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Childhood's Life

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The Role of the Father in the Early First Year of Early Childhood's Life

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to find out the role of the father in the early life of the child and restore the nature of a father who plays a major role in the early life of the child, especially at an early age, namely the age of 0-6 years. In this research, the descriptive method is used with a qualitative approach, with a sociological perspective. A sociological approach to family education relationships can also provide a practical understanding of the role of fathers in early childhood. By using survey data to be analyzed. The results of the study show that survey data from 40 respondents showed that through play activities between fathers and children will develop various kinds of child development after an early age, including social development and emotional development. The presence of the father in the child's early life is not only felt by the child as a happy experience but the mother and father themselves also feel happy when they are involved in the child's early life.

Keywords

the role of father, early first year, childhood

1 Introduction

Early childhood life starts from the beginning of pregnancy where during pregnancy is not only the role of a mother who is pregnant but really needs the big role of the father who greatly influences the beginning of a child's life from an early age because the first year of a child's life is an early stimulus, especially in cognitive and cognitive development abilities. emotional development.

The importance of stimulus in the first year of a child's life becomes the basic foundation of a child because the first year of early childhood is a period that affects the brain structure and development of behavior that forms the basis for future growth and development of children. To fulfill the stimulation process optimally, reinforcement is needed in the form of knowledge related to family education (Parenting). In this case, it is not just experienced but must have an important role in explaining that experience and theoretical implementation are the basis for stimulating various kinds of development, one of which is the development of the child's brain. The experience gained can connect a concept with the biological sciences of neurodevelopment in order to facilitate understanding of the relationship between the brain structure of the response to experience that will affect the early life of early childhood (Belsky & de Haan, 2011).

Family education is the key in the efforts of parents or young couples who are just starting family life and will have children, therefore an understanding of the stages of child development in the early sensitive period of life needs to be known. The early life experience gained by children can be described from habits that tend to measure the behavior of one party such as the role of the mother who is in charge of caring for children in the early life and contextually the role of the father is needed by the child in his early life. According to Wall and Arnold (2007) support and intimacy between mothers and fathers in the early stages of a child's life really need attention by means of care. The intervention of fathers and mothers in providing children's experiences from an early age proves that the quality obtained by children in early life shows improvements and increases in children's cognitive, language and emotional development.

Based on the statement above and the results of research by several experts, the attention given by one parent is reduced, namely the role of the father which emphasizes that the responsibility for the early life of early childhood is only the duties and roles of the mother (Chae & Lee, 2011). Therefore, it is not only a mother who plays a role but the role of a father as a parent has an important task. This is in

accordance with several research results from Fox, Levitt, and Nelson (2010). that the series of genes that interact with husband and wife will determine the basis of brain development and change the function and structure of brain development.

In addition, research by Hobson and Noyes (2011) that a new father, ideally in terms of stimulating the child's early life, will have a major influence, especially on close emotional relationships with children and share pleasures and work together with mothers in parenting. When the "new father" is given the opportunity to show his ability as a mother to care for and nurture children, there will be closeness and respect for the role of the mother.

By providing knowledge, understanding and education to fathers about the role of fathers, one of the reasons why the role of fathers is forgotten is because the media is too often reporting stories about the role of mothers in the care and upbringing of children from living children, such as telling the fears of mothers when caring for and mothers who have jobs. other than caring for and raising children. Even though fathers have time to care for and care for children early in life, the media often depicts fathers as the head of the household having the task of earning a living and not having time to raise and care for children, especially during the child's life (Cabrerera, Tamis-LeMonda, Bradley, Hofferth, & Lamb, 2000).

With a lot of time for fathers to help stimulate the development and growth of early childhood through playing activities, while mother's time is spent a lot of time, she will be dominant with children to play activities while mother's time is spent with parenting activities such as feeding. Based on the explanation above, the conclusion obtained is that the research question related to the role of fathers and the beginning of the first year of early childhood is "Why is the role of the father forgotten at the beginning of a child's life after early childhood?". Through this research, it is expected to provide benefits and knowledge about the role of fathers in the early life of children in the process of caring for and nurturing children in their early life, especially until children are in childhood which has golden times (Cabrerera et al., 2000).

2 Methods

In this study, the researcher used a qualitative approach descriptive method, with a sociological perspective. Public relations is usually studied using an instrumental managerial perspective. Thus, understanding its role in building trust or creating distrust and also in the development or otherwise the destruction of organizations, public relations also need to be studied as a social phenomenon which in this case is the role of the father. Social theory can help us understand the process of public relations at the social, organizational and individual levels. The sociological approach does not only examine the relationship between family education and the role of fathers in early childhood. A sociological approach to family education relationships can also provide a practical understanding of the role of fathers in early childhood (Ihlen & Fredriksson, 2009). According to Creswell (2010) qualitative research is a process of inquiry to understand social problems or human problems, based on the creation of a complete holistic picture formed by words -words, reporting detailed views of informants, and arranged in a natural setting. The purpose of qualitative research is to describe a set of perspectives or information from a problem. The redundancy criterion is obtained when the inclusion or addition of respondents will not significantly add new information or understanding of the problem (Vanderstoep & Johnston, 2009). In qualitative research, the researcher relates to the researched, this relationship in the form of living together or observing information for a long period, or real cooperation. In short, the researcher tries to minimize the distance between himself and the one being studied (Creswell, 2010).

Through data collection techniques in the form of a questionnaire based on information and communication technology (ICT) media, namely the google form application, data were obtained which were addressed to 40 parents from one of the playgroups in the city of Cimahi as the subject of this study. The statement written on the ICT media-based questionnaire contains an explanation regarding the role of fathers in the early life of early childhood by using a Likert scale as the respondent's answer in filling out the questionnaire. After the data was obtained, the researcher analyzed the data with the help of Microsoft excel which explained the frequency of data distribution, followed by a discussion in the form of a description through the process of data reduction, data presentation and conclusions.

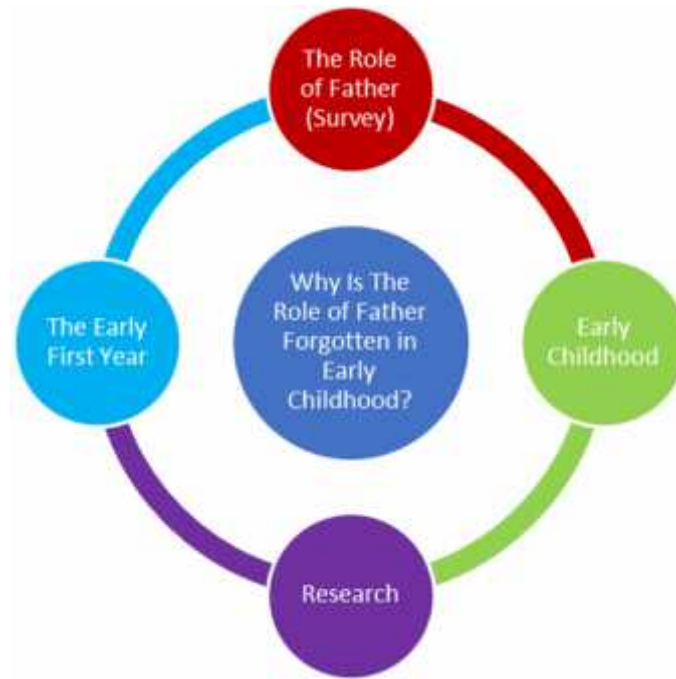


Fig 1 State of The Art the Role of The Father in The Early First Year of Early Childhood's Life

3 Results and Discussion

3.1 Results

The data obtained is then processed to determine the extent of the father's role in the early years of early childhood life based on the results of the questionnaire to get the following graph:

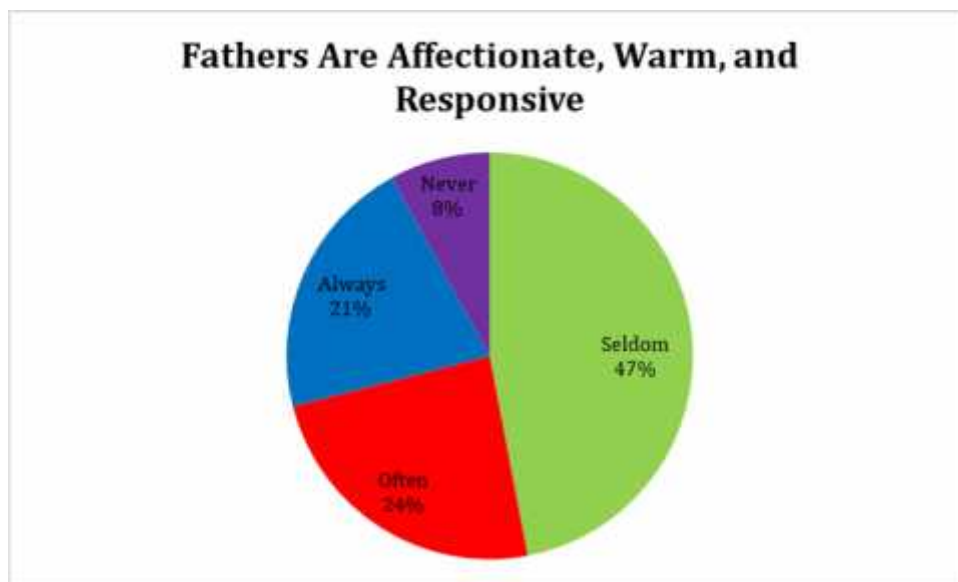


Fig 2 Role of Father as Compassionate, Warm, And Responsive

Based on the data above from 40 respondents, it shows that fathers rarely show their role of being affectionate, warm and responsive by 47%, and fathers who show frequent as much as 24%, which

always shows 21 % and fathers who do not. have been loving, warm and responsive only 8% this is because the father chooses his job to play a role in earning a living.

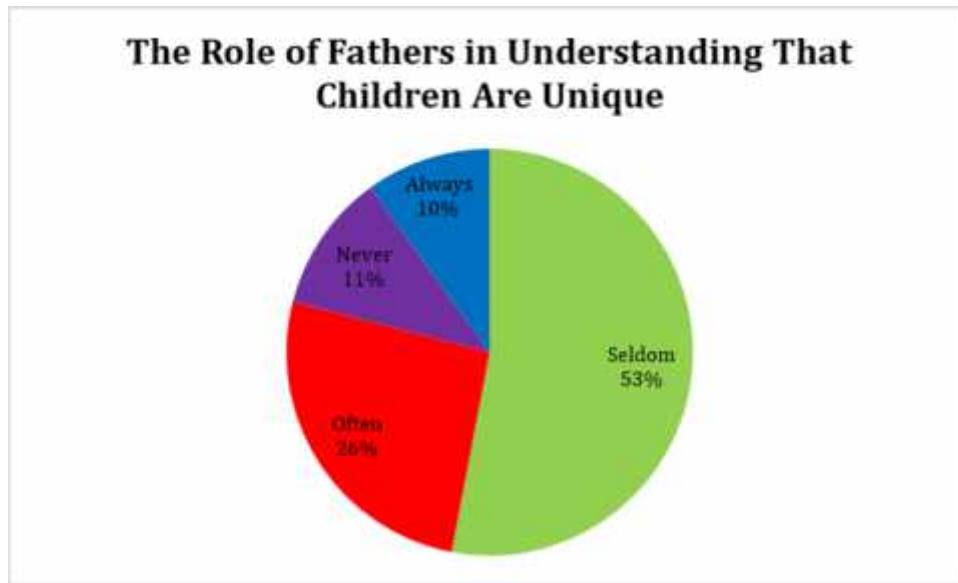


Fig 3 The Role of Fathers in Understanding That Children Are Unique

In the second graph, based on data from 40 respondents, shows that fathers who understand that their child is unique are only 11%, the rest of the fathers based on conditions if the father is not conducive, shows that fathers rarely understand that their child is unique, almost 53%. Still need guidance on the importance of family education.



Fig 4 Fathers Make Routines Fun and Rewarding with Their Children

In the 3rd graph based on data from 40 respondents to find out how much fathers make fun and useful routines with their children, it shows that fathers still rarely make fun routines as much as 53%, there are even fathers who never make routines still at 26% For this reason, family education is still needed, especially for fathers.

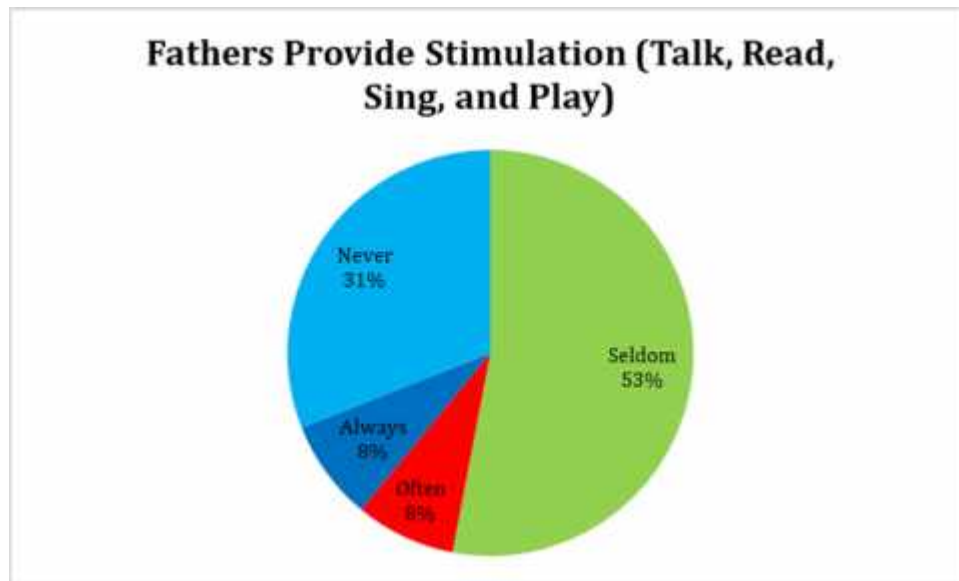


Fig 5 Fathers Provide Stimulation (Talk, Read, Sing and Play)

Based on data from 40 respondents, it shows that fathers still rarely provide stimulation, as seen from the graph above, it is still at 53%. And it's still a fairly high figure at 31% fathers never give a stimulus. Based on the data above, it can be concluded that from the 4 indicators that can be analyzed to determine the role of the father in the early years of early childhood life, it shows that fathers still rarely play an active role in the early years of early childhood, it is still seen that every indicator of the father shows rarely which in the sense does not mean not doing but still less intense in its role, it can be concluded that fathers rarely play an active role by 46%. For this reason, there is still a need for guidance on the importance of the father's role.

3.2 Discussions

From the description above, it is closely related to the results of the analysis conducted on fathers in one of the Play Groups in Cimahi City regarding the role of fathers in the first year of early childhood life which was carried out by taking survey results through a questionnaire to parents to determine the role of fathers in the early years of children's lives. early age as follows: (a) Father is affectionate, warm and responsive; (b) Fathers understand that children are unique; (c) Fathers create fun and rewarding routines with their children; (d) Father Provide Stimulation (Talk, Read, Sing and Play).

The results of the data show that the lack of understanding and knowledge of parents is related to the meaning of family. Families consisting of father and mother become the first educators in the life of a child who is born, so father and mother need cooperation so that they give birth to a generation of intelligent and noble character as a solid footing in treading the life and journey of children (Jailani, 2014). Therefore, the role of the father and the role of the mother have an important role in the child's early life. However, the information provided to the community describes the role of the mother more than the role of the father in caring for and nurturing the child in the early life of the child. If the father's role is not present in the child's early life, it can affect aspects of child development, both girls and boys. Withdrawal behavior is the impact of the absence of fathers for girls and boys will have an impact on increasing feelings of aggression so that children take violent actions due to unfulfilled goals (Chae & Lee, 2011)

With the interaction, especially between fathers and children, children will get life experiences that have an impact on brain development early in the child's life, especially in childhood aged 0-6 years (Fox et al., 2010) In childhood where early childhood is in a sensitive period, the experience gained from the closest environment, especially the family environment, namely parents is the key to the stages of brain development (Belsky & de Haan, 2011; Fox et al., 2010). In developing brain development in the early years of life, the experiences gained by early childhood will have an impact on brain function, so that parents consisting of fathers and mothers who work well together will have an impact on children's brains in the future (Belsky & de Haan, 2011)

Therefore, the role of the father in the early life of the child will act as a disciplinarian, sex model and willing to be a friend to a friend for children both in childhood and in the future (Wall & Arnold, 2007). The presence of the father in the child's early life is not only felt by the child as a happy experience but the mother and father themselves also feel happy when they are involved in the child's early life. With the presence of fathers, mothers can take their time to rest (Hobson & Noyes, 2011) and when fathers take the time to care for and care for their children, the activities usually carried out by fathers are playing (Dumont & Paquette, 2013; Wall & Arnold, 2007).

Through play activities between fathers and children will develop various kinds of child development after an early age, including social development, emotional development, language development, cognitive development (Cabrera, Shannon, & Tamis-LeMonda, 2007)

The role of the father in the child's life does not only start from the birth of the child but in the first early years, parents consisting of father and mother need to pay attention to the development and growth of children starting from the period of conception, birth, and life. The thing that needs to be considered is the environment from which the child was born, such as the presence of chemicals, either chemicals that are good for health or chemicals that are harmful to health. These chemicals are brought by the immediate environment, one of which is from parents such as illegal drugs, cocaine, alcohol and smoking activity which will disrupt brain development while the child is in the womb (National Scientific Council on the Developing Child, 2006). Therefore, prospective parents need to be given an understanding related to family education.

4 Conclusions

The presence of the father in the child's early life is not only felt by the child as a happy experience but the mother and father themselves also feel happy when they are involved in the child's early life. Based on the results of a survey of 40 respondents to determine the role of the father in the early life of the child and restore the nature of a father who plays a major role in the early life of the child, especially at an early age, namely 0-6 years It shows that fathers rarely play an active role by 46%. For this reason, it is still necessary to direct knowledge of the importance of the father's role because an optimal father's role will develop various kinds of child development after an early age, including social development, emotional development, language development, cognitive development.

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