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Universitas Islam Negeri Prof. K.H. Saifuddin Zuhri Purwokerto  
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## Synergy of Parents and Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia in Developing Characters Trough Bina Keluarga Balita

Hanan Faizah<sup>1✉</sup>, Ali Muhdi<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Universitas Islam Negeri Profesor Kiai Haji Saifuddin Zuhri Purwokerto, Purwokerto, Indonesia

✉ email: [hananfzh@gmail.com](mailto:hananfzh@gmail.com)

**Abstract:** Early childhood education focuses on providing growth and development stimuli in early childhood so that children obtain maximum growth and development achievements in accordance with their stages. A person's character grows and develops starting when he is still at an early age. This study focused on how the synergy of parents and Pos PAUD in developing character through Bina Keluarga Balita with qualitative descriptive research methods Data collection methods using observation, interview, and documentation methods. To analyze data using data reduction methods, data presentation, and conclusions. Test credibility using triangulation method. The results of the study found that there are various forms of synergy between parents and Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia the benefits of these synergies, strategic steps to build synergy, and character development through the implementation of Bina Keluarga Balita. Bina Keluarga Balita activities are carried out well even though there are still shortcomings due to their limitations.

**Keywords:** Synergy; character; Bina Keluarga Balita

### A. Introduction

The first education obtained by children comes from parents. While still in the mother's womb, the child has begun to receive education from parents, and surrounding areas. The importance of the role of parents in providing education that begins when they are still in the womb and then born into this world and until the next child's growth period. Early age is an important period for children's growth and development.

Parents must understand about children's growth and development. The achievement of children's growth and development depends on the stimulus provided by parents and the surrounding environment. Parents with a lack of understanding of parenting and child growth and development, in providing stimulus to children are different from parents who have matured their understanding. A good understanding will give good results. However, not a few parents also lack understanding about children's growth and development. Not only his lack of understanding but to his lack of awareness. Many factors contribute to parents' lack of understanding and awareness regarding this. The background of each parent is very influential. The busyness of each parent is often the cause of the loss of togetherness between parents and early childhood. Early childhood which is the golden age for children but parents just miss it. Often found not a few parents who intend to encourage the acceleration of growth and development of their children, but in fact they slip on efforts to force their ambitions so that what happens is not to boost the child's potential, but to destroy the valuable potential possessed by the child (Suwito, Umar et al 2008).

Early childhood education is an educational process carried out consciously and planned to develop physical, religious and moral, cognitive, artistic, language, and social and emotional aspects of children aged birth to six years through informal, non-formal, and formal education channels in order to become individuals who have intelligences and have readiness to learn at the next level of education (Wiyani, 2020). Early childhood education in its implementation involves parents. Cooperation is established in order to achieve common goals and meet the needs of schools, parents, and children. The achievement of child development is the main goal of early childhood education. The stimulus provided by parents outside the school was then supplemented and strengthened by the school.

Human character develops and is shaped by social arrangements, then society shapes character through educators and parents so that children are willing to behave as desired by society (Suwito, Umar et al 2008). Early childhood is the future successor of the nation. The character possessed by children is very influential on the future of the nation. Characters don't appear out of thin air. It takes a long time to build a character. Early age is the right moment to start building a character. The stimulus of good character development since childhood will form good character in the child. Character traits include attitudes such as the desire to do the best, intellectual capacities such as critical thinking and moral reasoning, behavior such as being honest and responsible, maintaining moral principles in situations full of injustice, interpersonal and emotional skills that allow a person to interact effectively in a variety of circumstances, and commitment to contribute to his community and society (Suwito, Umar et al 2008).

Online learning in early childhood education during the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus shows how much parents lack understanding about children's growth and development. The lower middle class of society is the largest, supported by limited infrastructure. Online learning requires parents to always accompany their children during the learning process. However, busy parents, limited time, facilities, and infrastructure during learning do not guarantee that parents are able to accompany their children. This means that children do not get developmental stimuli properly. The growth and development of children at this time is very rapid and must always be supervised so that children are able to achieve their development properly.

Synergy is a process of cooperation carried out by various parties by combining ideas, resources, and expertise possessed by each party who has a process-oriented orientation for common results and common goals that will provide more results than when carrying them out individually (G, Rahmad., et al 2020). Maximizing their respective roles between parents and schools will have enormous results, especially on the achievement of early childhood development. Parental awareness is very influential on the success of the synergy established between parents and schools. This is because schools are the providers of services and facilities and parents are the recipients and users of services and facilities.

Bina Keluarga Balita is an effort to increase knowledge, skills, and awareness possessed by parents of toddlers and other family members, especially mothers of toddlers regarding fostering toddler growth and development through physical, motor, intelligence, social, emotional, and moral stimuli that take place in interactions between mothers or other family members with early childhood or toddlers (Munawar & Renggina, 2021). The Bina Keluarga Balita Program is used by parents of toddlers as a supporting means for them to increase their capacity in early childhood care, they get flexibility in developing their skills and knowledge

which include parenting, child education, challenges of the times, approaches to children, child nutrition patterns, child development psychology, and so on (Qomariah et al, 2020).

This research was conducted at the Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal, Banyumas, Central Java. The purpose of this study is to determine how the synergy of parents and schools in developing early childhood character through Bina keluarga Balita. This research focuses on the character of independence and discipline of children who are the basic characteristics of early childhood.

## **B. Methods**

This research is a qualitative descriptive research. The object of this study is the synergy of parents and Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal, and with the subject of principals, teachers, and parents. This field research in collecting data uses observation, interview, and documentation methods. Data analysis uses data reduction analysis, data presentation, and conclusions. Test the validity of the data or the credibility of this research data using triangulation techniques by checking data to the same source with different techniques. Time triangulation tests data credibility by checking data collection techniques at different times (Sugiyono, 2018).

## **C. Results and Discussion**

### **1. Synergy between Parents and Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal**

Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal in carrying out its operations involves parents. Establish synergy with parents with the aim of meeting the needs of schools, parents, children's funds. Epstein's presentation quoted by M Agung H mentioned several collaborations or synergies between schools and parents (Hidayatulloh & Fauziyah, 2020), including:

#### **a. Parenting**

Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal provides parenting services with the aim of providing a forum for parents to understand children's growth and development. Given that early childhood is a very important period for children, schools expect a mature understanding of parenting and child development. Pos PAUD organizes parenting in Bina Keluarga Balita activities which are held once a month and are attended by all parents or guardians.

#### **b. Communication**

Well-established communication between the two parties makes it easy to establish cooperation or synergy. Likewise, poor communication hinders both parties in synergizing. Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal builds communication with parents well. Based on the results of interviews with the principal and several parents, communication between the school and parents went well and actively. Their communication is established directly or through media, such as the existence of whatsapp groups.

#### **c. Volunteers**

Volunteering is a form of assistance provided by parents to schools. Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal provides opportunities for parents to volunteer. The provision of PMT is one of the places for parents to volunteer. Parents prepare, determine, and implement the provision of PMT to children, and the school only facilitates. The presence of parents in every activity organized by the school is another form of parents volunteering.

**d. Decision**

Parental involvement in school decision-making is urgently needed. Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal involves parents in decision making. Meetings regarding the implementation of student release are a form of parental involvement in decision making. The ECCE post involves parents in organizing the release of students in planning and implementation. One form of decision making involving parents is that when the school holds an outing class, in determining its implementation, the Pos PAUD involves parents in making decisions on the implementation of the outing class.

**e. Community cooperation**

Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal establishes community cooperation in order to provide the best service. The PKK community of Karangwangkal Village together with the Pos PAUD held a Bina Keluarga Balita activity. Every implementation of Bina Keluarga Balita, Pos PAUD always involves PKK in its implementation.

**2. Benefits of Synergy between Parents and PAUD Post Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal**

The synergy between parents and the Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal is well established and active. The synergy that is established provides benefits to the PAUD Post and parents. The benefits obtained are in line with those described by Fatchurraman et al (2012), namely:

**a. Equate the perceptions and values instilled by the school with the values taught by parents**

The synergy established by the Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal provides understanding between parents and schools. As stated by the principal, schools and parents have equated perceptions, especially regarding early childhood parenting and development. Equating perceptions is intended so that the stimulus provided by parents and schools is the same, thus helping the achievement of child development well.

**b. Provide the best service or service to parents**

Parents play the role of service recipients and schools as service providers. Parents of Zahra's students conveyed the benefits of establishing synergy with schools, parents are more aware of children's abilities in receiving learning provided by teachers when at school, and parents receive consultation services for all aspects of early childhood to teachers. Unlike Zahra's parents, Umar's parents said that one of the benefits of the synergy between parents and schools is the satisfaction obtained by parents in establishing communication with teachers, he felt satisfaction with direct consultations and through whatsapp which was more flexible. Kenan's parents also conveyed the benefits obtained from the synergy between parents and schools, parents better understand and understand child development problems, and shortcomings, parents are no longer confused about what to do at home to provide stimulus to children, good communication and trust between two parties becomes the satisfaction obtained by parents.

**c. Making parents an effective sales marketer**

Satisfaction with the services provided by the Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal to parents increases parents' trust in the school in providing good services. The emergence of

this satisfaction indirectly encourages parents to recommend the Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal to other communities, such as neighbors and relatives.

**d. *Making parents a trusted partner in finding solutions and dealing with children who tend to have problems during the learning process at school***

Recording child development and submission of these records by the Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal to parents provides a joint opportunity to evaluate and detect any obstacles in child development. Smooth and active communication makes it easier for schools to make parents partners in finding solutions in dealing with children who tend to have problems. Consultation is the path chosen by schools and parents to find solutions and deal with them.

**e. *Improve the quality of education and teaching***

The similarity of perceptions of parents and schools in child development provides convenience in improving the quality of education. The stage of development achieved according to the age stage makes children able to follow activities well. Learning activities become better and conducive, this is due to the achievement of good child development so that children can easily follow the course of learning activities carried out by teachers at school.

The benefits of establishing synergy between parents and the Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal can be felt by the school and parents. The satisfaction obtained by parents shows that the services provided by the Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal to parents are very good. This is supported by communication between parents and schools that is very smooth and active, so that the services provided provide satisfaction to the recipients, namely parents.

### **3. Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal Strategy in Establishing Synergy**

The well-established synergy between the Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal and parents has gone through several strategic steps taken by the PAUD Post in order to build the synergy. Strategic steps taken by the PAUD Post include:

**a. *Recognizing the character of parents***

The diversity of character of each parent must be recognized by the school, in order to make it easier when faced with problems. Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal has recognized the character of the parents. The principal said that the school recognizes the character of parents, there are parents who are angel, supportive, wuled, and others. After knowing and recognizing the character of parents, the school can easily find ways to communicate well with parents according to their respective characters.

**b. *Forming POMG***

The establishment of POMG (Meeting of Parents and Teachers) is intended to facilitate the distribution of aspirations. POMG is a forum for meetings between parents and schools. One form of POMG is parenting activities that are carried out regularly every month. Activities run regularly, so that the intensity of interaction between parents and schools increases.

**c. *Provide learning outcomes reports***

In learning activities at school, teachers record the progress obtained by children. The Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal provides reports on children's learning outcomes to parents based on the results of recording children's development during school every semester. The results of child development to parents are aimed at knowing the child's achievements and

identifying potential developmental obstacles in children and immediately finding solutions to overcome these obstacles.

**d. Enabling communication books**

The communication book used is in the form of a report card containing records of children's development. Teachers record children's development to be a tool to monitor children's development during school activities. The records are then collected for further delivery to parents. Not just recording, teachers analyze children's development and provide assessments based on the achievements that children have achieved.

The strategy carried out by Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal in order to establish synergy with parents is very good. Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal in every step is carried out earnestly and full of caution, every step is passed by the school well so that the synergy established between the school and parents is carried out very well.

**4. Implementation of Bina keluarga balita**

Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal organizes Bina Keluarga Balita (BKB) in order to provide parenting services to parents. activities involving PKK Kelurahan Karangwangkal and attended by all parents or guardians. Based on observations made, the implementation of Bina Keluarga Balita coincides on the last Thursday of each month. The implementation begins with registration or filling out the attendance list of parents, accompanied by monitoring early childhood growth, then continued with the delivery of material by resource persons followed by all parents or guardians regarding parenting and child growth and development and at the same time children are in class following learning activities as usual with teachers, then continued with monitoring early childhood development and parent consultation to schools and PKK cadres who help carry out Toddler Family Development activities.

Parents are very enthusiastic in participating in BKB activities in order to gain a better understanding of parenting and child development. although there are still some parents who are still unable to attend BKB activities. Changes in parenting style after participating in this activity one of them is by changing the provisions brought by children to school to have more nutritional value and not carelessly. Based on interviews with several parents, they admitted that there are many new understandings about parenting and child development. Parents admit they are no longer confused in providing stimulus for children's growth and development at home.

Bina Keluarga Balita presents the Child Development Card or KKA which is intended to monitor children's development. The card contains a sequence of children's developmental achievements according to age stages and messages to parents in order to provide developmental stimulus to children. KKA is socialized at the first meeting of BKB activities, so that in the future parents will understand and be able to function the KKA. KKA is a tool by schools and parents in monitoring children's developmental achievements. Based on observations made, KKA is used during child development monitoring sessions and consultations in every Bina Keluarga Balita activity. Every meeting, parents always get developmental tasks that are expected to be carried out at home and will be checked again at the next meeting to find out the child's ability regarding these developmental tasks.

Children who achieve developmental achievements in accordance with their stages provide opportunities for children to get the basic characters they must have. Teacher of Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal stated the same thing, namely, the child's character will

be good when the child is able to meet developmental achievements according to his age stage. The school maximizes its role in providing facilities and services to parents regarding understanding parenting and child development, while parents maximize their role in participating in these activities and in their application outside school. Children are the full responsibility of parents, so the school expects good understanding by parents, because the school only provides facilities and only accompanies them.

Monitoring child development and consultation become a forum for parents and schools in communicating about children's growth and development. Consultation on children's problems provided by schools to parents is not only through Toddler Family Development activities. The school provides consultation service facilities directly or using media in the form of whatsapp applications. When parents and schools want to conduct direct consultations, the school provides opportunities after learning activities are completed.

Based on the presentation of the data and discussion, the researcher conducted an analysis and concluded that the implementation of the Bina Keluarga Balita (BKB) activity organized by a combination of Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal and Pertiwi Karangwangkal Kindergarten together with the Karangwangkal Village PKK cadres which was followed by the parents of students was carried out well although it still needs improvement in its implementation, especially in monitoring child growth needs to be clarified again the flow of stages In order to be more organized, and the stages from beginning to end are still flexible and not organized and structured. Routine implementation once a month balanced with good communication between organizers and parents makes the success of this activity even higher. Although there are still obstacles or obstacles by Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal and parents in the implementation of Bina Keluarga Balita activities, it does not reduce the quality of services provided by the school to parents. Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal and parents found solutions to these obstacles.

##### **5. Development of Early Childhood Discipline and Independence through Toddler Family Development Activities**

The result of the Bina Keluarga Balita activity is a mature understanding of parenting and early childhood development. Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal provides BKB services in the hope of raising parents' awareness about parenting. The emergence of parental awareness encourages the achievement of child development according to the stage of development.

BKB activities use KKA or Child Development Cards to facilitate monitoring of children's development. The use of KKA was conveyed at the beginning of BKB activities with the aim of facilitating monitoring and providing stimulus in order to fulfill children's developmental tasks according to their age. KKA contains developmental tasks that must be achieved by early childhood according to their age, and messages for parents in order to stimulate child development.

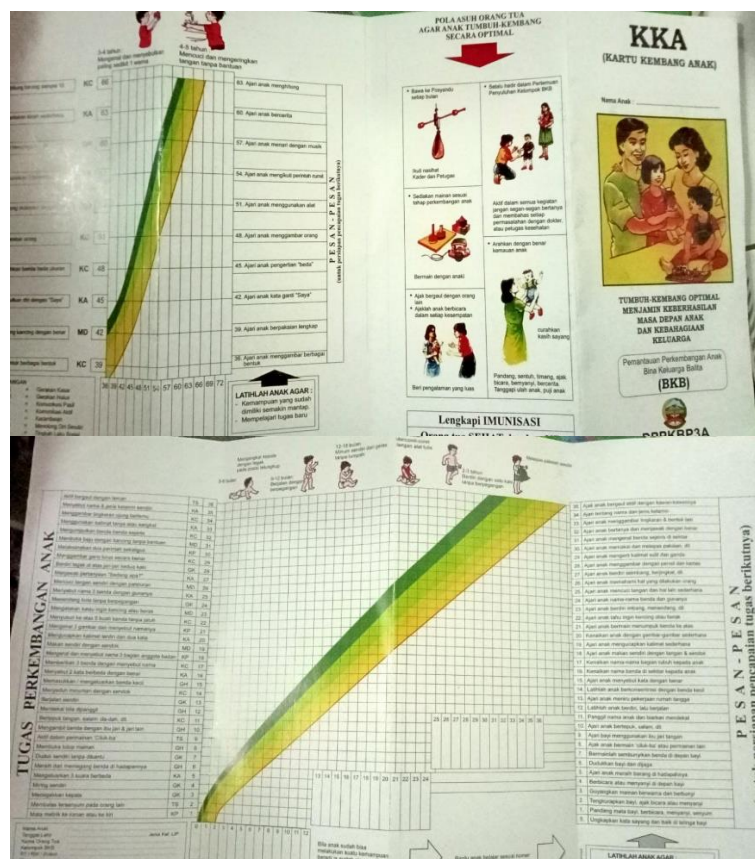


Figure 1. KKA

KKA is used as a tool for monitoring child development by parents and PKK cadres when monitoring child development during BKB implementation. When monitoring parents get homework child development tasks which are then trained at home.

In KKA there is a section of Messages (to prepare for the achievement of the next task) addressed to parents to provide stimulus to children when at home so that children can achieve developmental achievements in accordance with the sequence of stages. The messages are presented sequentially using a sequence of numbers ranging from 0 to 63. Giving homework to parents such as, in order number 30 mentioned teach children to wear and take off clothes, etc. the statement is homework for parents who will be checked again at the upcoming meeting. In the KKA there is also a Child Development Task section which is intended as a reference in monitoring child development. child development tasks are presented opposite to Messages for Parents. When the number 30 mentioned in the messages column contains a message for parents to teach children to wear and remove clothes, then in the child development task column the task of unlocking and unbuttoned clothes is in number 31. This is because these messages are stimuli by parents for the achievement of further child development.

High awareness from parents about the importance of parenting and child growth and development affects parents' motivation in participating in BKB activities. Early childhood discipline and independence are seen from the achievement of the child's development. In KKA included stimuli and a series of developments that must be achieved by children in accordance with the stages of completion. It starts from the age stage of the child 0 months to 72 months or the same as when the child is 6 years old. With different backgrounds and different social conditions, every child's development is different. The ability of parents to provide stimulus,



exercises to children according to their stages of development when at home is very influential on children's developmental achievements. Parents who diligently follow BKB activities will be more monitored for their children's development. This is because in every meeting, monitoring of children's development is carried out. When an obstacle is found, parents immediately communicate with the school and consult for handling.

Children's discipline and independence arise through habits applied by parents at home and strengthened by teachers at school. The habits applied by parents at home greatly affect the independence and discipline of children. Habituation is done early and starts from simple things. When parents follow the stages of child development in accordance with the order in KKA means that parents carry out the messages listed in the KKA. Children can reach their development according to the stage of development of their age making children able to have basic characters that must be possessed by early childhood. Parental involvement in BKB activities encourages children's ability to reach the stages of their age development and provides opportunities for children to develop more rapidly with the fulfillment of children's basic development that will make them provisions in future lives in adolescence and adulthood of the child.

Teacher of Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal said that children's independence and discipline can be seen from how children achieve development according to their age development stages. When children achieve development in accordance with the stages, the discipline and independence of children will develop well, in contrast to children who in their developmental achievements have obstacles, the discipline and independence of children develop not optimally.

There is still a lack of awareness from parents about the importance of child growth and development so that parents do not participate in Toddler Family Development activities does not make the Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal stop to provide the best service to parents or guardians. The establishment of good communication with parents makes it easier for PAUD Post to monitor early childhood development. With the ease of technology to communicate, Pos PAUD chooses to use WhatsApp media to monitor children's development by providing direction and consultation to parents regarding child growth and development, especially for children who have obstacles in their growth and development.

Based on the presentation of the data and discussion, the researcher conducted an analysis and concluded that the development of discipline and independence of early childhood as students at the Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal through Bina Keluarga Balita (BKB) activities went well. The participation of parents in the process of implementing BKB activities results in maturity in awareness of the importance of parenting and child development.

The presence of KKA or Child Development Card makes it easier for parents to monitor children's development. The school started with the introduction of KKA and its use to parents at the beginning of the BKB activity. Parental awareness is needed to maximize the development of discipline and independence of children after an early age. Although there are still parents who lack awareness about the importance of achieving child development according to their age stages, with good communication with parents makes it easier to monitor children's development, because it can be carried out outside BKB activities.

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students at Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal through the Bina Keluarga Balita (BKB) activity went well. The participation of parents in the process of implementing BKB activities results in maturity in awareness of the importance of parenting and child development.

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#### **D. Conclusion**

Pos PAUD Tunas Mulia Karangwangkal in its operations establishes synergy with parents or guardians. The forms of synergy that are established are, (1) Parenting, (2) Communication (3) volunteering, (4) decision making, and (5) community cooperation. The benefits of establishing this synergy include, (1) Equating the perceptions and values instilled by the school with the values taught by parents, (2) Providing the best service or service to parents, (3) Making parents an effective sales marketing, (4) Making parents a trusted partner in finding solutions and handling children who tend to have problems during the learning process at school, and (5) Improve the quality of education and teaching. The school in order to establish synergy with parents took several steps, including (1) Recognizing the character of parents, (2) Forming POMG, (3) Providing learning outcome reports, and (4) Functioning communication books.

Bina Keluarga Balita is a parenting program provided by the Pos PAUD to parents. Parenting and child growth and development became the subject of discussion of the activity. Bina Keluarga Balita is carried out once a month which is attended by all parents or guardians. The activity starts at 08.00 WIB until it ends. The series of implementation, namely, starting with registration or filling out the attendance list by parents, then monitoring child growth by weighing children's weight, measuring children's weight, head circumference, and arm circumference, then children are conditioned to continue to follow learning activities as usual with class teachers and parents following the delivery of material by resource persons, after that monitoring child development and consulting people old. Parents' awareness of the importance of understanding parenting and child growth and development is the basis for their enthusiasm in participating in activities. The Bina Keluarga Balita Program is well implemented, but with the limitations possessed in monitoring children's growth, it must be more organized to be tidier, and more structured every stage of its implementation from the beginning to the end of the activity at each meeting.

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