

THE IMPACT OF PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN TEACHING AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES ON EARLY CHILDHOOD SOCIAL- EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

This literature research aims to evaluate the impact of parental involvement in teaching and learning activities on the social-emotional development of early childhood through systematic analysis of data available in academic literature. The methods used include a review of published empirical studies, journal articles, and educational theories with a focus on parental involvement and family dynamics, as well as their implications for children's social and emotional growth. The research results show that parental involvement substantially contributes to strengthening children's interpersonal skills, increasing emotional intelligence, and communicating a positive self-concept. Various factors such as the presence of parents during learning activities, consistency in emotional and educational support, and the parenting methods used, have been proven to be closely related to improving children's social skills and ability to regulate emotions. Furthermore, this research concludes that the supporting strategies implemented by educational institutions to increase parental involvement provide optimal benefits for children's development. Recommendations are aimed at educational practitioners to design collaborative frameworks that actively involve parents in the educational process, with the main aim of strengthening the social-emotional foundations of early childhood.

Keywords: Parental Involvement, Social Emotional Development, Early Childhood

INTRODUCTION

In the course of a child's growth and development, the early childhood period is a critical phase that determines many aspects of their development in the future. Apart from cognitive development, children's social and emotional aspects receive special attention because they influence the way they interact with the environment and form the basis of their personality (Hidayat et al., 2023). In this context, the family, especially parents, plays a vital role as the main facilitator in forming children's social and emotional foundations. Parental involvement in teaching and learning activities is not

only an investment in children's academic capacity, but also their social-emotional aspects.

Various studies have shown that active parental involvement in the child's education process can support children's social-emotional development, such as communication skills, empathy, and the ability to resolve problems and conflicts. Early childhood children who feel the presence and support of their parents in the learning process tend to have higher self-confidence, emotional security, and good socialization skills (Xie et al., 2022). This is because interactions between parents and children strengthen emotional bonds, provide models of positive social behavior, and help children understand and manage their emotions.

However, challenges arise when parents' role in supporting teaching and learning activities at home is limited by various factors, including time availability, knowledge of effective learning methods, or even ignorance about the importance of their involvement. The inability to be optimally involved in children's education can have an impact on children's social-emotional development, such as the emergence of feelings of lack of self-confidence, difficulties in social interactions, or behavioral problems (Nakamichi et al., 2022). Therefore, identifying barriers and facilitating solutions for parents to become more involved in their children's learning is important.

By placing parental involvement as the main factor in supporting the social-emotional development of early childhood, this discussion becomes relevant and important. Further research into the impact of parental involvement, including effective strategies and how to overcome its challenges, can encourage best practices in early childhood education. This will not only form a strong foundation for children's development in their early years but also pave the way for their success in education and social life in the future (Ghozali et al., 2022).

Recognizing the importance of parental participation in teaching and learning activities demands a comprehensive and inclusive approach from all parties involved in early childhood education. Educational institutions, especially schools and early childhood education institutions, play an important role in bridging parental involvement. They can provide the resources, information, and support parents need to maximize their role in their child's education. This approach not only strengthens the connection between school and home but also fosters a supportive learning environment

for children, where their social-emotional development can be prioritized (Nurhafizah et al., 2024).

In addition, the use of information and communication technology can be a powerful tool in supporting parental involvement in children's education. Apps and digital platforms designed specifically for early childhood education can give parents access to learning materials, activity guides, and effective ways of interacting with their children. The use of technology can also facilitate communication between teachers and parents, enabling the exchange of information about children's development and providing constructive feedback to support children's growth (Chatzipanteli & Adamakis, 2022).

However, providing technology and other resources is not enough without parents' awareness and understanding of the importance of their involvement. Education and training for parents on how to support early childhood social and emotional development is key. Workshops, seminars, and various parent education programs can provide valuable insight into at-home learning strategies as well as parenting skills that support a child's overall growth (Halommi & Stevens, 2023).

Creating synergy between schools, homes and the wider community in supporting education and social-emotional development of early childhood is a common challenge that requires commitment and cooperation from all parties. Through this joint effort, a conducive and supportive environment can be created for children to grow and develop, not only academically but also in social and emotional aspects. This initiative is a long-term investment in building a strong foundation for future generations who are resilient, empathetic and competent in various aspects of life (McInnes et al., 2024).

RESEARCH METHOD

The study in this research is qualitative with literature. The literature study research method is a research approach that involves the analysis and synthesis of information from various literature sources that are relevant to a particular research topic. Documents taken from literature research are journals, books and references related to the discussion you want to research (Earley, M.A. 2014; Snyder, H. 2019).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The Relationship Between Parental Involvement in Teaching and Learning Activities and Early Childhood Social-Emotional Development

Parental involvement in early childhood teaching and learning activities has a significant impact on children's social-emotional development. The presence and participation of parents in educational activities provides a sense of security and emotional support for children, which is an important foundation in the formation of their social and emotional abilities (Chen et al., 2024). Studies show that children whose parents are actively involved in the learning process tend to have better social skills, fewer behavior problems, and the ability to manage emotions more effectively.

The role of parents in accompanying learning activities does not only help with academic aspects, but also influences how children understand and express their feelings, as well as how they interact with other people. Through constant interaction and communication in learning activities, children learn about empathy, cooperation, and respect for other people's perspectives. These emotional skills are very important and are the basis for building healthy interpersonal relationships in later life (MacFarlane & Honeck, 2022).

Therefore, it is very important for educational institutions to encourage and facilitate active parental involvement. Providing resources, workshops, and support for parents can increase their understanding and skills in supporting children's social and emotional growth. Effective parental involvement ensures that children not only receive a good education at school, but also consistent learning and emotional support at home, which will help them grow into balanced, socially well-adapted individuals (Sadownik, 2023).

In addition, direct parental involvement in educational activities can instill the importance of education from an early age, which leads to children's intrinsic motivation to learn. Through observation and imitation, children imitate their parents' positive attitudes towards the learning process. This fosters in them a love of knowledge and curiosity that forms the basis for academic success and lifelong learning skills. Parental involvement also helps children develop clear social rules and expectations, such as waiting their turn, sharing and collaborating with peers, which are key aspects of social development (Wardani et al., 2023).

The role of parents in monitoring children's progress and behavior at school helps in identifying areas that require special attention. Communication between parents and educators helps in establishing appropriate educational

strategies to support each child's individual needs. By recognizing strong points and areas that need improvement, parents can collaborate with teachers to create a positive educational environment, playing an active role in children's social development (Park & Jeon, 2024).

Parental involvement creates a broader network of social support for children, which includes family, school and community. These networks provide a variety of role models and socialization opportunities, enriching children's social experiences and accelerating their social and emotional development (Von et al., 2022). Thus, parental involvement in early childhood education is not only an investment in a child's academic success, but also in his or her social-emotional health – both aspects are equally important in the formation of a well-rounded individual capable of contributing well to society.

The Most Effective Form of Parental Involvement in Supporting Children's Social-Emotional Development

Parental involvement in children's education and daily life is very important in supporting their social-emotional development. One of the most effective forms of involvement is consistent and open communication between parents and children. This communication creates a supportive environment where children feel safe to express their feelings and thoughts. Through daily conversations, parents can teach important skills such as listening, empathy, and healthy expression of emotions, all of which are key components in successful social-emotional development (Sellami et al., 2022).

In addition, parents can play an active role in teaching socialization skills through organized and spontaneous social interactions. For example, organizing playdates with peers or participating in community activities with other children. Through these interactions, children learn how to take turns, share, and resolve conflict, all of which are important skills for healthy interpersonal relationships. Parents can also model positive social behavior and provide constructive feedback to help children understand how to interact with others effectively and respectfully (Sadownik, 2023).

A consistent and supportive parenting approach is also very important. Using positive discipline and providing clear limits and consistent rewards can help children feel safe and understand social expectations. Avoiding harsh or inconsistent punishment is important to avoid social-emotional problems, such as anxiety or isolated behavior. In this case, parents should work to approach the situation with empathy, trying to understand the child's

perspective and helping them find solutions to the problems they face (Dillmann et al., 2022).

Being a good role model is very effective in influencing children's social-emotional development. Children often imitate their parents' behavior, so by demonstrating healthy coping skills, empathy for others, and positive social interactions, parents can teach children values and behaviors that will help them thrive in their social lives. (Chichón, 2022). By being good role models, parents can prepare children with the skills they will need to face future challenges and relationships.

Continuing the discussion about effective forms of parental involvement in supporting children's social-emotional development, it is very important to include activities that support children's active involvement in various social situations. Joint activities that involve cooperation and collaboration, such as creative projects, team sports, or family games, provide opportunities for children to develop negotiation, leadership, and decision-making skills. Involving children in activities that are mentally and physically challenging, as well as fun, can stimulate their growth not only in the cognitive aspect, but also in the formation of self-confidence and the ability to interact with other people (Hendrowibowo & Kristanto, 2023).

Emotional education is also an important component. Teaching children about emotions, how to recognize them in themselves and in others, and healthy ways to respond to emotions, can strengthen children's ability to manage their own feelings and empathize with others. This can be done through role-playing, reading books that deal with emotions, or through discussions about the child's feelings after experiencing various situations (Stamou et al., 2023). Through this approach, children learn that all emotions are normal and important, and understand how to communicate them in a productive way.

In addition, providing support to children in facing social difficulties while teaching them about the importance of resilience can be one of the most meaningful forms of parental involvement. Recognizing a child's efforts and growth, not just the final achievement, can motivate them to try new things and not be afraid to fail. Parental support in this form helps children develop positive perceptions of themselves and their ability to overcome social and emotional challenges (Zhu, 2024).

Implementing all these aspects in parental involvement not only supports the child's social-emotional development but also strengthens the bond between parent and child. The process of learning together through

experiences, discussions and activities can build a strong foundation for children to grow into empathetic, resilient and adaptive individuals. Thus, attentive and consistent parental involvement is the main key in directing children towards the formation of solid social and emotional abilities (Sadownik, 2023).

Challenges Faced by Parents in Their Involvement in Early Childhood Education

Parental involvement in early childhood education faces various significant challenges, which often originate from a number of factors, both internal and external. One of the main challenges is time constraints. Many parents work full time and have various other responsibilities, which makes it difficult for them to be actively involved in their children's education and learning activities. This not only includes time to attend school meetings or special events but also to support learning at home. This time limitation often results in parents feeling guilty for not being able to provide the support they think their children need (Irajzad, 2023).

Another factor is a lack of knowledge or confidence in supporting children's learning. Some parents may feel they do not have the skills or knowledge to help their children effectively, especially in certain areas such as literacy or mathematics. This can be exacerbated by an ever-changing education system, where new methods and curricula may be unfamiliar to parents, making them feel unable to help their children with their learning (Triwijayati, 2022). Additionally, a lack of easily accessible educational materials or a lack of information about how best to get involved can increase this sense of uncertainty.

Communication and relationship challenges with educators and educational institutions are also significant barriers. Parents may feel intimidated by the school system or feel that their opinions are not valued, which makes them less inclined to get involved. On the other hand, schools and teachers may struggle to communicate their expectations for parent involvement or may not provide enough opportunities for parents to get involved. Language issues and cultural differences can also hinder effective communication between parents and schools, making the engagement experience more complex and less satisfying for both parties (Wirman & Elkhaira, 2022). In this context, creating an inclusive and supportive environment where parents feel valued and included can help overcome some

of these challenges and strengthen the partnership between home and school in supporting children's development.

To overcome these challenges, schools and educators need to develop innovative and inclusive strategies to involve parents in early childhood education. One important step is establishing effective and open communication with parents, which may include using technology such as mobile apps, websites, or social media to share educational information and resources. This approach not only makes it easier for parents to access important information but also allows them to be involved in their child's learning more flexibly, according to their respective busy lives (Björklund & Palmér, 2024).

Additionally, training and resources for parents can be helpful in providing them with the tools and knowledge necessary to support their child's learning. Workshops, webinars, or even online learning materials designed to improve parents' skills in helping with school assignments or home learning activities can increase their confidence in participating in their child's education. This kind of support also provides an opportunity to bring parents closer to the education system and ensure they become active partners and understand their role in advancing their children's education (Fyssa et al., 2022).

Addressing cultural and linguistic challenges by providing resources and support in multiple languages, as well as promoting understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity in the school environment, can make all parents feel welcome and valued. By recognizing the importance of involving families from diverse cultural backgrounds, schools can create learning communities rich in different perspectives and experiences, which in turn will enrich the learning experiences of all children (Charamba & Aloka, 2024). This involvement requires a tailored approach and empathy from all parties involved, including schools, teachers and parents, to create an educational environment that supports and facilitates optimal early childhood growth and development.

CONCLUSION

Conclusions regarding the impact of parental involvement in teaching and learning activities on the social-emotional development of early childhood show that active parental involvement is an important factor and has a significant influence on children's social and emotional development. Through effective communication, provision of relevant educational resources, and

participation in learning activities, parents can provide the necessary support for the development of children's social skills and emotional intelligence. Workshops, webinars, and educational materials designed to improve parents' educational skills strengthen their role as primary educators, increase parents' confidence in supporting children's growth, and facilitate the formation of close bonds between parents and children. An inclusive approach that recognizes and values cultural diversity in the school environment also contributes to richer and more inclusive learning experiences for children, promoting understanding and appreciation of diversity. In conclusion, parental involvement positively influences the social-emotional development of young children, encouraging them to become more empathetic, confident individuals and able to interact effectively in society.

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