



The Effect of Parental Education on Children in Overcoming LGBTQ+

Zaenab Ulyatun Nisa^(✉), Muhammad Wildan Shohib, and Hafidz

Department of Islamic Education, Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta, Surakarta, Indonesia
g000204284@student.ums.ac.id, {mws543,haf682}@ums.ac.id

Abstract. LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Transsexual, Two-spirit, Queer, Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, Ally) is endemic to society, especially in Indonesia. This has also infected children and adolescents, in particular. Therefore, both parents and teachers as educators must address the signs that LGBTQ+ causes in society and especially among children. LGBTQ is contrary to nature, norms, customs, beliefs, and human morality. Furthermore, LGBTQ+ behavior is not a disease transmitted through genes or disorders, but rather the impact of mistakes on children's education. The purpose of this research was to describe the meaning of LGBTQ, to explore the role of parents in educating children to avert them from LGBTQ+ behavior, and to explain the importance of the role of parents so that their children avoid LGBTQ+ behavior. This research is qualitative, in which data are collected from semi-structural interviews and library approach studies from books, magazines, and journals. The results of this study suggest that the influence of parental education on children in vanquishing LGBTQ+ is essential so that parents should be able to provide the best education following Islamic teachings, and parents must always supervise children's social interactions in the environment, give love to children, and direct to positive things. It does not exclude today's situation where we live in modern times with various kinds of information convenience, internet access, and social media. If parents neglect their children's use of the internet, eventually, it will bring unimaginable impact. It should be avoided for parents as the trigger of such conduct of LGBTQ+ children by giving the wrong parenting style which leads to children hating their parents and then coming towards LGBTQ+. Therefore, cultivating proper knowledge of the negative impact of LGBTQ+ should be conducted.

Keywords: LGBTQ+ · Education · Children's Education · the Role of Parents · Islamic Parenting

1 Introduction

The rapid growth of the LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, etc.) generation causes concern which needs vigilance of parents in today's digital era. It is undeniable that LGBTQ+ is like the tip of an iceberg that is aggravating day by day. The perpetrators are becoming more massive, and today they are penetrating more generations, such as young people and children. The role of parents is very critical to protect children from

© The Author(s) 2024

T. Ali Mustofa et al. (Eds.): ICIMS 2023, ASSEHR 773, pp. 278–287, 2024.

https://doi.org/10.2991/978-2-38476-102-9_26

LGBTQ+ which destroys the morality of generations. The strongest barrier against LGBTQ+ exposure for youngsters is their parents, who serve as both their first teacher and role models. The duties of parents as educators so that children are protected from LGBTQ+ are as follows:

1. Providing strong religious education as the foundation
2. Developing robust parenting between parents
3. Continuously monitoring the children's relationships and choosing a good environment for children
4. Providing sex education with a religious foundation to avert LGBTQ+
5. Avoiding children from broadcasting pro-LGBTQ+

Parental education plays an important role in shaping the personality and behavior of children. Parents providing a good education and emotional support to their children will have a positive influence on children's development. This incorporates how children deal with issues surrounding LGBTQ+. LGBTQ+ stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer or Questioning. This issue is frequently considered taboo and abnormal by society. As a result, many LGBTQ+ people feel rejected and uncomfortable with their own identity. In conclusion, parents need to provide support and respect diversity in terms of sexual and gender identities so that their children feel accepted and good about themselves.

Parents who provide support to their children in dealing with LGBTQ+ issues will help children feel more comfortable and valued. Additionally, those parents will also help these children to feel more confident in dealing with social pressures that may be encountered. Thus, parental education plays an important role in dealing with LGBTQ+ issues for children.

2 Problem Formulation

The research problems are formulated as follows:

1. What is LGBTQ+?
2. What is the role of parents in averting children from LGBTQ+ behavior?
3. What education does Islam teach in educating children to avert LGBTQ+?

3 Research Objectives

The purpose of this study is to describe the meaning of LGBTQ+, to explore the role of parents in educating children to distance themselves from LGBTQ+ behavior, and to investigate the methods and style of educating children to avoid LGBTQ+ behavior according to Islamic teachings.

4 Research Methodology

In this study, the authors used a qualitative method with a library approach study, in which data were collected from various sources such as books, magazines, journals, and the results of semi-structural interviews.

5 Results and Discussion

5.1 Understanding LGBTQ+

In the present time, we often encounter discussions about straight, gay, lesbian, or transgender. Principally, when talking about that, it is a discourse about gender identity and sexual orientation. The explanation of gender identity itself is about how one identifies oneself as male or female. While sexual orientation refers to a person's attraction to that man or woman. It is usually referred to as heterosexual, gay, lesbian, or bisexual. LGBTQ+ stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and others. Most people will use the term LGBTQ+ to refer to the LGBTTTQQIAA community. The following is the definition of the community [1].

- Lesbian refers to a woman who is interested in and has a relationship with another woman or a homosexual woman.
- Gay is a term for a man who is interested in and has a relationship with another man, however, sometimes lesbians can also be called gay.
- Bisexual is someone with sexual attraction to men or women (both).
- Transgender is a term for people whose gender identity does not match their sex assignment. As for genderqueer (a person who does not have a gender identity), transwomen (initially a male identity), transmen (initially a female identity), and bigender are included in this term.
- Transsexual, namely someone who does not have a gender identity according to the sex assignment
- Two-spirit is a term used by the people of North America or the indigenous peoples of Canada for a person who has a male and female soul.
- Queer is a term that states that gender and sexuality can change over time and may not be consistent with male, female, gay, or straight identities.
- Questioning is when someone is still at the exploration stage and is worried/ doubtful about using social tags for several reasons.
- Intersex is people who are born with a variety of sexual characteristics such as gonads, chromosomes, genitals, and so on that do not fit the specific definition of male or female.
- Asexuality (asexuality) is a person who has no/lack of sexual interest in other people or can be said to have no interest in sexual activity.
- Ally is someone who considers herself part of the LGBTQ+ community.

6 The Role of Parents to Keep Children from LGBTQ+ Behavior

The family plays an important role in children's behavior in all aspects of life including LGBTQ+ behavior, as quoted from the journal [2] "The first person responsible for the development of children and education is parents because they are directly accounted for the future of the children. Parents' functions as educators are to protect, nurture, hone, and love." A child who does not receive love, attention, and education in religious, sexual, or other matters in the family from an early age may become involved in inappropriate relationships. A child may assume that close friends will understand, love, and care for them more. Thus, this is when the important role of parents is to show more affection

to their children so they do not presume strangers love them more [3]. Besides, parents also need to provide information in easy-to-understand language about LGBTQ+ [4]. Moreover, the negative impact, especially on the physical health of the community's sexual activity needs to be emphasized.

The parents are the main figures who play a central role in the upbringing, reasoning, and shaping of children's character. It requires a parent-child relationship focus based on internal changes in humans. Patterns of family relationships and various adult activities have a major influence on the development of children's sexual behavior. Indeed, no family/parents wish to have children growing abnormally physically, intelligently, morally, sexually, or in behavior. Therefore, harmony in relationships and love in the family is one of the factors that can prevent children from sexual behavior disorders [5].

The development of children's sexual behavior should always be addressed. They need serious attention if they behave as the following descriptions:

- Adolescents prefer contact with younger children of the same sex.
- A child is afraid/worried about talking to the opposite sex.
- A child prefers masculine female clothing and hobbies.
- Boys enjoy feminine activities or vice versa.

It will lead to sexual disorders if the child has the aforementioned symptoms. Subsequently, the patterns of family relationships that should be applied, for example, are as follows:

- Parents spending more time with their children
- Providing and performing manly activities with men which does not imply that boys cannot play girls' activities
- Understanding that limiting the influence of mothers on their children's daily activities is necessary so the children find it easier to voice their opinions but within reasonable limits
- Willing to listen to children and speak openly and purposefully

In addition to the role of parents, as previously described, all of this is also inseparable from the approach or education of religion. As quoted from the journal [6] "Parents must carry out their role as educators to their children, especially in instilling the values of Islamic education. In essence, the task of parents is as the first and foremost educators for their children. The moral decline of children is mostly due to the negligence of parents' main duties and functions in carrying out their role."

Therefore, an understanding of religious values is very important for the development of children's thinking and behavior. Children are taught basic religious values from an early age. When children grow into teenagers and adults, religious values remain attached as stated in [7] "Through religious training and spiritual guidance, children should internalize Islamic values and principles to save them in their lives."

Apart from that, to prevent LGBTQ+ behavior, parents can teach their children sex education. Sex education can be interpreted as education that encourages good behavior and social values, and helps deal with life's problems, focusing on sexual instincts deeply rooted in a certain way and are normal human experiences. From this understanding it can be seen that sex education seeks to explain, but is not limited to, everything related to gender and sexuality in its natural form. Abdullah Nasih Ulwan explains that sex

education is an effort to teach, and increase awareness and knowledge about matters related to sex, instincts, and marriage when a child grows up and can understand things in life as he starts to understand that prohibitions are allowed to be performed as well [8].

According to Suryadi, sex education is an effort by parents and educators to instill positive behavior related to sex, such as positioning the role of children in reasoning and behaving like children. Also, it is about how women think and behave, prohibit men from reading sexual images and watching programs that are not suitable for them, keep children away from sexual violence, and provide positive information according to their age about sex, marriage, and the negative effects of sex [9]. Awareness of positive gender, in which children have the right to know their gender identity so that they can stay away from and refrain from promiscuity, and avoid negative sex which is prohibited by social and religious norms.

7 Parental Education/Islamic Parenting Education in Preventing LGBTQ+ Behavior from the Early Stage

Epistemologically, the word “pattern” is defined as a form of work, and the word “parenting” means looking after, nurturing, and educating children to guide them to be independent. In terminology, parenting is a way for parents to raise their children as a form of responsibility towards their children. According to the Great Dictionary of the Indonesian Language, the word “pattern” means an image that can be used as an example, method, or procedure. The word nurturing is defined as looking after, guiding, and leading. Meanwhile, parenting style refers to the habits of parents in caring for their children [10].

The notion of Islamic education is a process of interaction between parents and children in which the activities of parents act as figures who encourage and direct the behavior of children during their growth and development, which is based on the Qur’an and Hadith. The parenting foundations are explained in the Qur’an which reads,

“O believers! Protect yourselves and your families from a Fire whose fuel is people and stones, overseen by formidable and severe angels, who never disobey whatever Allah orders—always doing as commanded.”

8 Parenting/Islamic Education Styles

Islamic education is the key to the success of parents in educating teenagers. Choosing an Islamic educational institution that maintains Islamic values following the psychology of youth is highly prioritized. In the absence of religious education, it is impossible to possess children who are pious and obedient to their parents. Religious education for adolescents is a priority to help them be devoted and free from the evils of unpredictable surroundings.

Horlock and Thoha describe differences in parenting/educational patterns of parents, namely:

a Authoritarian

This style emphasizes parental control over children. Children are restricted from acting independently and they grow up under strict rules that they are sometimes forced to behave exactly like their parents' expectations.

b Democratic

A parenting pattern is characterized by recognition of children's rights, in which children are allowed to learn on their own and be independent of their parents [11].

c Permissive

This parenting style emphasizes excessive affection and a lack of discipline toward children. This method is shown by parents raising their children freely, acknowledging them as adults, and giving them the freedom they long for without any sense of responsibility.

d Authoritative

A parenting style values children personally by creating a sense of responsibility towards children based on predetermined rules.

Based on research, it can be seen that parenting style/parenting style can make them belong to the LGBTQ+ community or otherwise. Authoritarian parenting patterns usually reflect actions that seem harsh, their words to children are sharp and hurtful, they give lots of orders and do not receive complaints from the child [12]. Forced parenting is also characterized by the use of harsh punishments such as corporal punishment. Strict rules are also enforced even though they are adults. This parenting pattern is too disciplined, this can complicate children's socialization because parents provide many boundaries that they must obey, including in establishing social relations with the surrounding environment. Eventually, the child will feel fear, inferiority, and lack of trust. They will be weak and indecisive.

One of the reasons someone becomes LGBTQ+ is because of permissive parenting, in which parents are too helpless; they let their children make decisions without following certain standards. Permissive parenting is when parents have little control over their children. They assume everything their children do is right and does not need reprimand, guidance, or instructions. This is certainly in contrast to democratic parenting which raises children well, parents have a warm relationship with children, and they are willing to listen and accept children's decisions but still within certain limits/standards.

Democratic parenting includes children in discussions, especially discussions that affect the child's own life. Children have the opportunity to participate in determining their lives. This makes their children to be open individuals, willing to listen to other people's opinions and respect the rights of others [13].

In addition to the opinions above regarding which style is suitable for the family, below are some Islamic parenting styles that parents can also use in raising their children:

- a. Parenting by teaching and applying spiritual values because these values can be passed on to children.
- b. Open (inclusive) parenting pattern in which is applied by the Prophet PBUH who taught children holistic openness. This openness is the open-mindedness parents use to raise their children with enlightenment.

- c. Non-manipulative parenting is a family parenting model based on honesty, not hypocrisy. Parents who raise children with lies and hypocrisy towards their children will be detrimental to the child [14].

Everyone has their own parenting style to educate and guide their children in the family. This method will of course vary greatly from one family to another. This variation can be influenced by the level of education, income, socioeconomic conditions, ethnicity, habits, and so on. Regardless, parents must be able to apply good parenting to support the child's personality from childhood to adulthood.

9 Results of the Interview

First question: In your opinion, how does parental education affect children in dealing with the LGBTQ+ phenomenon?

Informant 1

What kind of parental education do you mean? Every parent educates their children in different ways, some are good so their children can avoid being LGBTQ+, and some are not so good that their children follow into LGBTQ+.

Informant 2

The role of parents is very important for children's education, so they avoid LGBTQ+.

Informant 3

Parents hold big influences.

Informant 4

Parental influence is very important.

Informant 5

Of course, it is very important.

Informant 6

People who understand (the situation) must accompany children in their growth process, especially at a vulnerable age to incitement and social media openness which leads to more negative things.

Informant 7

It must be accompanied by religious education and be educated that the impact of LGBT is detrimental to society.

Informant 8

Very influential.

Informant 9

Parental education is very influential in dealing with the LGBT phenomenon by instilling religious education from an early age and providing knowledge of the impact of LGBTQ+.

Second question: In your opinion, what is the best way of education that parents can do for their children to deal with the LGBTQ+ phenomenon?

Informant 1

Introducing children to two genders, namely male and female. Other than these two is wrong, it must be avoided and not be tolerated. Males can only be attracted to females,

females can only be attracted to males, other than that it is a disease. Children must accept their gender, and be grateful to God for their gender. There is no gap to wish to change gender, in terms of make-up, and clothing, let alone genital surgery. Nauzubillah (we seek refuge in Allah).

Informant 2

Instilling a strong religious foundation for children.

Informant 3

Give more affection to their children.

Informant 4

Keep an eye on them and guide them to the positive.

Informant 5

Always monitor the growth of the child, if it looks a bit different in the relationship, immediately cut it off. Wallahu'alam (Only God Who Knows).

Informant 6

Instill religious education from an early age.

Informant 7

Check your mental state and stay away from a free relationship.

Informant 8

Pay attention to the environment and the association of the children.

Informant 9

By providing religious education from an early age and knowledge about the negative impacts of LGBTQ+.

Third question: What do you think are the factors that influence the emergence of the LGBTQ+ phenomenon towards children?

Informant 1

Inappropriate shows, befriending those of LGBTQ+, and others.

Informant 2

Environmental factors are very important for a child's mind.

Informant 3

Lack of parental love for children.

Informant 4

Social environment and childhood aspect.

Informant 5

Social environment.

Informant 6

Easy access to get it and social media have a very bad effect on children.

Informant 7

The lack of education and the environment affects changes in the mindset of children.

Informant 8

Broken homes are not facilitated by the development of children according to their gender.

Informant 9

Environmental factors and Internet media.

10 Discussion

The results of this study can be concluded that parents play a very important role in children's education to deal with LGBTQ+ and also do not rule out the possibility that parents can make their children deviate to LGBTQ+ which is the result of incorrect upbringing or education for children and being influenced by social media and movies/films that have a very negative impact on children, especially children's films that support LGBTQ+. As parents or the first school for children, parents must be able to provide the best education for children to avoid the penetration and dangerous LGBTQ+ phenomenon by instilling religious education from an early age, providing knowledge of the negative impacts of LGBTQ+, paying attention to the child's environment, supervising the mental state of the child, monitoring the child's growth and development, showing affection, directing it to positive things, and introducing children that there are only two genders, namely male and female. Hence, apart from these, it is wrong that men like women, and women like men.

11 Conclusion

LGBTQ+ or its abbreviation Lesbian, Gay, Transgender, Two-Spirited, Queer, Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, Ally is a phenomenon that is currently developing in society as a form of sexual deviation where this phenomenon is influenced by improper education, inadequate Islamic education, and pornography which is very accessible to all people, including children. The existence of the LGBTQ+ phenomenon has made it a common problem for society, especially parents.

The effective way to protect and prevent children from the LGBTQ+ community is good parenting and teaching the values of religious education from an early age. The Islamic parenting model can prevent LGBTQ+ behavior because it includes morals, social education, social control and criticism, and even sexual education. This is shown by the Prophet PBUH that education regarding sexual education is separating the beds between boys and girls when they are teenagers, instilling a sense of shame in children, and exhibiting masculinity for men and femininity for women.

Parental education has a significant influence on how children deal with and understand LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, and others). Parents who provide support and understanding of their children's sexual orientation and identity can help these children feel accepted and comfortable with whom they are. Conversely, parents who do not provide support or even ridicule or insult their children's sexual identity and orientation will make these children feel rejected and uncomfortable with whom they are, which can affect their mental and emotional well-being. Therefore, parents need to provide genuine support and understanding to their children in dealing with LGBT.

References

1. Arjoni, "Pola Asuh Demokrasi Sebagai Solusi Alternatif Pencegahan Tindakan Kekerasan Seksual Pada Anak," *Jurnal Bimbingan Konseling* 1 (2017): 6.

2. Rokhmah, "Pola Asuh Dan Pembentukan Perilaku Seksual Berisiko Terhadap Hiv/Aids Pada Waria."
3. Arjoni, "Pola Asuh Demokrasi Sebagai Solusi Alternatif Pencegahan Tindakan Kekerasan Seksual Pada Anak."
4. Azam Syukur Rahmatullah, "Pendidikan Keluarga Seimbang Yang Melekat Sebagai Basis Yang Mencerahkan Anak Di Era Digital," *Cendekia: Jurnal Kependidikan Dan Kemasyarakatan* 15, no. 2 (15 Desember 2017): 211–24,
5. <https://www.reproduksi.org/id/memahami-lgbtq> Diakses tanggal 4 desember 2022
6. . Safrudin Azis, "Pendidikan Seks Bagi Anak Berkebutuhan Khusus," *Jurnal Kependidikan* 2, no. 2 (2014): 182–204.
7. Teguh Firmansyah, "Orang Tua Berperan Strategis Cegah LGBT," 2016,
8. <https://www.republika.co.id/berita/nasional/umum/16/02/24/o31p3p377-mui-orang-tua-berperan-strategis-cegahlgbt>.
9. <https://www.ummy.ac.id/keluarga-miliki-peran-penting-dalam-pembentukan-perilaku-lgbt> diakses tanggal 4 desember 2022
10. Fredy Simanjuntak, "Problematika Disorganisasi Dan Disharmonisasi Keluarga," in *Keluarga Yang Misioner*, 2018.
11. Endang Lestari, "Peran Orang Tua Dalam Memberikan Pendidikan Seks Sedini Mungkin Di TK Mardisiswi Desa Kedondong Kecamatan Kebonsari Kabupaten Madiun. Nugroho," *Jurnal Ilmiah Pendidikan* 2, no. 2 (2014): 125
12. . Rahma, fahmawati isnita dan jamuin, ma'arif (2012), *Peran Pendidik Dalam System Pendidikan*. Artikel, Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta.
13. Amalia Nur Baiti, 'Izza and , Istanto S.Pd.I, M.Pd (2017) *Peran Orang Tua Dalam Menanamkan Nilai Pendidikan Islam Pada Anak (Studi Analisis Tafsir Q.S Luqman:12–19)*. Skripsi thesis, Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta.
14. Santoso, M. Abdul Fatah (Vol 7, No 1 2017) *The rights of the child in Islam: their consequences for the roles of state and civil society to develop child friendly education*, Indonesian Journal of Islam and Muslim Societies, journal, university Muhammadiyah Surakarta.

Open Access This chapter is licensed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>), which permits any noncommercial use, sharing, adaptation, distribution and reproduction in any medium or format, as long as you give appropriate credit to the original author(s) and the source, provide a link to the Creative Commons license and indicate if changes were made.

The images or other third party material in this chapter are included in the chapter's Creative Commons license, unless indicated otherwise in a credit line to the material. If material is not included in the chapter's Creative Commons license and your intended use is not permitted by statutory regulation or exceeds the permitted use, you will need to obtain permission directly from the copyright holder.

