

The Importance of Parenting for a Generation of Well-Mannered Children: Empowering Parents Through Parenting Socialization

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ABSTRACT

Normative behavior is a behavior that is in accordance with the norms that surround them. Normative behavior is often interpreted as ethics, where an ethic is often also associated with morals. This article aims to outline the devotion of the importance of parenting to parents so that children's behavior does not deviate from existing morals and norms. Community service "The Importance of Parenting for a Generation of Well-mannered Children: Empowering Parents Through Parenting Socialization" is done through socialization. Based on the results of interviews with parents of students, several results were obtained after participating in socialization activities and applying techniques regarding behavior modification that had been taught, where there were positive changes in children's behavior. Through an effective parenting program, it can significantly change how children behave in accordance with the norms. Based on the discussion above, it can be concluded that in the service program that has been carried out regarding parenting programs has had a positive impact on parents where they better understand the importance of effective parenting in supporting normative behavior in children, so that children behave in accordance with existing norms such as not disobeying parental rules, being more manageable, and not saying harsh words.

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INTRODUCTION

Children are both a gift and a trust given by God Almighty to every parent. As a precious entrustment, children must always be guarded and protected. Within them, there are values of dignity and human rights that must be respected. Children are born into the world like a piece of white paper, which can be colored with various inks according to the upbringing they receive. (Tresna Dewi 2019). Therefore, the good or bad behavior of children is strongly influenced by the pattern of education and guidance provided by parents. There is no parent who does not want their child to grow into a smart, healthy, and creative individual. Children who fulfill these three aspects reflect the success of parents in educating and shaping their character. In addition, the responsibility of parents is not only limited to the aspects of intelligence and health, but also includes the formation of children's normative behavior so that they grow into individuals who comply with norms, have noble character, and contribute positively to society. (Age & Hamzanwadi, 2020).

Normative behavior basically refers to behavior that is in line with the social, cultural, and religious norms that apply around the individual. In ethical studies, normative behavior is often associated with morality and morals. (Pudjiati, 2018). Scholars also mention that morals are an integral part of ethics, which is the basis for guiding individuals towards good behavior. The application of ethical values in children is very important to prevent them from various forms of deviation. These deviations are often not in accordance with the values upheld by society, be it religious, social, or cultural values. (Framanta, 2020). Children who are not taught social norms tend to grow up with behavior that is not as expected, such as showing rude attitudes, lack of respect for parents, or even violating applicable social rules. The causes of this deviant behavior are complex, including the influence of advances in information and technology (IPTEK) and a less conducive social environment. In addition, exposure to an unhealthy environment can also exacerbate behavioral deviations in children.

One important step to prevent deviant behavior in children is to provide adequate supervision and guidance from parents. However, reality shows that many parents are busy with their own activities, thus not having enough time to be actively involved in their children's lives. As a result, children often do not get enough understanding of the habits and values that they should learn and apply.

(Firmansyah, 2020). Children who lack attention and supervision from their families are more vulnerable to negative influences from their environment. This condition is further exacerbated by the lack of intensive communication between parents and children, so that children feel they do not get the assistance they need in understanding social and religious principles.

In the face of these challenges, empowering parents through parenting programs is one very effective solution. Parenting programs not only provide parents with an understanding of the importance of their role in instilling moral standards and social norms, but also equip them with the skills to help children develop optimally. Through this program, parents are taught how to behave in accordance with religious, social and cultural values, which they can then teach back to their children. Thus, the parenting program allows parents to realize how important their role is in guiding children, as well as encouraging them to follow the prevailing values in society. The program also has a positive impact on children, helping them to become individuals who have strong morals and ethics, and respect the norms in their environment. (Lasmini et al., 2022)..

This article aims to explain the important role of parenting programs in supporting parents to guide their children to become individuals who do not deviate from the prevailing morals and norms. Nowadays, many young people are showing less normative character and ethics. Therefore, as part of the younger generation and especially as a student, I am committed to empowering parents through parenting socialization. This step is expected to create a generation that is more polite, well-mannered, and has behavior that is in accordance with the expectations of society, both in relationships with families and in their social environment.

METHOD

The community service activity entitled "The Importance of Parenting for a Generation of Well-mannered Children: Empowering Parents Through Parenting Socialization" is carried out using the socialization method. Socialization is an important process in social life in which individuals or groups learn to recognize, understand, comply with, and appreciate the values and standards that apply in their social environment. This process not only helps individuals understand social rules, but also serves as a means to instill the norms and culture expected by society. (Mukhammad Alfani et al., 2024).. With socialization, people are expected to coexist harmoniously and maintain harmony in various aspects of life.

In the context of this activity, socialization was carried out through a seminar method specifically aimed at parents of grade 1 students at SDN Jarangan 1, Rejoso Sub-district, Pasuruan District. A total of 20 parents participated in this activity. Seminars were chosen as the main method because this approach allows for direct, structured and interactive delivery of information to the participants. In addition, the seminar also provided a space for participants to interact with the facilitators and share their experiences and problems they faced in educating their children.

The seminar was held in one full day, with sessions designed to cover the presentation of theoretical material as well as interactive discussions in the form of questions and answers. The seminar aimed to provide parents with an understanding of the importance of their role in educating children, especially in instilling moral values and social norms that can shape children's character to become well-mannered and responsible individuals.

The implementation of the seminar was carried out through several stages that were carefully arranged so that the program objectives could be achieved optimally. The first stage was a lecture session, where the facilitator explained the basic concepts of parenting and how parents can modify their children's behavior. In this session, participants gained information on the important role of parents as the main educators in the family environment, effective strategies for educating children, and the importance of instilling moral, religious, social and cultural values in children from an early age. The session also discussed various challenges faced by parents

in the modern era, such as the influence of technology and social media on children's behavior, and how to overcome them.

The next stage is a Q&A session, which is designed to give participants the opportunity to ask questions, express opinions, or share personal experiences related to parenting. In this session, parents can discuss directly with the facilitator various issues they face, such as how to handle unruly children, how to strengthen the emotional connection between parents and children, or strategies to instill social norms and religious values to children. This Q&A session also serves to clarify the information that has been delivered in the lecture session, so that participants can more easily understand and apply the knowledge they have gained.

To measure the success of this parenting program, an evaluation was conducted using the interview method to the parents of grade 1 students who had attended the seminar. This interview aims to obtain an overview of the extent to which the material presented in the seminar has had an impact on parents' understanding and behavior in educating their children. Through these interviews, parents were asked to explain their experiences in applying the knowledge they had gained, as well as to convey what changes they observed in their children's behavior after participating in this program. In addition, the interviews were also used to identify challenges that parents still face in educating their children, so that they can be used as evaluation materials to improve similar programs in the future.

RESULTS

The community service program with the theme "The Importance of Parenting for a Generation of Well-mannered Children: Empowering Parents Through Parenting Socialization" was carried out with a socialization-based approach. In this activity, the method used was a seminar, which was specifically targeted at parents of grade 1 students at SDN Jarangan 1, located in Rejoso District, Pasuruan Regency.

The implementation of this program received full support from the school, especially the teachers, who provided various forms of facilities to support the smooth running of the event. This support included the provision of a venue for the seminar, consumption for participants, and technical equipment, such as the use of an adequate sound system. Not only providing physical facilities, the teachers also have a strategic role as a liaison between the activity organizing team and parents.

Through communication facilitated by the teachers, the delivery of information related to parenting activities to parents becomes easier and more effective. Teachers play an important role in ensuring that information about this event can be clearly received by each intended parent. With such directed communication, it is hoped that parents can fully understand the aims and objectives of this activity, including the various benefits they will get. This good understanding is expected to motivate parents to attend and actively participate in the event that has been designed.

The presence of parents in this parenting activity is considered very important, because they have the opportunity to gain new insights relevant to parenting. The information and knowledge gained is expected to be applied in everyday life, so as to create a more effective parenting pattern that supports children's development. With improvements in the way parents educate, it is expected that the quality of children's education, both in terms of academics and behavior, can improve significantly.

This activity also highlighted the importance of close cooperation between schools, teachers and parents in supporting the process of optimal child development. Teachers not only function as educators at school, but also as a communication bridge between educational institutions and students' families. Good collaboration between these parties is believed to create a conducive environment for children to learn, develop, and become well-mannered and socialized individuals.

On the day of the event, the enthusiasm of the parents was quite high. A total of 20 parents attended and participated in this seminar with enthusiasm. The event went smoothly according to the planned schedule. The main material presented in the seminar focused on child behavior modification techniques that refer to the study of Agustina & Mukarromah (Agustina & Mukarromah, 2021).

The material taught includes several important aspects, including:

1. Positive reinforcement. This material serves to encourage children to improve good behavior by giving positive responses, such as praise, awards, or prizes.
2. Negative reinforcement. This technique aims to reduce the child's misbehavior by providing a negative response, such as a reduction in play opportunities if the child does not comply with the rules.
3. Extinction. This material emphasizes the importance of stopping a child's bad habits by ignoring the behavior, so that the child does not get the attention that drives the behavior.
4. Token economy. In this technique, children are taught to achieve certain targets through a point system. When the target is achieved, the points can be exchanged for a reward that has been agreed upon with the parents.

5. Modeling. This technique encourages parents to model positive behavior that can be emulated by children. By directly seeing good behavior from parents, children are expected to be able to imitate and apply it in their daily lives.

During the seminar, the parents appeared to be highly engaged, paying close attention to the explanations provided by the speakers. Their interest and enthusiasm became even more evident during the question-and-answer session, where numerous parents actively participated by sharing their concerns and seeking advice on the challenges they faced in raising their children.

Several recurring issues were brought up during this session. Many parents expressed frustration over their children's lack of compliance with household rules, their tendency to use harsh language, and their disrespectful or defiant attitudes. Another frequent concern was the difficulty in teaching children to show respect and consideration for others.

One particularly common complaint revolved around children neglecting their schoolwork. Many parents mentioned that their children prioritized playing on their mobile phones over completing assignments or studying. In addition, it was often noted that children were resistant to following parental instructions, making it challenging to instill discipline and good habits. These discussions highlighted the shared struggles among parents and their desire for practical strategies to address these issues effectively.

During the discussion session, the facilitators provided practical advice to parents on how to handle the issue. Some of the suggested steps include setting limits on children's use of technology, the importance of establishing good communication, and providing children with an understanding of the positive and negative consequences of their actions. According to Hidayatullah et al., (2024) parents are also encouraged to be more involved in their children's daily activities and model good behavior, because children tend to imitate what they see from the adults around them.

The results of this socialization activity were gathered through interviews conducted with parents after they implemented the behavior modification techniques introduced during the program. From these interviews, several positive transformations in the children's behavior were observed. For instance, one child, who initially lacked self-confidence and only interacted with a single friend, gradually began to feel more comfortable socializing with a broader group of peers without showing any bias or hesitation.

Another notable case involved a child named Nana, who had previously been challenging for her parents to manage. By applying the behavior modification strategies, her parents reported significant improvements in her conduct. Nana became more cooperative, easier to guide, and more willing to follow instructions.

Similarly, Kevin, a child known for frequently disregarding household rules, underwent noticeable behavioral changes. After his parents utilized the suggested techniques, Kevin demonstrated a more respectful attitude. He began adhering to the established rules at home and displayed a greater sense of politeness in his interactions. These examples highlight the effectiveness of the behavior modification methods in fostering positive changes in children's attitudes and behaviors.

The success of this parenting program shows that an effective parenting approach can have a significant positive impact on children's behavior. (Effendi, 2020) According to Effendi (2020), children who are raised in a loving environment, with open communication, and consistent boundaries tend to grow up with behaviors that conform to social norms. They are better able to obey rules, respect others, and show empathy in their daily interactions. This approach emphasizes the importance of a combination of affection and discipline in parenting. When parents set clear rules and apply them consistently, children learn to respect boundaries and understand the importance of norms. At the same time, affection and emotional attention from parents make children feel safe and valued, thus encouraging them to behave better. (Sugilar et al., 2023).

Parenting programs also have a major impact in improving the quality of interaction between parents and children. Through this program, parents are taught to provide emotional support, build effective communication, and create a safe environment for children. (Firmansyah et al., 2024).. These good interactions can increase children's self-confidence, make them more willing to explore the environment, and build better social skills. Therefore, the role of parents is very important in shaping children's behavior. With the knowledge and skills gained through parenting programs, parents can become better educators for their children. (Syifa Salma, 2024). In conclusion, parenting programs not only contribute to changes in children's behavior in the short term, but also to improving the quality of life of future generations.

CONCLUSION

The parenting program aims to support the formation of normative behavior in children. This is motivated by the phenomenon that shows that children today tend to show less behavior that is in line with the norms that apply in society, both social, cultural and religious norms. This problem is a serious concern because non-normative behavior can have a negative impact on children's development, both in the family and community environment. Therefore, this parenting program is designed as one of the strategic efforts to assist

parents in building parenting patterns that are appropriate, effective and relevant to the needs of child development in the modern era.

The program focuses on providing parents with the knowledge, skills and understanding of how to implement parenting practices that encourage children to follow applicable norms. One of the main focuses of this program is to help parents understand the importance of their role in shaping their children's personality and behavior. By understanding this, parents are expected to be more consistent in instilling positive values in their children. Effective parenting is also expected to help children develop more polite, well-mannered, rule-abiding and respectful attitudes towards others.

Based on the evaluation results of this community service, the parenting program that has been implemented has a significant positive impact. Parents who participated in this activity showed an increased understanding of the importance of effective parenting. They realized that proper parenting does not only focus on discipline but must also be accompanied by love and deep attention to children. The parents also gained new insights on how to guide their children to grow into individuals who have normative behavior, in accordance with the values adopted by the community.

In addition to the positive impact on parents' understanding, the program also resulted in tangible changes in their children's behavior. After parents implemented the parenting taught in the program, there were a number of positive behavioral changes in the children. For example, children who previously often disobeyed parental rules became more obedient and easy to direct. Children who tended to be unruly began to show a more cooperative attitude and were open to direction from parents. In addition, some children who had a habit of speaking rudely or disrespectfully slowly began to show changes by speaking more politely and respecting those around them.

These positive changes show that the parenting program has a real and beneficial impact, not only for the parents but also for their children. Through the program, parents learn that educating children requires a balanced approach between discipline and affection. Effective parenting allows children to feel emotionally supported by their parents, while still being taught the importance of adhering to applicable rules and norms. In this way, children not only learn to respect their parents but also understand important values that will guide them in their daily lives.

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