

MODEL OF DEMOCRATIC PARENTING IN FAMILY EDUCATION

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Abstract. To be able to carry out these various responsibilities, parents should have a democratic attitude towards children. Where as parents must be able to create a communicative atmosphere with children, so as to foster harmonious family relationships, mutual respect, discipline, and know their respective responsibilities. The purpose of this study is to examine how the democratic parenting model is used in the education of children in families. This research method uses qualitative research. By using this type of text research and data collection techniques using documentation taken from a book entitled Developing Democratic Parenting by Al. Tridhonanto. While data analysis uses content analysis which is obtained from the presentation of the contents of the documentation text. The results of this study are that there are seven models that can be used by parents in implementing democratic parenting for early childhood. The seven models include parents being flexible, being a good role model, providing clear consequences for violations of rules that children do, establishing daily communication, providing clear standards of behavior for children, inviting children to develop their ability to be able to express thoughts and feelings, and appreciate the uniqueness of the child.

Keywords: model, democratic parenting, children, family

INTRODUCTION

The family is the first environment for children, in the family environment, first of all, children gain conscious influence. Therefore the family is the oldest educational institution, which is informal and natural. The father and mother in the family act as educators, and it is the children who act as educated children. The task of the family is to lay the foundations for further growth and development of the child, so that the child can develop properly. The family itself is said to be the first education which is very important in shaping the character of the child. Because basically in the family, children are first introduced to values and norms. As parents for their children, therefore parents have a very big responsibility towards their children. For a child, family is a community of life in a family environment where he becomes an individual for himself, the family is also a place for children in the context of their learning process to develop and shape themselves in their social functions. Besides that, the family is a place of learning for children in all attitudes to serve God as the embodiment of the highest value of life (Nurfuadi, 2020).

Parenting for children is a method of caring for the father and mother in taking care of their children, where the main goal is to look after children and educate them properly and

correctly even though they use various methods (Sudarningsih, 2015). Parenting is a fundamental matter in the formation of personality/character (Adawiah, 2017). There are several models of parenting styles, including authoritarian parenting, permissive parenting, and democratic parenting. The democratic parenting model is parenting by parents who practice the treatment of their children in the context of efforts to form the child's character by prioritizing the interests of the child in order to have a rational attitude and thoughts (Al. Tridhonanto, 2014). In such a democratic parenting style, parents are required to have balanced emotions and emotional maturity so that they are able to explain any problems that arise (Mulyani, 2019). The PAUD teacher's parenting model for children seeks to ensure the personality and development of early childhood. This democratic parenting style is deemed conducive in terms of early childhood personality education. This can be seen based on the results of research conducted by child development psychologists, one of whom is Baumrind. Baumrind said that the figure of a democratic PAUD parent or teacher has a positive correlation with the growth of a child's personality, one of which is the attitude of independence and responsibility (Wiyani, 2020). Therefore, this democratic parenting style is often used by parents in educating and raising their children.

Early childhood is children aged from 0 years to 6 years. This age indicates that there are valuable moments in the growth and development of children or commonly referred to as the golden age of *children*. At the age of zero to six years can be regarded as a critical period for the growth & development of children. Because, if during this period the child does not receive maximum attention in terms of parenting, education, and health services and nutritional consumption needs, it is feared that the child will not grow & develop optimally (Wibowo, 2013). Therefore, in choosing a parenting model for children, you should not just choose and do it, because it will have an impact on the child's psychological development. Thus, to be able to carry out these various responsibilities, parents should have a democratic attitude towards their children. Where as parents must be able to create a communicative atmosphere with children, so as to foster harmonious family relationships, mutual respect, discipline, and know their respective responsibilities.

RESEARCH METHODS

In this study the authors used qualitative research techniques based on text research. Text research is a type of qualitative research with an emphasis on an analysis or interpretation of sources from written texts that are adapted to the context. These sources can come from textbooks, newspapers, magazines, letters, films, published notes, manuscripts, articles and so on (Ahyar, 2019). Collecting data in this study is using documentation. The documentation used comes from a book entitled *Developing Democratic Parenting* by Al. Tridhonanto. This documentation is obtained from the contents of the text in the book. Content analysis is an analysis that emphasizes how the context of the contents of a text is qualitatively, how to understand the content of communication, can read symbols. Therefore the purpose of this study is to examine how the democratic parenting model is in family education.

RESULT AND ANALYSIS

Parenting is a method used by parents in giving affection by educating and caring for them properly. As for democratic parenting, namely parenting where parents practice how to care for children in the context of efforts to shape the child's character by prioritizing the interests of the child so that they have a reasonable attitude towards their thoughts (Al. Tridhonanto, 2014). In this democratic parenting style, each parent or caregiver gives freedom to the child but still provides directions with good communication. Democratic parenting is a

parenting style that prioritizes the interests of children, but does not hesitate to control them. Parents with this type of parenting model are also realistic about their child's abilities, they don't expect too much and don't go beyond children's abilities, they also give freedom to children to have and perform an action, and a warm approach to children (Mulyani, 2019).

Early age is said to be a very critical and most fundamental early period along the journey of growth and development of human life. Children experience very fast development in parts of their brain, that's why at this early age phase it is often called the golden age for children (*golden age*). According to J. Black, he said that early childhood begins when the child is still in the mother's womb or the prenatal phase up to the age of six. Meanwhile, according to child education experts, early childhood is a human group starting from the age of zero to nine years (Fauzi, 2018). (At the age of the first five years (*the golden years*), early childhood has enormous potential to continue to develop. It is during these periods that it is only natural for children to begin to be guided and directed. Because the golden age for children only occurs once in their life.

As for models or explanations of ways that can be done by parents in carrying out democratic parenting for early childhood include:

First, parents must be flexible or not rigid with children. In educating their children to have a good personality, as parents there is nothing wrong with giving rules. These regulations are intended so that children also have a disciplined attitude. Not only discipline but also it is hoped that with the rules the child becomes a person who is responsible both to himself, to his parents who have given the rules, and against the rules that have been given. With these rules, of course, children will think of carrying it out because it will have a good impact on himself. However, even though rules and discipline are good, this is where parents need to realize that there are times when they have to be flexible or not rigid with their children.

This model is so that parents can be flexible in caring for children, namely by parents understanding the world of children. Views in educating children, of course, as parents must be changed because the world of early childhood is certainly different from the world of adults. Children are still unable to capture or understand the content of adult logic. They will still be happy and engrossed in their own world. Therefore, as parents, there is no need, for example, to make standard rules and even write them down to children. Because surely the child will ignore it. Parents can change these rules by giving advice that they convey directly, even though it is not only done once or twice, but with habituation later the child will understand by himself. For example, when a child is playing and his toys are scattered, that's where the role of parents is to teach children to always tidy up their toys after playing, another example is when they wake up, children are taught to always tidy up their bed again. Convey it in a way that is not angry to the child. Therefore, parents do not have to provide standard rules for children. Parents do not need to curb the will of children. For this reason, it is necessary to have a flexible or non-rigid attitude towards children, by understanding the world of children. And directing children one of them with habituation activities, so that the attitude of parents does not seem rigid in giving rules to children.

Second, be a parent as a good role model. Early childhood is a small human figure who likes to imitate what he sees. As parents or educators who serve as role models for them, they should be able to provide a real good example and a good example to children (Susanto, 2011). If children are brought up in a family full of love, warmth, and happiness, then of course they will imitate or practice these values later when they grow up.

This model or method can be carried out by parents, for example always teaching about sharing with others. Do the simple things first, for example teaching them to share food with friends or neighbors or with their own siblings. With these little things, we can remind them that sharing is beautiful, sharing is fun and makes them happy, and can give happiness to others too. Another example can be done by teaching or getting used to children to always say please when they want to ask for help, say sorry when they make a mistake, and say thank you

when they have been given help. In this context, parents do not just give orders or utterances. Of course, parents must take action first so that children can imitate them and can make their parents a good role model for them.

Third, provide clear consequences for violations of the rules that children do. Previously, as a parent, you must understand in advance what is the difference between punishment and consequence. Punishment itself aims to make children suffer and make them feel guilty for their actions. In fact, giving punishment to this child does not actually deter the child, but rather makes the child hurt because it hurts his pride because parents sometimes do it to embarrass the child. Maybe parents think that way they won't repeat the mistake again in the future. While these consequences tend to give encouragement or motivation for children to always improve on their actions. Even though they don't wear each other, by giving this consequence, at least they don't embarrass the child. To give consequences to children, of course, a mother or father has made an agreement with the child regarding the consequences he will choose.

Consequences can be given to children, for example when children don't want to clean up their toys after playing, then according to the agreement, the mother or father can get rid of or store the toys first for 24 hours. Automatically within 24 hours the child does not have time to play with his toys. That way the child will automatically think that his actions are wrong and cause him not to be able to play. Then the child will be motivated to think if he wants to play with his toys again every day, of course he has to clean up his toys when they are finished and will not repeat them. By providing appropriate consequences for his actions, this can make children aware of the mistakes they have made and encourage them to discipline children in relevant ways.

Fourth, build light communication with the child every day. Be an active parent to your child, don't be passive. Build interaction with children every day by doing good communication. By doing this communication there will be a dialogue, question and answer, to discussion with the child. This communication activity can then train children to be able to express their desires and ideas (Kurniawan, 2020). Parents must be interactive with children, to find out what is going on in their lives, in this way it will build trust between parents and children. What parents can do, both fathers and mothers do in this model, for example by exchanging stories every day. Parents can ask children about what activities they have done today, exchange stories and even secrets. With these things will certainly build trust between them.

Fifth, parents provide clear standards of behavior for children so that children can apply them in everyday life. Providing clear standards of behavior means telling children what behaviors or actions are good and what are not. Early childhood still needs direction from adults. For this reason, as an adult who is nearby, it is appropriate to provide direction and guide the child in the right direction. This model can be applied by parents, for example when children fight with their peers. And he was hit by his friend. As a parent, it is appropriate to teach children not to hit them back too. Because not all crimes must be repaid with evil. Give children about this understanding in language that is easily understood by children. If a punch is reciprocated with a punch it will cause pain to both of them. So invite the child to apologize first even if in fact the child is innocent, but there is nothing wrong with doing that. Being a forgiving person and forgiving will cause the heart to be peaceful.

Sixth, invite children to develop their ability to be able to express their thoughts and feelings. Invite children to participate in discussions while making rules. Give children the opportunity to share their ideas. Although in the end it is the parents who still make the final decision. But by inviting children to discuss together this can train children in the ability to think and express.

Seventh, respecting the uniqueness of children. Early childhood is indeed a unique person. Not all children will grow up exactly like their parents. Of course there is a difference

between the two. For example, when the father likes politics and his son prefers sports. From the differences that arise, then as parents must be able to appreciate and accept these differences. From the explanation above, it can be seen that there are many models or ways that parents can implement democratic parenting for early childhood. All of these models have a good goal of educating children's personalities so that they become good personalities. To achieve this, of course, requires energy and thoughts in line.

CONCLUSION

Education in the family is very important. Because the education that children get first comes from the family environment. For a child, family is a community of life in a family environment where he becomes an individual for himself, the family is also a place for children in the context of their learning process to develop and shape themselves in their social functions. Children get education in the family of their parents, both father and mother. Because, in this context, parental war is very important for the next child's life. Parents are responsible for the survival of children in a family. For this reason, parents should not just choose in implementing the parenting model in caring for children. Democratic parenting is one type of parenting that has been widely used by parents. Because this parenting style is a combination of authoritarian parenting and permissive parenting. Of course, to make it even better, democratic parenting has several models or methods that can be used by parents to educate and raise their children so that they stay healthy and right.

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