



The Contribution of Parental Attachment to Adolescent Moral Intelligence

Puspa Rahayu Utami Rahman (✉), Wina Lova Riza, and Regi Ramadan

Faculty of Psychology, University of Buana Perjuangan Karawang, Karawang, Indonesia
puspa.rahman@ubpkarawang.ac.id

Abstract. Moral degradation is defined as a phenomenon of individual and group moral decline. There are still many violations committed by adolescents inside and outside school, indicating a moral degradation that leads to adolescents' moral intelligence not being well developed. The role of parents is an important factor in instilling moral education in children which then creates moral intelligence in children. The purpose of this study was to determine the contribution of parental attachment to adolescent moral intelligence. This study uses a quantitative approach with a causality research design. The sampling method used was non-probability sampling with a saturated sample technique so that a population of 200 students consisting of students in grades X, XI, and XII became the subject of the research. The results showed a significant value of $0.000 < 0.05$, so that H_a was accepted and H_0 was rejected, meaning that there is a contribution of parental attachment to the adolescent moral intelligence. The contribution of parental attachment to adolescent moral intelligence is 80.2%.

Keywords: Parental Attachment, Moral Intelligence, Adolescent

1 Introduction

Adolescence is often referred to as a period of searching for identity so that positive and negative influences will be prone to approaching an adolescence. Moral is an important aspect in life and development of adolescents. Moral is defined as human behavior to think and act well when dealing with other people [1]. It is so important that everyone understands the morals of living in their environment, so they must get used to it, communicate and socialize to children from an early age [2]. However, in fact the current condition, many teenagers experience symptoms of moral degradation. Moral degradation is a phenomenon of moral decline or the development of individual or group personality. There are 10 signs of moral degradation that must be observed in order to change for the better, namely, violence and disorder, theft, fraud, ignorance of rules, student harassment, intolerance, use of bad language, early sexual maturity and its deviations, self-destructive attitudes, and drug abuse [3].

The problems of moral decline occur in adolescents in Indonesia. Examples of moral degradation include the case of a student brawl that occurred in several areas of West Java, such as Sukabumi, Depok, Kebayoran Lama, Bekasi, and Karawang which resulted in 1-2 fatalities. The cause of the brawl was triggered by insulting names between

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schools [4]. Another problem of moral degradation is free sex. A junior high school student in Cimahi threw away a baby resulting from an illicit relationship [5]. Then there are other cases of promiscuous sex, such as what happened in Karawang, where the Karawang Police Criminal Investigation Unit caught the perpetrators of immoral video recorders and disseminators played by junior high school students [6]. In addition, drug abuse is also included in the problem of moral degradation in adolescents. The Central Executive Board (DPP) of the Higher Education Volunteer Alliance Against Drug Abuse (Artipen) released data that 27% of drug users in Indonesia are students and university students [7]. Then, based on data released by the National Police's Criminal Investigation Agency (Bareskrim), drug abuse in Indonesia has increased. In 2019, the number of drug-related cases handled was 38,962. Then in 2020 there was an increase to 41,168 cases or an increase of 2,206 cases. Then from January to May 2021 there have been 17,608 drug cases [8].

There are still many violations committed by adolescents inside and outside of school, indicating that adolescents' moral intelligence has not developed properly. In fact, moral intelligence can make oneself know and understand how to control oneself and others. Moral intelligence can also solve problems in various aspects of a person's life with good deeds and attitudes towards others [9]. Moral intelligence is the mental ability to determine how universal human principles can be applied to one's values, goals, and behavior [10]. These universal human principles are summarized in 4 aspects of moral intelligence, namely, integrity, responsibility, compassion, and forgiveness [10]. The first principle is integrity, a person can do what he thinks is good, and his actions still follow the right path based on the principles and beliefs he has. The second principle is responsibility, the individual's desire to accept all the results of the choices made, admit mistakes and failures, and commit to serving others. The third principle is compassion, caring for others, not only respects others, but also makes other people respect and care for them when they are in trouble. The fourth principle is forgiveness, the willingness to compromise with fault tolerance [10].

Moral intelligence can be developed by children through interaction in the family. The interaction between parents and children becomes harmonious when accompanied by quality attachment [11]. This shows that the attachment between children and their parents contributes to the process of forming moral intelligence. Therefore, the stronger the attachment between parents and children, the stronger the relationship of mutual trust. Thus, it is very easy for parents to instill moral values in their children. As a result, children are more likely to accept and absorb the moral values given by their parents [12]. The factor of parental attachment to moral intelligence is proven by the results of previous research which showed that there was a relationship between parental attachment and moral intelligence [12], [13]. That is, the secure the relationship that is fostered by parents and children, the higher the moral intelligence that children have. The results of other studies also state that parental attachment plays a role in the process of developing children's moral intelligence [14]. Improving children's moral intelligence needs to be supported by a conducive environment, one of which is by creating a secure attachment between parents and children.

Attachment was first revealed by Bowlby which was developed to explain that individuals have a biological need to have strong emotional relationships with other people

[15]. Parental attachment is an adaptive function that provides a basis for adolescents to interact with the wider environment. The attachment aspect is divided into 3 in the Inventory of Parent and Peer Attachment (IPPA) concept, namely, trust, communication, and alienation [16]. Aspect of trust, adolescents show that parents understand and believe that parents respect and understand their needs and desires. Aspect of communication, showing adolescents' perceptions of parents who are sensitive and ready to listen to their emotional state and assess their level of interaction and verbal communication with them. Aspect of alienation from parents, showing alienation and anger from parents to adolescents and experiencing alienation from close relationships with parents. Bowlby & Ainsworth categorizes 2 (two) parental attachment styles, namely secure attachment and insecure attachment [17]. Individuals with secure attachment are confident, optimistic, and able to build close relationships with others. Secure attachment is created when the aspects of trust and communication are high, and alienation is low [16]. If the individual fails to achieve a secure attachment, the individual will tend to withdraw from the environment, become uncomfortable around them, have excessive emotions, and become less dependent on others [17]. Insecure attachment is created when the aspects of trust and communication are low, and alienation is high [16].

The validity of the described phenomena above actually happened at SMK Taruna Karya 1 Karawang (Vocational School of Taruna Karya 1 Karawang). The school reported that its students experienced moral degradation which was marked by brawling behavior. As happened on July 16th 2020, there was a brawl between SMK Taruna Karya 1 Karawang and SMK Bina Karya 1 Karawang which resulted in a victim losing his wrist. On July 12th 2021, there was another brawl which resulted in 1 student getting a head injury. Another moral degradation behavior is free sex. The school reported that its students had been involved in cases of free sex. On August 10th 2021, school guards caught a student couple having sexual intercourse at school. In addition, the school also reported that its students had been involved in drug abuse cases. On August 20, 2019, during a school anniversary, 5 students were caught consuming drugs. Then the school also reported that their students often violated the rules imposed by the school such as skipping class, not wearing the appropriate uniform, and the school also reported that their students often used bad language, which is like everyday language.

Based on the explanation of the phenomenon and the description that has been conveyed, this study aims to determine the contribution of parental attachment to adolescent moral intelligence.

2 Method

This study uses a quantitative method with a causal relationship research. The variables used in this study are the independent variable (X), namely parental attachment and the dependent variable (Y), namely moral intelligence. The subjects of this study were 200 students of SMK Taruna Karya 1 Karawang in grades X, XI, and XII. The sampling technique in this study was non-probability with saturated samples. A saturated sample is a sampling technique when all members of the population are used as samples [18]. Then the sample in this study remains 200 according to the number of populations.

The data collection technique used is a psychological scale. The parental attachment scale was compiled based on the inventory parent and peer attachment (IPPA) [16]. IPPA is a standardized instrument for measuring parental attachment based on the aspects of trust, communication, and alienation. In addition, the moral intelligence scale was compiled based on the moral competence inventory (MCI) [10]. MCI is a standardized instrument that measures moral intelligence based on the aspects of integrity, responsibility, compassion, and forgiveness. Data analysis techniques using the normality test, linearity test, simple regression test, and test the coefficient of determination. The analysis test in this study used SPSS version 25 for windows.

3 Result and Discussion

3.1 Result

The normality test was carried out to see whether the data were normally distributed or not by looking at the 5% significance level using the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test with SPSS version 25 analysis. Data is said to be normally distributed if it has a significance value > 0.05 , while data is not normally distributed if the significance value is < 0.05 on the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test. The results of the normality test in Table 1 show the exact significance level is $0.284 > 0.05$, so the data is normally distributed.

Table 1. Normality Test

One-Sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test		
		Unstandardized Residual
N		200
Normal Parameters ^{a,b}	Mean	.0000000
	Std. Deviation	3.83272819
Most Extreme Differences	Absolute	.064
	Positive	.064
	Negative	-.063
Test Statistic		.064
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)		.042 ^c
Exact Sig. (2-tailed)		.361
Point Probability		.000

a. Test distribution is Normal.

b. Calculated from data.

c. Lilliefors Significance Correction.

This linearity test is used to determine whether the research distribution data, namely the independent variable (parental attachment) and the dependent variable (moral intelligence) have a linear relationship. The results of the linearity test in Table 2 show the value of the deviation from linearity sig. $0.64 > 0.05$, it can be concluded that there is a linear relationship between parental attachment and moral intelligence.

The hypothesis testing carried out in this study was analyzed using simple regression test to predict how the independent variable influences the dependent variable. The results of the simple regression test in Table 3 show the Sig. of 0.000 < 0.05, it can be concluded that parental attachment has a contribution to moral intelligence.

Table 2. Linearity Test

			ANOVA Table				
			Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Parental Moral Intelligence	Between Groups	(Combined)	12632.167	40	315.804	23.211	.000
		Linearity	11872.229	1	11872.229	872.582	.000
		Deviation from Linearity	759.939	39	19.486	1.432	.064
		Within Groups	2163.333	159	13.606		
		Total	14795.500	199			

Table 3. Simple Regression Test

		Coefficients ^a				
		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
Model		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	6.412	2.467		2.599	.010
	Parent Attachment	.720	.025	.896	28.357	.000

a. Dependent Variable: Kecerdasan Moral

The coefficient of determination test was carried out to determine the magnitude of the influence or predictor of variable X on variable Y. The test results for the coefficient of determination in Table 4 show a value of 0.802 in the R Square column. It can be concluded that there is a contribution of 0.802 or 80.2% from parental attachment to moral intelligence, the rest is influenced by other variables that have not been studied.

Table 4. Coefficient of Determination Test

Model Summary ^b				
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.896 ^a	.802	.801	3.84239

A. Predictors: (Constant), Parent Attachment
 B. Dependent Variable: Moral Intelligence

3.2 Discussion

This study aims to determine the contribution of parental attachment to adolescent moral intelligence. The data collection technique used was a psychological scale with a sampling technique, namely a saturated sample of 200 respondents. After the data

was collected, a hypothesis test was carried out on the parental attachment variable with moral intelligence showing a sig. $0.000 < 0.05$. This result means that H_a is accepted and H_0 is rejected, meaning that there is a contribution of parental attachment to adolescent moral intelligence. Parental attachment is an adaptive function that provides a basis for adolescents to interact with the wider environment. Strong parental attachment can protect adolescents from anxiety, depression, and the emotional distress associated with the transition from childhood to adulthood. The stronger the attachment between parents and children, the stronger the relationship of mutual trust. It is very easy for parents to instill moral values in their children [19]. This shows that attachment between children and their parents contributes to the process of instilling moral education in children which then creates moral intelligence in children. The factor of parental attachment to moral intelligence is proven by the results of previous research which showed that there was a relationship between parental attachment and moral intelligence [12], [13]. That is, the secure the relationship that is fostered by parents and children, the higher the moral intelligence that children have. The results of other studies also state that parental attachment plays a role in the process of developing children's moral intelligence [14]. Improving children's moral intelligence needs to be supported by a conducive environment, one of which is by creating a secure attachment between parents and children. From the test results of the coefficient of determination, the results obtained were 0.802 or 80.2% of the influence of parental attachment to adolescent moral intelligence, the remaining 19.8% was influenced by other variables. Other factors that can influence moral intelligence include situational context, then personal context which includes temperament, self-control, self-esteem, age and intelligence, social interaction, emotions, then social context which includes school, mass media, and society [14].

4 Conclusion

Based on the results of data analysis, the conclusion in this study is that parental attachment has a contribution to adolescent moral intelligence. The magnitude of the effect of parental attachment on moral intelligence is 80.2% while the rest is influenced by other variables that have not been studied.

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