

The Impact of Democratic Parenting in Supporting Children's Personality

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Abstract: Democratic parenting has been the focus of research in child development psychology over the past few decades. The writing of this article uses a literature study method derived from various articles that are in accordance with the title and problems discussed. This article aims to investigate the impact of democratic parenting on children's personality development. Children who come from families with democratic parenting tend to show higher levels of trust, good communication skills, and positive social attitudes. In addition, they also tend to have the ability to manage conflict in a healthier way. These findings prove that democratic parenting can positively shape children's personalities and potentially help them become more independent individuals who contribute positively to society.

Keywords: Parenting, Children, Children's personality

INTRODUCTION

Parenting is an important factor in the process of children's character development. One approach that has emerged in this context is democratic parenting. It creates an environment where children are given the opportunity to develop their own autonomy and leadership. In an effort to better understand how parenting can shape children's character and personality, more and more attention has been focused on the concept of democratic parenting. This parenting concept emphasizes principles such as equality, participation, and open communication between parents and children. According to Zubaidah, et al (2023) stated that the family around is an important beginning for children to know the rules of social life and as the first place to get protection and affection. The above statement can be interpreted that the family environment and parenting patterns will greatly affect how the child's personality develops.

Samsudin (2019) says that children's personalities are very important in helping them adjust to new environments. One of the determinants of children's character is parents who have the main influence in determining their personality. About how parents are involved in fostering their personality from an early age. According to Mahasneh et al. (2013) the way parents educate their children greatly affects the development of children's character, ability to interact with society, and children's relationships with others. Therefore, parents need to use appropriate and appropriate parenting patterns.

Sudiantha (2014) states that , the formation of a child's personality is closely related to the way parents nurture, that is, their methods of educating, guiding, disciplining and safeguarding children so that they grow up in accordance with prevailing social values and norms. The application of different types of parenting methods has a significant effect, not only on aspects of children's growth and development, but also on the formation of their personality and social environment as adults. Each parenting approach chosen by parents will affect how children interact with their social environment in the future.

Hurlock in Sari et al., (2020) stated that there are three main categories that can be used to classify the way parents educate children, namely democratic parenting, authoritarian parenting and permissive parenting. Each of these parenting methods has its own positive and negative impacts. Parents who use the democratic parenting method are very attentive to their children's needs. Children who grow up with authoritarian parenting generally have little freedom to make personal decisions. All decisions are made by their parents, and they are expected to submit and given the opportunity to refuse or express their opinions. As for parents who adhere to permissive parenting patterns, they provide a high level of freedom to children. The characteristics of this parenting pattern are the lack of direction and attention to the child. Children have full control over themselves and their lives.

Children who grow up in a democratic upbringing usually exhibit greater and higher levels of self-confidence. They are given the freedom to make decisions within rational limits, which in turn helps them develop a sense of responsibility for their actions. The democratic parenting approach encourages open communication and active participation within the family, which can help children develop social skills such as speaking, listening and positive conflict resolution. Democratic parenting gives children opportunities to plan and take initiative in various aspects of their lives. It can develop leadership and problem-solving skills. Democratic parenting can teach children about democratic principles, such as respect for differences, fairness and equality. However, it is important to remember that the

outcomes of democratic parenting can vary depending on various factors, including the way the parenting is implemented and the individual characteristics of the child.

METHODS

The writing of this article uses the literature study method or literature study, which is sourced from various articles that are in accordance with the title and problems discussed. With the literature study approach, we can investigate as many sources as possible that are relevant to this issue, allowing us to compile the results of the various references we have examined. This research adopts the literature study method, which involves a series of actions related to collecting, reading, recording, and managing library references as research data. (Zed, 2008:3).

DISCUSSION

A. The Definition of Democratic Parenting by Santrock (2003) suggests that the democratic parenting approach is a model that encourages independence in adolescents while still providing boundaries and supervision. It creates an open two-way communication interaction, with parents who are warm and supportive of positive actions taken by children. Gunarsa and Gunarsa (2004) state that a democratic parenting system is a parenting method where children are given the opportunity to talk, discuss, share views with parents, and together they determine and make decisions. However, parents still carry out supervision in the final decision-making process of the child.

Syaiful (2014) argues that democratic parenting can be considered the best parenting model compared to other types of parenting. It reflects a parenting method that cares and respects children's decisions and freedom, although that freedom is not out of control from parental attention. Democratic parenting gives children the opportunity to voice their opinions and follow their desires, but remains within the limits of the rules set by parents. (Masni, 2017). Atkinson et al (2000) state that democratic parenting patterns describe parents who are able to care for their children with warmth, love and communication skills. Furthermore, Gunarsa and Gunarsa (2004) define parents with democratic parenting always respect children's opinions, act firmly and provide explanations for children's actions that are deemed inappropriate, helping children develop independence, competence, and strong self-control.

Barnadib (Asiyah, 2013) states that parents who use democratic parenting methods always pay attention to children's growth and not only give advice or only make

recommendations, but are also open to listening to children's complaints related to their problems. According to Dariyo (2004), democratic parenting involves an equal position between children and parents in decision making, with consideration of both parties. Children are given freedom and responsibility, which means that children's actions are still supervised and can be held morally accountable by parents. This involves trusting the child and training them to take responsibility for their actions.

From the opinions of the experts above, it can be concluded that democratic parenting is parenting that involves a more open, inclusive approach and respects children's autonomy. In democratic parenting, parents provide guidance, support, and reasonable limits to children, while giving them the opportunity to participate in decisionmaking that is appropriate to their age and development. This helps children develop critical thinking skills, a sense of responsibility and the ability to interact socially well.

B. Characteristics of Democratic Parenting

Democratic parenting is seen through open interactions between parents and their children where they work together in setting rules. Children are given the freedom to express their opinions, emotions, and desires and are taught to respond to the views of others. Syaiful (2014) identified a number of signs of democratic parenting, namely:

- a. The education of children always begins with the belief that individuals are special people on earth.
- b. Parents always try to match their expectations and goals for their children.
- c. Parents are satisfied when they receive views, feedback, and criticism from their children
- d. Accepting when children make mistakes and teaching them not to repeat them while maintaining their intelligence, willpower and courage.
- e. Emphasizes collaboration in achieving goals
- f. Parents constantly strive to help their children achieve success

According to Hurlock (2004), democratic parenting is indicated by the characteristics that children are given opportunities to develop independence and direction in themselves, parents recognize the existence of children, and children are involved in joint decisions. Meanwhile, according to Tridhonanto, democratic parenting involves collaboration between parents and children, providing support and guidance to children with flexible direction from parents, and children are also given personal rules (Afiyah & Aluyana, 2021).

Meanwhile, according to Santrock (Anggritasari, 2017), democratic parenting can be recognized by the following characteristics:

- a. Encourage the child to be independent while still providing boundaries to control actions.
- b. Showing affection and closeness to the child.
- c. Communicate and discuss with the child on common issues.

Khasanah & Fauziah (Suryana & Sakti, 2022) outline some of the characteristics of democratic parenting, such as: guiding children during the learning process, providing understanding to children when making mistakes, giving children time to speak and explain, allowing protests against rules, giving directions so that children obey the rules, giving appreciation to children, and allowing the use of cellphones or watching TV with a period of time. Parents who apply this parenting style prioritize children's interests above all else. They give freedom to children while still providing guidance so that children can act independently and responsibly (Muda, et al. 2022).

Based on the description above, it can be concluded that the aspects of democratic parenting involve the closeness of parents and children, great attention from parents in providing direction, providing flexible but controlled guidance and carrying out communication that allows both parties to convey their opinions so as to create an open relationship between parents and children.

C. Aspects of Democratic Parenting Patterns

Democratic parenting includes several aspects (Husada, 2013), namely:

- a. The aspect of comfort level (warmth), this reflects the level of acceptance and expression of parental affection towards the child. Parents who dominate this way are friendly, appreciative, and always supportive when children face difficulties.
- b. The discipline aspect involves parents' efforts to adhere to the rules that have been made and carry them out as well as continuous discipline.
- c. In the aspect of freedom, parents give their children the freedom to decide what they want and think is best for themselves. They leave many opportunities for children to make choices independently to improve communication.
- d. The aspect of reasonable rewards and sanctions, parents will reward when the child behaves correctly and impose sanctions when the child misbehaves.

e. The acceptance aspect is seen when parents recognize their children's talents and potentials, and then give their children opportunities to become independent and not constantly rely on their parents.

The democratic parenting approach includes the following aspects. (Anggritasari, 2017):

1. Parents show acceptance and have a high level of control.
2. Parents encourage children to talk about their opinions or questions.
3. Parents explain the consequences of right or wrong actions.
4. Parents act rationally towards the child's potential.
5. Parents give children the freedom to make choices and act.
6. Parents are positive role models for their children.
7. Parents always guide with warmth.
8. Parents include their children in the decision-making process.
9. Parents have the right to make decisions.
10. Parents respect their children's obedience.

Meanwhile, according to Munandar (Husada in Khairiyaturrizkyah & Nuraeni, 2018), the approach to parenting patterns with democratic methods includes the following elements:

1. There is a discussion process within the family,
2. Provide measured freedom,
3. Provide direction from parents,
4. Provide guidance and care,
5. Emphasize mutual respect between family members,
6. Implement two-way communication.

From the above aspects, it can be concluded that parents prefer to give their children freedom while still providing guidance to encourage children's independence and responsibility. This results in an environment that emphasizes collaboration, familiarity, and recognition of the child by paying attention to the child's development and growth.

D. Formation of Children's Personality Based on Democratic Parenting

Democratic parenting is a parental approach in shaping children's personality or character by giving priority to children and acting rationally in their treatment. (Tridhonanto, 2014). Parents who apply a democratic parenting approach will usually give birth to children who tend to be willing to accept criticism and suggestions, have self-confidence, and feel responsible for their social environment. (Muda et al 2022).

Agoes Dariyo argues that democratic parenting is an effective way for parents to shape children's personalities. Agoes Dariyo (2007) says that democratic parenting is a successful parenting pattern in shaping children's development and characteristics, because in democratic parenting there is mutual communication between children and parents. Therefore, democratic parenting tends to have a positive impact on children's personality development than permissive and authoritarian parenting.

Idris (2012) states that the impact of parenting patterns with democratic methods on children's growth process is as follows:

1. The child's self-confidence increases.
2. The child understands what the parents want
3. There is a great opportunity for children to develop into friendly individuals.
4. Enable the growth of creativity.

In the democratic parenting approach, opportunities are created to shape children's assertive behavior. Democratic parenting is a form of parental love towards children, where in addition to providing guidance, children are also given the opportunity to speak and convey their opinions to parents. Although children do not yet have greater experience or knowledge than parents, children will feel valued because their views are accepted by parents as a consideration in decision making. (Tulodho, 2017).

The consequence of implementing a democratic parenting approach is the development of social competence, increased self-confidence and social responsibility in children. In addition, children also show positive attitudes such as cheerfulness, the ability to control themselves and be independent, focus on achievement, maintain good relationships with peers, the ability to collaborate with adults, and skills in coping with stress effectively. (Soetjningsih, 2012). According to Ormrod (in Rozali, 2015) parents who educate their children using democratic parenting patterns can create children who are more capable in social interaction, feel happy, have a greater sense of responsibility, are confident, flexible, creative, independent, curious, sensitive, and skilled in solving problems.

Through democratic parenting, children tend to become individuals who are open to criticism, have respect for others, develop high levels of self-confidence, and are responsible in their social interactions. Children raised in a democratic environment tend to show high levels of responsibility, have developed social skills, and have the ability to avoid behavioral problems and psychological problems such as anxiety, depression, and low self-confidence.

In an effort to shape a child's personality, Democratic Parenting plays an important role. It emphasizes the interests of the child, two-way communication between parents and

children, and provides opportunities for children to express their opinions. The result of democratic parenting is a child who is confident, accepts criticism well, and is more responsible in a social environment. It also supports the development of children's creativity.

The importance of Democratic Parenting is recognized by many experts, as it is more effective in personality formation than permissive or authoritarian parenting. Children who grow up in a democratic environment tend to have good social competence, independent thinking skills, and high self-confidence.

The influence of Democratic Parenting includes more positive child development, including communication skills, better decision-making skills, and empathy. The formation of children's personality based on democratic parenting aims to create children who accept criticism well, show respect for other individuals and have a high level of self-confidence.

CONCLUSIONS

Parenting patterns include all forms of interaction between parents and children, with the aim of guiding and caring for children to grow and develop properly and healthily. Parents have several options in applying parenting patterns to their children, one of which is the democratic approach, where the rules are set by the parents by taking into account the situation and needs of the child. This is thus the primary responsibility and right of parents in guiding their children.

Democratic parenting has several key features, which include: Involvement and Openness, Respect for Independence, Positive Conflict Resolution, Equality and Fairness, Respect for Freedom and Human Rights, Growth Supportive Environment, and commitment to learning.

The aspects of the influence of democratic parenting are that democratic parenting tends to have a positive impact on child development. Democratic parenting emphasizes children's participation in decision-making, open communication, and respect for children's opinions. This can help children develop social skills, self-confidence, and the ability to think independently. In addition, democratic parenting can also strengthen parent-child relationships, create a more harmonious environment, and help children understand the principles of democracy.

The formation of a child's personality based on democratic parenting is that this approach tends to produce positive results. Democratic parenting, which combines elements of authority with support and understanding, can help children develop a balanced,

independent and responsible personality. Children who grow up in a democratic environment tend to have good communication skills, better decision-making abilities, as well as higher levels of selfconfidence. It also helps them to appreciate values such as cooperation, empathy and independence.

Parents apply democratic parenting with the aim that children become individuals who are open to criticism, respect others, have high self-confidence, and are able to take responsibility in their social life. However, democratic parenting also has a less positive impact on children. Negative impacts that may arise from the use of this parenting style include a lack of interaction time between parents and children, as well as children's emotional instability which can lead to conflict when parents are trying to guide children.

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