic characteristics of a person who keeps his distance from the subject or object of study so that usually he can maintain or regulate the involvement of feelings in interacting with others. This makes a father have firmness or discipline in parenting. Educating discipline can be taken in playing or carrying out domestic tasks that involve interactions between fathers and children. As a result, children can model the discipline and firmness of fathers and even fathers can provide education for healthy competition and mutual relationships with others. Discipline is not the same as punishment, violence, or rudeness.

Physical or psychological punishment proved ineffective in disciplining children, what happened was the physical and psychological trauma of the child. Ineffectiveness in disciplining through punishment, will make fathers increase the form of physical and psychological punishment against children so that what appears is physical and psychological violence against children. b. Fathers also have a protective role towards children in the form of physical and psychological security. For example, when it is raining heavily, the child is sick, or there is an animal that the child is afraid of, the father can carry out this role. Usually fathers don't really care about their children because they feel that providing physical and psychological protection is the role of the mother. When the mother is unable to carry out the role for some reason, the father will temporarily replace it. By taking care of the child, or paying attention to the things that the child is afraid of physically or psychologically, the father will know the shortcomings or weaknesses and potential of the child so that he is able to shape the child to be more courageous and resistant to uncomfortable conditions. Fathers can act as mentors in solving problems. The problems experienced by children vary, ranging from academic problems, relationship problems, problems related to habits or interests in doing something. When these problems occur and the child does not know how to solve it, with the father caring, the child will feel he has a place to tell stories and discuss how to solve it. If the father does not care, it will make the child afraid to ask or tell the problem to the father. The impact is usually

the father will only know the bad impact of the problem and will usually scold the child because he feels he is not considered by the child because he is not involved or does not talk about the problems experienced and judges the child as a problem maker in the family. If this pattern occurs continuously, then when the child's age gets older what the father does to the child will be in the form of physical or psychological violence because the father feels that only being advised by the child will not work.

# 4. CHILDREN'S EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

If we talk about emotions then everyone will say that he has felt it, everyone reacts to its existence. Human life is very rich in emotional experiences. It's just that there are very strong impulses, some are so faint that their expressions are not visible. We will recognize the expression of emotions at every age level from babies to adults, be it male or female. For example, a child laughs with joy when his father throws his body into the air or we see a one year old child crying because his toy was taken by his brother. For a child, this emotional state is more easily expressed through his physical condition. For example, a child will immediately cry if he feels sick or feels uncomfortable. However, if a child is asked "how does he feel" or "why does he feel sick?", the child will find it difficult to express his feelings in verbal language. The examples of behavior above show a picture of a person's emotions. So, what exactly is an emotion? To find out more clearly, you can follow the following discussion.

Emotions are feelings that exist within us, can be feelings of pleasure or displeasure, feelings of good or bad. In the World Book Dictionary emotions are defined as "a variety of strong feelings". Feelings of hate, fear, anger, love, joy, and sadness. These kinds of feelings are a description of emotions. [5] States that "emotion refers to a feeling or typical thoughts, a biological and psychological state and set of predispositions to action".) "emotions are a complex atmosphere (a complex feeling state) and vibrations of the soul (stid up state) that accompanies or appears before or after the occurrence of a behavior". is a complex condition, can be in the form of feelings or vibrations of the soul which is characterized by biological changes that appear to accompany the occurrence of a behavior. The emotional behavior of the child displayed is a source of assessment of the social environment towards him. This assessment of the social environment will be the basis for individuals in assessing themselves. This assessment will determine how the social environment treats a child, as well as shape the child's self-concept based on that treatment.



For example, a child often expresses his discomfort by crying, his social environment will judge him as a "crysy" child. The child will be treated according to his judgment, for example, whether he often makes fun of the child, isolates him or becomes overprotective. The assessment and treatment of this so-called "whiny" child will affect the personality and child self-assessment.

## 5. RESEARCH METHODS

The method used is descriptive with a qualitative approach, in which the results of the research are not in the form of numbers but in the form of sentences. This method aims to describe a fact of events or events that occur in the field for real and as they are without being made up.

The analysis in this research uses 3 methods of information analysis. Information analysis for [6] is an effort to systematically search and organize notes from observations, interviews, and others to improve the researchers' descriptions of the problems studied and present them as findings for others. The three techniques are: 1) data reduction, namely the process of selecting, focusing, and transforming the rough data that emerges from the notes in the field. 2) perform data presentation, namely, activities when a set of information is compiled, thus giving the possibility of withdrawal.

# 6. DISCUSSION

The involvement of fathers in raising children at the age of 5 years is the strongest determinant of empathy for men and women at the age of 31 years ([7] In a follow-up study, at 41 years of age, men and women who had better social relationships (the quality of marriage and ties outside the family, such as friendships) had experienced more warmth from their fathers as children. Fathers who use an authoritative parenting style are more likely to have children with external problems (such as expressing restrained feelings or being very aggressive) and internal problems

When fathers are involved in caring for babies, the positive results are obvious. There are several ways fathers can bond with their babies: what matters is their cues, and our job is to respond consistently and lovingly. Play is fun when done with babies in an age-appropriate way. When children play with dads, they explore the world and begin to understand how to relate to other people.

### 7. CONCLUSION

Fathers also make an important contribution to the development of children, experiences shared with fathers will affect a child into adulthood. The role of parenting behavior affects the development and wellbeing of children and the transition to adolescence. Cognitive development, social competence of children from an early age is influenced by attachment, emotional connection and the availability of resources provided by the father. Father is one of the figures who play a role in the family. The functions and duties of the father are certainly not the same as the mother. Mothers are more oriented towards parenting while fathers are more concerned with protecting and inculcating values. The role of the father in the family is very important in educating and being a father who can lead the family, where the father is responsible for moral teaching to children. When the father is involved in caring for the baby, the positive results are obvious. Babies become more securely attached to their fathers, more resistant and curious, and they are more confident about getting out and exploring. One study that looked at 3-year-olds found that when fathers participated in their children, their social development benefited. Children who already have an attachment and sense of security to their father are better able to identify with the feelings of other children, and take steps to make them feel better.

Ways that fathers can do by creating an attachment with their babies: 1. Their cues must be heeded, and responded to consistently and lovingly. Play with your baby in an age-appropriate way. When children play with dads, they explore the world and begin to understand how to relate to other people. Children will learn with restrictions, while also developing problem-solving skills.

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