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**THE PARENT ROLE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD CHARACTER BUILDING  
(Descriptive Study at SPS DAHLIA DESA SUNDAWENANG KECAMATAN  
PARUNGKUDA KAB. SUKABUMI )****<sup>1</sup>Dwi Hayantina Sunarni, <sup>2</sup>Tita Rosita**<sup>1,2</sup> IKIP Siliwangi<sup>1</sup>dhayantina10@gmail.com**ABSTRACT**

Having children who has a good character is every parent wish. For having this good character its need to be done from early age. All the parents has an important role on building this character to their children. Children as a good imitators will do what they see, so that the parent in this case need to be a good role model to the children. Like a wise words say an apple never fall far from the tree, so its mean childrens is the reflection of their childrens. If we want to have children with good character so the parent must have a good character too. So that the parent has a main role to building this early age children. Every child is like a clean white paper, they will follow every direction that been given to them. Not only the parents, school and the enviroentment having a huge role to building this children character. But back again if the parents already put the values of the good character the children wont absorb other influence from their environment. So it means that father and mother roles in the family becoming the most important things on this children character building. Other than that the parent responsibilities to their children character building need to be their main concern.

**Keywords :** parents role, character education, early childhood

**PRELIMINARY**

Basically every parents wish a smart and well behaved child in everyday life, so one day they will be an excellent child and tough through every challenge in the future. But we need to realize that an excellent generation like this wont grow by themselves. They really need a good environment that exist in that purpose, that making all childrens potention grow possibly so its become more healthier, smart, and well behave. In this case parents has a main roles. Full of loving atoshpere, willing to accept childrens no matter what they are, appreciate children potention, giving stimulations that rich with every development aspect, whether cognitively, affective, socioemotional, morality, religion, and psikomotoric, all of that is a real answers for a well character generation growth in the future.

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The Laws of the National Education System said that education is a shared responsibility between family, society and government. School is a second fase from the first education in the family, because the first education and the basic is obtained by child from their family. On this period a right and good learning foundation is important. On their development, a children not only need attentions from their family and school but they need the attention from the society environment. This environment one day will give a huge influence to a children development. Ki Hajar Dewantara, as a Father of Indonesian Education said that : “ *An education should be done cooperatively beetween family is the key because family is the main foundation on building Intelligence Quotientt (IQ) and Emotional Quotient (EQ).*”

Haryoko (1997: 2) think that environment has a huge influence as a stimulant on children development. Parents have a huge role on building children character. The reality around the society, that even without we notice every behavior along with the parent good character or not it will be imitates by the childrens. Childrens doesn't know what have they done is good or not, because preschool age learn from what they seen. The education about attitude, behavior, and a good language will affect the good children character building need to be done since early age.

Is a huge concern when seeing the reality at SPS Dahlia the parents seems doesn't really care about their childrens, their values, future goals, and the motivations that will help them, even though they knowing that childrens not just only needed which right or wrong, but they need to making a right decisions and have they own responsibility.

To building a good character to the children need a good cooperations between parents, and the society. The teacher or the educator have a main roles and major to a children character building, because in the school environment childrens will be created into a high quality humans after the educations that given by family. Departed from those background, the researcher Is mean to further peeling the point of this Parents Role on Building Early Age Children Character (Descriptive Study at SPS Dahlia Desa Sundawenang).

## **THEORITICAL REVIEW**

### **Parent Role In Family**

Family is the smallest component in the society. Keluarga consist of husband and wife; husband, wife, and children; husband and child; or wife and child. Inside one family, parent has a main role on teach their childrens remembering the parent is a *madrosatul uula* because inside family human is born to grow and being adults. Form and the content of the education ways on the family will always affect the growth and the development of their behavior and attitude on every humans. The education that gotten from the family will used by the children as the base to follows the next education in school.

Parent is the family component that consist of father and mother, and is a result from a legal bond of marriage that can create a family. Parent have a responsibility to teach, nurturing, and lead their childrens to reach the certain stages that will deliver childrens to be ready on society life. While the above description about parent, cannot be separated from the description of a family, because parent is a part of a big family which the most of it have been replaced by the main family that consist of father, ibu, and children. If it reviewed according to a Laws No. 10 of 1972, family thatt consist of father, mother and children of a blood ties or law. Family on its relation with the children identically as a place or nurturing institutions which can give much affection, breading activities, effective and economical. Inside those family childrens is having their first time direct early experience that will be use as their provision of life in the future through physical training, social, mental, emotional, and spiritual.

After we knowing the parent description we can understand that parent has a main role on giving education to the children. What parent give along children early life will imprint and carried until the children entered a next fase of life. So that parent play a main role to decide the childrens life. But the parent role not just only for the mother but need a good cooperation between father and mother. As for the role and the function of the parents to the children education divide into:

#### 1. Mother Role

On most family, mother is having the main role to their childrens. Since the child was born, mother always stays beside them. Mother giving foods and drinks, taking care, and always hangout with the childrens. That's why most of children always their mother more than other family member. A mother education to their child is a basic education that cannot be ignored at all. So that, a mother need to be a wise and good at educating their child. To some people says that a mother is a nation educator. Its so real how heavy it is to be a good teacher and good household ruler. Whether its good or bad the mother education to their children will affected to their development and their children attitude one day. A mother will always worried and always fullfil what their children wants, even if its not good enough. As long as every expression contains love and affection inside mothers heart, the childrens will easily obey like employee to their boss. As the functions itself and the responsibility as a family member, can be concluded that mother role on children educations is a resource and lovers, caregiver and keeper, place to pour out your heart, life caretaker inside household, personal life leader, emotional educators.

#### 2. Father Role

Lots of people thought that father just working for living to support family and mother is leading and educating childrens and doing house chores. However parents should working together to educating children, not just the mother do. Because father is a

leader, teacher, and family caretaker. The father attitude will affect to the children personality. Father is a identification person to a children, the benchmark or a scale to their behavior. Children education is puposing to lead children to maturity ways so the children will having the balance between feelings and cultural sense and can create the balance on their future life. Without any mean to discriminate the job and father and mother responsibility In the family, reviewed from its function and the responsibility as a father, can be put forwarded here thatt fathers role in children educations that more dominant as a: control source inside the family, the family connector to society or the world outside, a security giver to all the family member, the protector from outside threats, judges or the one that will the law if theres any fights, educators from rasional aspect.

From above descriptions we can concluded that no matter its father or even mother will have the same important role on educating their children especially on the children character building. So its mean that father and mother role is very important and having a huge influence to a children life, so it need a cooperation issues between father and mother.

### **Character Education**

Before we disscussing about these character education we need to know first what is character mean. Character is the values of a humans behavior that connected to The One Almighty God, themselves, to other humanbeing, environment, and the nation that been created inside mind, attitude, feelings, words, and action according to religious issues, law, manners, culture, and customs. Character is a personal attitude that relatively stable to an indivual person that becoming a basic to a attitude appearance inside the standart values and the high norm.

Charcter based on the values and the norm (Prayitno and Belferik Manullang, 2010). An character education is a system to a children character implant values which cover the education component, conciousness or desire, and an action to do those values, whether to The One Almighty God, themselves, eac other, environment, even the nations so that beoming an insan kamil humans.

Character leading is included inside the material that need to be taught and controlled and realized by the students on their everyday life. The problem is, along this time character education in school just reach the norm intoductions stage or the values, and havent done on the internalisation stage and real action around every day life. According to Law No 20 of 2003 About National Education System on Article 13 chapter 1 said that education ways is consist of formal education, non formal, and informal that need to complete each other and enriched it. Informal education is a family and environment education ways. Informal education is having a huge role and contribution in the education success. Along this time, informal education especially inside the family

environment haven't giving a certain contribution to support the result of the competition and student character building. Business and relatively high scale of parent work activities, lack of understanding to educate their children inside family environment, the influence of the association around, and the influence of electronic media can be a negative influence to a children character development.

We need to be a good parents if we want to have a good character children. Remembering that education inside family is included inside Informal education according to Law No 20 of 2003 About National Education System Article 13 chapter 1 above, so that the parent need to have an understanding and abilities to educate their children in a good children character building.

## DISCUSSION

Parents role in early childhood character building have a responsibility to creating children personality which is teach or creating children to having a good attitude around the society even in the front of The One Almighty God. Creating the children personality is to creating a children with good character.

### 1. Teach About Honesty

Honesty isn't a character that comes by itself and isn't an attitude that comes by itself. Parents is expected to giving an example about honest attitude in everythings in the front of their child. We need to tell to the childrens that honesty will always win and every lies will loose, and we need to say that theres no space for lies.

### 2. Teaches Courage

Teaches courage to children is mean to give them the understandings, and mental attitude about courage. Brave enough to do something which is consist with religious guidance accompanied by responsibility courage. Don't let the children turn into a timid and cowardly person. Some kind of this attitude will causing the children can not doing anything in the front of other people. We need to grow the assertive attitude and courage to facing any obstacles. Heres some ways to teach about courage:

- a) Show the examples about the struggle that need courage.
- b) Take childrens to see an even or a occasion that can upgrade the children courage
- c) Teach the childrens about courage attitude, teach is mean to give childrens a chances to having "courage" when asking the courage to appear.

### 3. Patient lesson

The first step in order for children to be patient is not to spoil the children. The next step is giving the understanding and the example of a patient goodness to exampany story. Patient can upgraded friend and it will comes the reward. The patient attitude will give benefits to the childrens itself, which is:

- a. Not easily discouraged

- b. Not envy
- c. Receive (not complaining or not grumbled)
- d. Mature child

#### 4. Simplicity Lesson

Teaching the simplicity lesson is a part of giving a character according to Prophet Muhammad SAW. Parents is responsible to equip their children with simplicity attitude, so one day the children wont ask too much. How to teach the simplicity is to give the example of parents simplicity attitude. Less talk but giving many examples is an effective ways to teach the simplicity. Parents are not allowed to give a luxury way of living lesson, simplicity is the best way.

#### 5. Straight Thought Lesson

A practical way of teaching the children to straight thinks is to make the children use their logical way to think. The law of cause and effect is important to deliver to the children as a straight thinks understatement support. To make children think straight and wide is to invite them to discuss, so that the communication between parent and the children is expected not got to disconnected by working activities. Children is formatted to be wide open in the front of their families.

#### 6. Responsibility Lesson

Responsibility is to do every tasks with well. To create responsibility we need to give a variety task or works to children. The thing that to be rembered by parents is the task that children do is not to see the result this just only to give them a responsibility, that's the important thing. If we seen children do some mistakes while they do their task, don't get angry directly. Scold them with a familiar, tender, and cool hearted words while teach them how to do their task. Teach responsibility to children is strived with an effective ways and fun.

#### 7. Discipline Lesson

From the original language (discipline : English) mean orderlines. Orderlines is tied between someone attitude with rules/law/custom of the society where the someone behavior is taking place. The purpose of the children discipline is to makes children can behave like it been expected by the society environment. Starting with routine task and easy to monitorised. On giving the discipline attitude parent need to consistent to be a good examples.

#### 8. Teach the Values of Fighting Spirit

Its very important to give children the values of a fighting spirit. Do not the reverse act, children will growth the despair attitude, complaints, and not get excited to everything. People with desperation is a people with weak will, and this kind of attitude will end up

to careless attitude. Everytime childrens will do their task make sure to give them spirit with telling the benefits of the learning and the loss of not learning.

Beside the things above, the most important thing on building early children character is :

#### 1. Religious Lesson

Religious education should be done by the parent as early as its can so that they can taking chances to get used the attitude where it should be taught by the p[arents. The purpose is to lead human to maturity so that the student will having a balance between mind and attitude and can create the balance of the concrete deeds. So on with the religious education, can lead children to faith maturity.

#### 2. God Lesson

Knowledge about god from parents next will enriched by children with their experience and they believe. Generally, the point of God to children is more fixed to father issues (Alex Sabrur, 1986). Putting the understatement to children that God is “the Khalik” which mean nature creator. The children don’t need to give the understanding about form and the substance of Allah SWT, but the the habitude of its power that need to be said to the children. The Wise, The greatest, The Strongest, The One and etc, its need to be said to children. Give them the understatement and the understanding that ever nature phenomenon is happen by God’s will Te Most Powerfull. God’s role is very great and real.

#### 3. Faith Lesson

Teach something to children don’t need to be too serious, constricted but its expected with a relax and fun atmosphere. Included to faith lessorn. While singing, working, exercise, recreation, and other activities that can be inserted with faith lesson so the children wont feel bored and under pressure. Little by little faith will attached and tied by children heart which is the parent already formatted.

#### 4. Norm Values Lesson

On the first year of the elementary school children is starting to act based on parents morarily, teacher, and certain adult on the of the society authorities and they with all the rules that need to be obey. The growth and the development of children morality along with the intelligence development. Way to teach the children about morality. Giving experience – experiencing and giving example – a good morality example, need to be given since early chilhood. Social interaction between the children and their friends that has a big role on their morality development. Morality understatement about which one was right or wrong, which one good or not good will owned by the children after having values from every experience and examples that they have been experiences. As the key of success teaching the morality values to the children is to create the children environment that safe and orderly.

### 5. Worship Lesson

Parents main responsibility is giving a good examples of the worship behavior in the front of their children. Boys and girls are having a diversity and take lesson of the worship. Boys, the experience will much more meaningfull than a thousand words of wisdom. Different with the girls, sometimes words of wisdom is needed more dominant than do the direct activities.

### CONCLUSION

Parents are having an important role on children character building. What the children having on their early age will forever stays inside the children on their next fase of life. This become a reason why parents should giving the best education to their kids since early ages. Parents should be a good example to their children because children will imitate what their parents do remembering that children is a good imitators.

Parents role inside the family becoming the center of the children character building. Mother and father should share the roles while they teach their child so that will create a good cooperation and balance on educating children. Other words parents should do their resposibility to their children. The most important thing from all of this is giving a religious lesson and morality since early age.

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