

IMPLEMENTATION OF FAMILY FUNCTIONS IN SINGLE FATHERS IN KAMPAR, RIAU PROVINCE

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ABSTRACT:

This research aims to show how single fathers are carrying out family functions from five existing family functions. This research was conducted in Kota Baru Village, Tapung Hilir District, Kampar Regency in Riau Province with a focus on the implementation of family functions in a single area. In this study, the method used is qualitative descriptive, where data is collected through documentation and in-depth interviews. From the results of the research conducted, it was found that in the implementation of family functions, they (single fathers) can carry out these functions even though they are not optimal due to various obstacles they face. The obstacles they experience are obstacles in managing working time with time taking care of the household, multitasking obstacles where single fathers are somewhat minimal related to these skills, obstacles in skills in taking care of children, especially related to the needs of girls. From the results of this study, It can be concluded that in the implementation of family functions carried out by single fathers in Kota Baru Village, especially by five (5) subjects/informants with five (5) family functions, they are all carried out or carried out by each of them in a different way even though it is not optimal due to various existing obstacles. Except for the economic function which is one of the decisive aspects in carrying out other functions, although they carry it out, the way they carry it out depends on their economic conditions.

Keywords: *Family Functions, Single Father, Skills, Multitasking*

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1. INTRODUCTION

The family as the smallest unit in society in principle has a central and strategic role in the process of character building, personality and growth of children as family members (Auliarrahma et al., 2024). The parenting style applied and the example of parents become the basis and reference for children to grow and develop and be able to interact and socialize with the surrounding social environment, including in their community. As part of an important social structure in society, the family is the foundation of society because it is in the family that is the first place for individuals to get a social life (Arslan, 2023). In family life, the presence of fathers and mothers with their respective roles and responsibilities determines the direction of children's character and personality, including their ability to adapt in the social environment. In this context, the presence of fathers and mothers with their intended roles becomes very important and crucial. Fathers with roles and responsibilities as heads of households as well as economic support who tend to play a role in the public sector, are not enough if the absence of mothers who tend to be given roles in the domestic sector, namely caring for and educating children at home is no less important. In fact, it is often considered the most important role in the formation of children's character. Therefore, the presence of an intact family or the combination of these two roles is a very important force for child development.

Family functions according to PP No.87 of 2014 in order to realize a prosperous and quality family, family functions must be the foundation and guidance of every family (Directorate of Family Development for

Toddlers and Children, 2017) In article 7 paragraph 2 of PP No.87 of 2014 concerning Population Development and Family Development, Family Planning, and Family Information Systems, it is stated that there are 8 (eight) family functions. The eight family functions include religious functions, socio-cultural functions, loving functions, protective functions, reproductive functions, socialization and education functions, economic functions, and environmental development functions (Perpres RI, 2014). With the formation of the family, the functions of the family will also be formed indirectly. Family functions are roles that must be carried out in a family, especially from parents to their children. The relationship between family members is imbued with an atmosphere of affection or compassion and a sense of responsibility. The family in its pure form is a social unit consisting of a husband, wife and immature children. Each family member has their function. These functions have certain consequences for family members and for the family as a whole (Suhendi, 2001).

According to Horton and Hunt (1996), the functions in a family include sexual regulation, reproduction, socialization, affection, status determination, protection and economic functions. Related to these family functions, all of them will be carried out in various types of families. According to Fredman in Reni (2017), there are several types of families, including; (1) Nuclear Family (nuclear family), is a family consisting of parents and children who are stillborn and live in one house, separate from other family relatives such as grandmothers, and grandfathers; (2) Extended Family large family), is a family consisting of one, two or more nuclear families in one house; (3) Single Parent, is a family headed by one head of the family and lives together with his dependent children; (4) Nuclear dyed, is a family consisting of a husband and wife without children; (5) Blended family, is a family formed from separate families and each brings children from previous marriages; (6) Three Generation Family, is someone who lives alone; (7) Middle Age, is a family consisting of middle-aged husband and wife. Although there are several types of families as described above, in general, the family in a broad sense includes all parties who are related by blood or descent or adoption who live in a household (Handayani, 2021). Basically, families are people united by marital ties. The family is a unit of people who interact and communicate which creates social roles for husbands, wives and children. Where the nuclear family consists of father, mother and children (Khairuddin H, 1985:14).

But in reality, not all families are in an intact family. Some families are no longer intact, such as the absence of a father or mother. The absence of the father as the head of the household and as the economic support in the family, it is the mother who carries out this role and vice versa in the absence of the mother, the father carries out his role. The cases of fathers as single parents are not as many as those of mothers. Including the success and ability of mothers as single parents also tends not to be matched or followed by fathers as single parents. However, in certain cases many fathers are in fact able and still survive with these conditions, where the dual role becomes a task that must be carried out despite experiencing many difficulties. In general, a single parent is a single parent (Masyuroh, 2018), i.e. everyone who is called a father and mother who has responsibility in a household or family task (Su'aifin, 2021). Single parent means a father or a mother who has the responsibility of taking care of the family alone. A husband without a wife is called a widower, while a wife without a husband due to divorce or death is called a widow (Aryani, 2022). It further states that single parenthood is the process of raising children where there is only one parent, namely the father or mother. In general, a family consists of a father, mother and their children. However, in real life families are often found where one of the parents is no longer present. This situation leads to what is called a single-parent family.

Families with various roles and functions that should be carried out as an ideal level in the context of theoretical ideals, but the reality in our society is that there are many cases where single parents, including single fathers, are still found in the lives around us, both in urban and rural areas. One of the cases that is the object of this study occurred in Kota Baru Village, Tapung Hilir Subdistrict. It can be seen that being a single father has many obstacles in living the days with his children. A single father must carry out family functions. Family functions can be realized if the relationship between family members is well-established and maximized.

Being a single parent is harder since separating from his partner (his wife). Problems often faced by single parents such as obstacles in carrying out family functions that will experience interference and must be able to adjust to new situations. Based on data obtained by researchers in the community and supported by population data from the Kota Baru Village office in 2023, there are 973 family heads (KK) in Kota Baru village which are grouped into 21 RT and 08 RW as described in table 1.1 below:

Table 1. Residents of Kota Baru Village Widowed Status

No	RW	Number of households	Number of Widowers
1	001	105	0
2	002	138	8

3	003	125	2
4	004	158	6
5	005	147	4
6	006	140	4
7	007	85	0
8	008	76	3
Total		973	27

Source: Village Office, 2023

The table above shows that in Kota Baru Village 27 people were widowed in 2023. In RW 01 with a total of 105 families, there are no residents who have widower status, in RW 02 with a total of 138 families there are residents who have widower status as many as 8 people, in RW 03 with a total of 125 families there are residents who have widower status as many as 2 people, in RW 04 with a total of 158 families there are residents who have widower status as many as 6 people, in RW 05 with 147 families, there are 4 widowed residents, in RW 06 with 140 families, there are 4 widowed residents, while in RW 07 with 85 families, there are no widowed residents and in RW 08 with 76 families, there are 3 widowed residents. Single fathers in this village are mostly caused by the death of his wife and there are also some who are left behind due to divorce caused by economic factors and infidelity.

The phenomenon as described occurs in one of the areas in Riau, located in Kampar Regency, Tapung Hilir District, precisely in Kota Baru Village. There are several single fathers who still exist, namely 27 people. Based on this phenomenon, this research was conducted to describe and analyze the efforts of single fathers in carrying out family functions in Kota Baru Village, Tapung Hilir. Related to the above phenomenon, the problems raised in this study are: "How is the implementation of family functions in single fathers in Kota Baru Village, Tapung Hilir District, Kampar Regency?" and "How are the obstacles faced by single fathers in carrying out family functions in Kota Baru Village, Tapung Hilir District, Kampar Regency?"

The purpose of this study is to determine the implementation of family functions in single fathers in Kota Baru Village, Tapung Hilir District, Kampar Regency and to find out the obstacles faced by single fathers in the implementation of family functions in Kota Baru Village, Tapung Hilir District, Kampar Regency.

2. METHOD

In this study, the method used was the descriptive qualitative method. The qualitative approach was used to obtain data and information about the experiences, attitudes knowledge and meanings expressed and expected by the community that became the object of this study. More than that, the qualitative approach is also intended to dive deeper into what informants (objects) do in their daily lives, especially in their lives exploring and practicing being a parent (single father). Therefore, the data collection techniques used are observation, and in-depth interviews. The study was conducted in Kota Baru Village, Tapung Hilir District, Kampar Regency, Riau Province.

The informants (subjects) in this study were previously determined by certain criteria, including:

- a) Being a single parent for more than 2 years;
- b) Having more than 2 children;
- c) The informant's family structure is nuclear family.

The reason for determining this criterion is to obtain accurate data and direct experience data felt and carried out by the subjects/informants. The determination of informants in this study was carried out using a purposive sampling technique, namely the determination technique by determining/ pointing directly based on predetermined criteria.

The reason for choosing this location is to consider several aspects, including the geographical distance that is easily accessible quickly, which allows researchers to be more intense in conducting direct observations and intensive interviews without having to stay in the village. The second reason was because from the results of the pre-survey conducted, there were many cases of single fathers in the village so the criteria set previously were met methodologically.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Implementation of Family Functions in Single Fathers

Family functions proposed by Horton and Chester (1996) Hunt there are seven functions, namely the functions of socialization, affection, protection, status determination, production, sexual regulation and economy. Of the seven functions, only two functions cannot be performed by single fathers, namely production and sexual regulation, the remaining five functions can be performed by a single father such as socialization, affection, protection, status determination, and economic functions. From these five functions, it will be described how the implementation of family functions in single fathers as conveyed by the research subjects.

Socialization Function

The socialization function is the formation of children's character or personality through the guidance of single fathers. Of the five subjects/informants in implementing the socialization function, they do it in almost the same way. The similarity referred to is the practices and patterns carried out in providing training and examples to their children such as doing homework, and teaching children to behave politely.

Implementation of the Affection Function

The affection function is a function of affection, where the family functions to provide attention and affection to its family members. The affection intended is full attention related to empathy for the child, and building a close relationship by playing or picnicking together. Of the five subjects in the process of implementing the affection function, there are two patterns, the first pattern by Mr. Sianipar, Bambang, Eka and Rahmin does the same thing such as playing with children or quality time and taking children on recreation, while the second pattern by Mr. Jek where he is different from the four single fathers in the implementation of the affection function he does not do the same thing but he only pays attention to mandatory things such as when the child is sick he takes care of but does not pay much attention to the father-child relationship such as playing together or vacationing.

Implementation of the Protection Function

According to Horton and Hunt in Pandin (2016) that the protection function is that the family functions to provide physical, psychological and social protection to family members. The following is a picture of a single father giving advice to his daughter as protection for his daughter to keep her safe. Of the five subjects in the process of implementing the protection function, there are two patterns, where the first pattern is carried out by the subjects Mr. Sianipar, Bambang, Eka, and Mr. Jek, they do similar things such as conducting surveillance on children, while the second pattern is Mr. Rahmin who is slightly different from the first pattern where he not only supervises children but he emphasizes discipline on his children.

Implementation of Status Determination Function

The function of determining status is that the family functions as a basis for giving some social status to its family members. The function of determining status is interpreted by single parent fathers as a resource. According to Wijanarko dan Ester (2016), in many ways and forms, a good father will support his child's success by providing behind-the-scenes support. Of the five subjects in the process of implementing the status determination function, there are two patterns, where the first pattern is carried out by the subjects Mr. Sianipar, Bambang, Eka, and Mr. Rahmin, they do the same thing such as providing assistance in goods or services, while the second pattern is Mr. Jek who is different from the first pattern where his economic and time constraints cannot fully provide support for children both in goods and services.

Implementation of Economic Function

According to Horton dan Hunt in Pandin (2016) that economic function, namely the family functions to provide fulfillment of economic needs and daily needs of family members. This function is a function related to the adequacy of household needs, or children. Of the five subjects in the implementation of the Economic function, the five single fathers can fulfill their children's financial needs, starting from food, shelter and clothing, although there are some limitations on Mr. Jek, but for the main needs, they are quite fulfilled.

In detail, the results of interviews with informants related to the implementation of family functions as intended above, will be presented in the form of a summary table of informant answers as follows:

Table 2: Summary of Interview Results

No	Subject	Summary
1	Sianipar	Socialization: Teaching children to be independent can take care of homework
		Affection: Supervise and nurture with affection, more gently teach girls
		Protection: monitoring your child's friendship environment
		Status Determination: Supporting children's growth and development by buying children's talent equipment
		Economics: all children's needs are met
2	Bambang	Socialization: Teaching children to live independently, teaching children homework, setting a good example to their children and often visiting relatives such as their pakde or aunt
		Affection: Making time every night for the child to go to bed, and providing recreational time outside such as water bomb rides
		Protection: Always remind children about dangerous things such as strangers and tell them about other dangerous things
		Status Determination: Fulfill children's learning support needs such as children's hobby of drawing by buying drawing tools and inlay training to hone children's talents
		Economics: All children's needs are met
3	Eka	Socialization: Modeling polite, well-mannered and respectful behavior, religious observance, independence, homework management, and providing opportunities for children to play with their peers
		Affection: Gently educate children and occasionally have quality time eating out
		Protection: Supervise children from their social environment and always remind children of dangerous things
		Status Determination: Provide more safety support to the child such as lending a cell phone to get information on the child's learning activities
		Economics: all children's needs are met
4	Rahmin	Socialization: Setting an example for children, training children to work together in taking care of the house and teaching children to live independently.
		Affection: Cared for with affection, took care of the child when sick and took the child on vacation
		Protection: Teaching children to be disciplined, reminding them of dangerous things and always keeping an eye on them.
		Status Determination: Supporting children's growth and development by providing brain teaser games
		Economics: All children's needs are met

No	Subject	Summary
5	Jek	Socialization: Teaching children to live independently, and organizing the division of home duties
		Affection: Caring for children with affection, when children are sick, they are treated with affection
		Protection: Remind them what is good and what is not, play accordingly, sometimes you supervise them too
		Status Determination: Economic limitations cannot fulfill the child's support needs
		Economics: All children's needs are met

Source: Secondary Data Processed by the Author Year 2024

Table 2 above shows the results of interviews with informants (single fathers) with various similar patterns in carrying out their respective family functions. From the five categories of family functions, it appears that these functions are carried out by them with all limitations, both in terms of skills, time and limited funds. Limited funds are the fundamental thing that makes them unable to carry out other functions, especially the function of fulfilling economic needs. As a detailed description of the similarities and differences in the patterns they practice, the following will present a recapitulation of the implementation of family functions based on the functions and by each informant.

Table 3 Recapitulation of Family Function Implementation

No	Family Function	Subject				
		Sianipar	Bambang Purwanto	Bambang Eka	Rahmin	Jek Man Tarigan
1	Socialization	Teaching Pattern				
2	Affection	Fun Pattern	Fun Pattern	Fun Pattern	Fun Pattern	Boring Pattern
3	Protection	Supervision pattern	Supervision pattern	Supervision pattern	Disciplinary pattern	Supervision pattern
4	Status Determination	Pattern of meeting children's needs	Patterns do not meet the needs of the child			
5	Economics	Pattern fulfilled				

Source: Secondary Data Processed by the Author Year 2024

Table 3 above is a recapitulation table of the implementation of family functions by each selected subject and provides answers to each question given. In this table, it appears that all subjects in implementing the five (5) family functions have similar patterns. It can be said that the patterns practiced are all the same, namely teaching patterns, fun patterns, supervision patterns, patterns of meeting children's needs and fulfilling patterns. Except for the family of Jek man Tarigan, in fulfilling the function of affection, they actually carry out a boring pattern. Including in the implementation of the status fulfillment function, Jek Man Tarigan also practiced a different pattern from other families, namely running a pattern of not meeting children's needs.

When viewed from the implementation of family functions as shown in tables 2 and 3 above, it shows that the implementation of these functions has been carried out, although with various limitations. It is these limitations that cause the results to not be maximized. For example, the function of socialization with the case of a single father in this study, the children of this single family have committed negative behavior in the community, because it is caused by unsupportive home conditions. These negative behaviors include drinking alcohol with his friends, vandalizing public facilities and disturbing the comfort of others. Fathers who should instill ethical values and social norms are not doing so. The behavior of children of single parents will certainly

disturb society. When viewed from the function of affection, the role of parents, especially fathers as single parents, must be more intensive to build closeness and always consider the psychological aspects and welfare of their children, but on the contrary, if a single father (single parent) is cold and indifferent to something related to his child, it will have an impact on their children. For example, children's development at school and daily activities at home must be a concern for single fathers, as well as the intensity of fathers interacting with their children must also be focused, not just naturally. This will result in children not getting attention from a father. No exception in the implementation of the protection function, fathers who should also often pay attention, but on the contrary, do not supervise and control their children so that they are not trapped in promiscuity or involved in juvenile delinquent behavior.

Then the economic function, a child with insufficient economic conditions, commits theft to meet daily needs. When viewed from the function of determining status, a child is disobedient to his parents. The proof is that the child left home and did not continue his schooling, because they wanted to enjoy an atmosphere that made him happy. The child feels deep disappointment and is unable to come to terms with the situation.

What can be observed from the findings in the study is that the presence of family members, even in the category of a small family (nuclear family), determines the direction of development and the future of the children who are members of the family. There is a high dependency of each family member with their status and role. The loss or absence of the function of family members for individuals, or families in society will also have a negative impact on individuals and families. Emile Durkhem with the definition of society emphasizes that society is a unity in which there are differentiated parts. Durkhem's perspective is then emphasized in the theory of functionalism where the role of society is communal rather than individual. This theory states that society is formed from various factors and systems that are interrelated with each other. This means that a structured society has systems, subsystems and factors that are interrelated and have different functions and roles. These different functions and roles cause people to cooperate and depend on each other in order to create social order. This is because society in functional theory is likened to a whole subsystem that has its own functions and duties. The explanation of this theory reaffirms that family members as the smallest society also have interdependence. If one of them is absent, as in the case of the single father in the study, it will have an impact on the family and especially on the children as its members.

3.2 Constraints of Single Fathers in Implementing Family Functions

Obstacles are obstacles experienced by single fathers in carrying out family functions. An explanation of the obstacles faced by single fathers in carrying out family functions is something that must be described. This intends to describe and provide an overview of how the obstacles faced by single fathers in the implementation of family functions. In this study, some of the obstacles faced by single parents (informants) in carrying out natural family functions include time constraints, multitasking abilities and skill constraints related to household management and organization.

Time is the main obstacle for single parents, especially for single fathers where a single father must be able to manage his time between working, taking care of the house and caring for children. Not to mention the ability to multitask is an obstacle that is often faced by single fathers where some single fathers are unable to do something simultaneously like a mother who is accustomed to home duties and is able to do different jobs at one time.

Not to forget that skill constraints are part of the obstacles that often occur in single fathers where a father is required to have a skill in taking care of the house and caring for children. The skills referred to in this study are housekeeping skills such as taking care of clothes, cooking, and tidying up the house while the childcare skills referred to in this study are child health, taking care of sick children and the needs of girls. Clearly the obstacles faced by single parents in the study will be presented in the summary of the interview results as follows:

Table 4. Summary of Interview Results on Obstacles to Implementation Family Function

No	Subject	Summary
1	Sianipar	Time: Overwhelmed with dividing time, but as time went by and the children grew up, the problem of dividing time began to improve
		Multitasking: Unable to do so, the alternative is to share homework assignments with her children

No	Subject	Summary
		Skills: Taking care of the house is still under control, but taking care of the children is not optimal due to the limitations
2	Bambang	Time: Overwhelmed by dividing time between taking care of the house and taking care of the children Multitasking: Can't even often every day there is something that is left behind Skills: Taking care of the house and children is skillful but some of the needs of girls are not understood, have to learn a lot
3	Eka	Time: Overwhelmed in dividing time but after adapting, I got used to it Multitasking Difficult and unfocused in the process Skills: Taking care of the house is normal, taking care of children is also normal and can be done, but yes, the needs of girls need to learn more
4	Rahmin	Time: Chasing time but over time began to set a daily schedule so I got used to it and had scheduled activities so I was no longer in a hurry with time Multitasking: but yes, it's difficult because the focus of the work is only one, it can't be divided, you have to do something else Skills: Home affairs are manageable, children's affairs are also thankful, but yes, later I also have to learn about the needs of this girl later
5	Jek	Time: Until now time has always been an obstacle, a lot of time is spent working so home affairs or children are sometimes not taken care of Multitasking: Not being able to focus sometimes confused every morning what to start doing is really troublesome Skills: Taking care of the house is skillful and often neglected, the house is not clean and tidy, taking care of children is skillful but not so perfect in taking care of them

Source: Secondary Data Processed by the Author Year 2024

What can be concluded from the table above is that the various obstacles faced by informants in carrying out family functions can be due to external and internal factors. What is apparent from the study is that the internal factor is the main obstacle. This means that the absence of a person, or mother, which then makes a single father take care of children and households a problem in itself. Theoretically, it is explained that the interrelationships between communities are functional and interdependent; if one part stops functioning, it will affect other functions. This means that if one part of society falters and suddenly changes, it will affect the rest of society. Similarly, Talcott Parsons' study in functional structural theory that a society as a system consisting of sub-systems that are interconnected with each other. In this theory a family is considered to have parts consisting of a father, a mother, children and other family members. Each member here is considered a sub-system, each of which has its own function. These functions have certain consequences for the family members and for the family as a whole. Therefore, the absence of the role of a mother figure will automatically be replaced by a father, which will certainly change the functions that exist in the family, and will have consequences for the members in it (Lauer, 1989).

The family is the smallest sphere of a society. When viewed from a pure meaning, the family consists of a husband and wife and immature children who form a social unit in society (Ma'arif, 2010). The family is the first place for children to hone their brain abilities, character building, nurturing, and introducing the environment and developing the ability of all its members to be able to socialize well (BKKBN, 2017). In every

family, each person or individual has their own *tuaga* or *war*. According to Beegle (1964), status roles can be interpreted as something that is expected in certain statuses and roles. Status roles are the active aspects of position and function as well as the static processes of structure. Roles are also the behavior of a person in a certain status, each person may have a number of statuses and is expected to fill the role that corresponds to that status. In a sense, status and role are two aspects of the same phenomenon. Status is a set of rights and obligations. A role is the performance of that set of obligations and rights.

In general, a person's role is linked to the expectations of others or society towards the position. For example, a father who abandons a child, which can be concluded that he does not carry out his role as a father properly in accordance with the customs and habits or rules that apply in the culture of a particular society or religious principles, in this case he is called a father who does not carry out his role as a parent properly. This is because a father is obliged and must take care of and educate children properly in line with his role as a provider of education.

4. CONCLUSION

From the implementation of the socialization function on the five subjects, all single fathers carry out the socialization function well, where each subject has similarities in the implementation of this function such as the formation of children's personalities to be more independent. Then From the implementation of the affection function in the five subjects, there are differences in Mr. Jek Man Tarigan where he tends to be boring in carrying out the affection function, while the four subjects, namely Mr. Sianipar, Bambang, Eka and Rahmin, are more fun in their implementation.

Meanwhile, from the implementation of the protection function in the five subjects, all single fathers carry out the protection function well, where Mr. Sianipar, Bambang, Eka and Jek form their protection such as supervision by warning their children about things that are not good or things that are dangerous, but there is a slight difference with Mr. Rahmin where he forms his protection in the form of discipline. Then From the implementation of the status determination function on the five subjects, all fathers carry out their functions well where all subjects fulfill their children's needs as much as possible even though some subjects experience unfavorable conditions, but just adjust them. From the implementation of the economic function in the five subjects, all fathers carry out their economic functions and can meet the needs of their children.

So, the time is an obstacle that all single fathers experience because managing time is a difficult thing for them, an event is sometimes unexpected, it is difficult for them to control these unexpected conditions. Then multitasking is an obstacle that all single fathers experience where they cannot do a lot of work at one time but for some light work according to them they can still handle it, such as when bathing and washing clothes. Finally, constraints that single fathers often experience in the management of female children where the needs of many female children that single fathers do not understand while for constraints on taking care of the house on the neatness of the house such as clothes that are not neatly arranged and unmanageable eating affairs but they have their alternatives in overcoming the problems they experience.

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