



EXPERIENCE AND IMPACT OF PARENTING, CULTURE ON INFANT FROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT: A PHENOMENOLOGICAL STUDY

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ABSTRACT

The development of every child in the early stages of life is highly dependent on parents, especially mothers, who will help with all their needs. The purpose of this study is to determine the experience and impact of parenting and environmental patterns on infant growth and development. Method: This study uses a qualitative method with a descriptive phenomenological approach. This study involved 8 participants and with a purposive sampling technique according to the inclusion criteria. Data was collected through interviews and data was analyzed using thematic analysis. Results: Based on the results of the interview analysis conducted, several themes were obtained related to the research objectives, namely: 1) Infant growth and development, 2) Parenting. 3) Culture. 4) The impact of parenting and culture on growth and development. Conclusion: 8 informants have children of different ages. There is no delay in child growth and development, the type of parenting in this study is democratic and authoritative. There are positive and negative impacts of parenting and culture on growth and development.

Keywords: culture; environment; experience; growth and development

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INTRODUCTION

Growth and development are two different things but they are interrelated and very important. Growth can be measured from the physical form of the child, for example height and weight, while development can be measured from the motor, cognitive, sensory and social abilities of the child himself.(Hafizhah Az-Zahra et al., 2023). Parenting patterns in the family are very important in the process of child growth and development in the future. Parenting patterns in the psychosocial aspect that lead to positive development. Indicators that influence positive growth and development are needed to assess how far the parenting patterns are given by parents or families and how the application of cultural values in the family. Parenting patterns in the family are a series of actions or activities played by parents in the family in their environment, as well as environmental conditions regulated by parents, children are able to adapt, so that the goals of the parenting patterns applied by parents are achieved(Hafizhah Az-Zahra et al., 2023)

Child development factors are greatly influenced by the social environment. The most important thing in the process of social development is the family consisting of parents certainly differ from one family to another. Parenting patterns are a description of the attitudes and behavior of parents and children in interacting, communicating during parenting activities. This will affect the development of the child(Anggraeni, 2019)The aim of the research is to find out the experiences and impacts of parenting patterns and culture on infant growth and development.

METHOD

This research is a qualitative research with a descriptive phenomenological approach. Qualitative methods are used to obtain in-depth data, data that contains the meaning of exploring "how?" and "why?" questions related to social problems or phenomena (O'Brien et al., 2014). The participants in this study were mothers who had babies aged 0-12 months and in the growth and development period. To obtain accurate data, the research team determined the research subjects using the purposive sampling method. The informants in this study were 8 informants. This study took place in 3 stages, namely the preparation stage, the implementation stage and the final stage. This ethical test was conducted by the Research Ethics Commission of Universitas Prima Indonesia with ethical feasibility information No. 065/KEPK/UNPRI/EC/IV/2025. Data was collected through interviews. study analyzed data using the thematic analysis method. Thematic analysis is one way to analyze data with the aim of finding themes through data that has been collected by researchers. The steps of data analysis that will be carried out are: 1) Researchers will read interview transcripts repeatedly. 2) Record data to be used as the beginning of code discovery. 3) Group the initial codes that have been obtained and then develop the initial theme. 4) Review the themes that have been obtained. 5) Interpret each theme and then develop it by providing an explanation of the essence. 6) Write and develop the report as a whole.

RESULT

Based on the results of the interview analysis conducted, researchers have identified several themes:

Infant Growth and Development.

Age 6-7 Months. From the results of in-depth interviews, it was obtained that participants aged 6-7 months were able to pass through several phases as conveyed by participant [P3]. This is in accordance with the following statement by participant [P3]:

"...Nengkurep can now move back and forth, learn to jerk" [p3]

"...at 9 months old he can already sit but still needs help" [P7]

Another participant also provided information that he had a 1 year old child who was in the learning to walk phase. The following is a statement from participant [P8]:

"...Thank God, I can walk, but sometimes you have to hold me and watch because you're still walking one step at a time" [P8]

Parenting Patterns

The results of this study indicate that daily activities of babies are activities that can improve the ability of baby's growth and development such as playing with parents, interacting, tearing paper, eating, drinking, learning to walk and spending time with family, found 2 participants who applied the authoritarian parenting style where the family has special rules that must be obeyed by children and those closest to them for the good of the family. The results of this study indicate that daily activities of babies are activities that can improve the ability of baby's growth and development such as playing with parents, interacting, tearing paper, eating, drinking, learning to walk and spending time with family. Participant strategies in dealing with GTM are that participants make alternatives in feeding, either by going out and continuing to feed until the food portion is sufficient. Participant strategies in dealing with GTM are that participants make alternatives in feeding, either by going out and continuing to feed until the food portion is sufficient.

Culture

The results of this study found that religious values were applied in accordance with the beliefs held by participants in daily activities such as praying. Religious values are to place the foundation of faith through the beauty of piety and good character. research results obtained One participant implemented customs including using amulets on babies and using

spices in the umbilical cord care process. The results of the study found that there were customs carried out by Chinese participants, namely rituals in the first month.

Impact of Parenting Patterns and Culture on Infant Growth and Development

From the research results, it was found that there were positive and negative impacts of parenting and culture on infant growth and development. The positive impact of this research from democratic parenting patterns is that communication within the family can be established well. The results of the study showed that 5 participants stated the positive impact of the culture applied in the growth and development of children, namely, social interaction, helping each other and strengthening friendships. The negative impact of authoritarian parenting is that children have a quiet attitude and tend to be individualistic. One participant was found to have a closed nature in raising children because he was afraid of the perspective of society towards participants who did not follow customs.

DISCUSSION

Baby Growth and Development

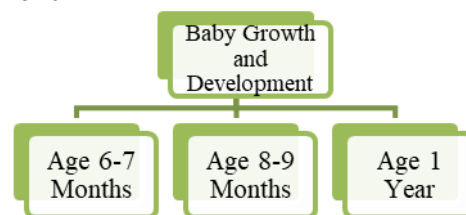


Figure 1. Theme 1 (Infant Growth and Development)

Every child will experience a period of growth and development. Growth is a process that refers to a physiological increase in the size of cell multiplication or differentiation. The results of this study indicate that 8 informants have children of different ages. At the age of 6-7 months, babies have passed the sitting, prone, and crawling phases. 3 children from participants aged 8-9 months with a history of growth and development can already sit, crawl and say one or two words, and 2 children from participants aged 1 year with a history of growth and development have started learning to walk. There is no delay in the child's growth and development, this is in accordance with Baby Development Age 3-6 months, the child is able to turn from prone to supine, lift the head as high as 90°, keep the head upright and stable, hold a pencil, reach for objects within reach, hold his own hands, try to expand his view, direct his eyes to small objects, make high-pitched happy sounds or squeal and smile when seeing interesting toys/pictures when playing alone. Baby development Age 6-9 months, is able to sit (tripoid position) alone. Age 9-12 months, the baby is able to lift his body to a standing position, learn to stand for 30 seconds or hold on to a chair, can walk with guidance, stretch out his arms/body to reach for the desired toy, hold a pencil tightly, put objects in his mouth, repeat and imitate sounds heard, say 2-3 syllables the same without meaning, explore the surroundings, curious, want to touch anything, react to soft or whispered sounds, enjoy being invited to play 'peek-a-boo' and get to know family members, afraid of people he doesn't know (Yulizawati & Afrah, 2018).

Parenting

Parenting patterns have a fairly important position in the social process within a family and have a significant influence on a child's life. This is in line with the opinion (Anggraeni, 2019) mentions that parenting is a fairly important factor in inhibiting or developing a child's creativity. Based on this opinion, it can be interpreted that parenting is a process in which parents will provide assistance in various aspects of a child's life, both from the child's needs, the child's pleasures and the most important thing is the child's education. (Anggraeni, 2019). The results of this study show that 6 out of 8 informants have a democratic parenting

style that prioritizes closeness between parents and children. This is in line with research conducted by (Handayani et al., 2020) The democratic pattern is a parenting pattern where parents are able to work together and be cooperative in providing support in daily life. The results of this study found 2 participants who applied the authoritarian parenting style where the family has special rules that must be obeyed by children and those closest to them for the good of the family. This is relevant to the research conducted by (Handayani et al., 2020) In this study, authoritarian parenting is a pattern of guidance that applies very strict rules to children. There is almost no tolerance for what has been determined by the family.

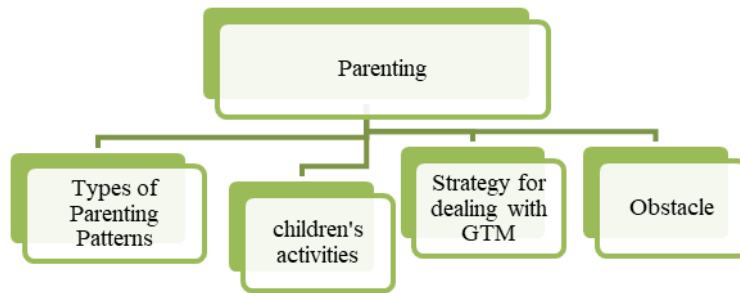


Figure 2. Theme 2 (Parenting Patterns)

The results of this study indicate that daily activities of babies are activities that can improve the ability of baby's growth and development such as playing with parents, interacting, tearing paper, eating, drinking, learning to walk and spending time with family. This is relevant to the research conducted by (Yulizawati & Afrah, 2018). Several factors have an influence on growth and development, including internal factors including genetics, ethnicity, gender, age and external factors namely the prenatal period, natal, postpartum, physical and chemical environment and psychological. Participant strategies in dealing with GTM are that participants make alternatives in feeding, either by going out and continuing to feed until the food portion is sufficient. The strategy for dealing with GTM carried out by participants is in accordance with research conducted by (Rika Widianita, 2023) Basic Feeding Rules are the basic rules for the practice of feeding children. These rules explain how to help children recognize and feel the signals to eat. 2 participants experienced obstacles in caring for babies such as being pregnant with their second child, being alone in caring for the child so they were afraid of danger when the baby was left alone even for a short time. The obstacles felt by these mothers are relevant to the research conducted by (Purnamasari et al., 2023) In a nurturing environment, mother-child interaction greatly influences a child's growth and development. Parents play an important role in helping to optimize a child's development. They must provide stimulation in all areas of fine motor development, gross motor development, language development, and social interaction.

Culture

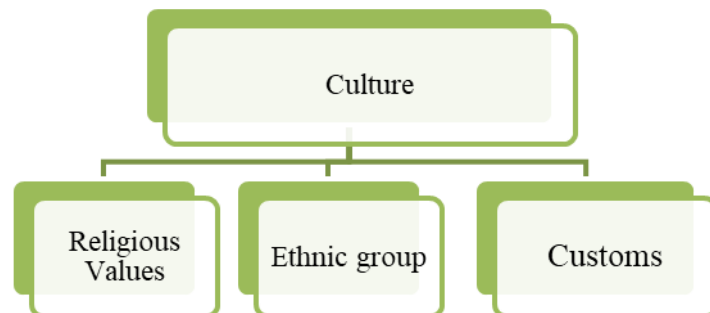


Figure 3. Theme 3 (Culture)

Culture has an ideal form that is abstract, intangible, and located in the minds of the people in the community where the culture lives. The ideal form of culture is also called customs or

traditions.(Masita et al., 2024)The results of this study found that religious values were applied in accordance with the beliefs held by participants in daily activities such as praying. Religious values are to place the foundation of faith through the beauty of piety and good character. In line with the research conducted(Oktarina & Latipah, 2021)By providing children with basic religious education, they can learn to know their God, be able to know good and bad behavior, know about short prayers and other religious values.(Oktarina & Latipah, 2021).According to WHO, the way to care for the umbilical cord is to simply clean the base of the umbilical cord, not the end, clean it using water and soap, then air dry it until it is completely dry, then the umbilical cord is cared for in a sterile, clean, dry, and detached condition and is free from umbilical cord infection.(Ropina, 2023)This is not relevant to the research results obtainedOne participant implemented customs including using amulets on babies and using spices in the umbilical cord care process.The results of the study found that there were customs carried out by Chinese participants, namely rituals in the first month. This is relevant to the research conducted by(Gunawan, 2022)The Magwee or Manyue ritual is known as the celebration of the first month for babies.

The Impact of Parenting and Culture on Infant Growth and Development

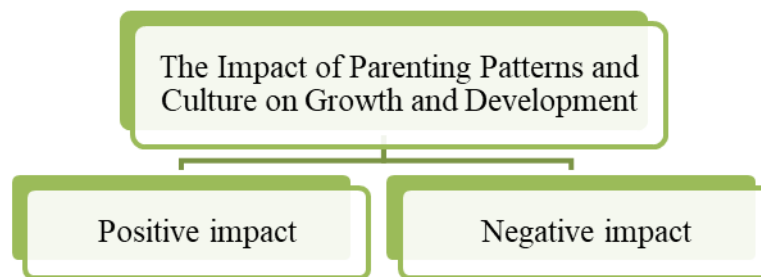


Figure 4. Theme 4 (The Impact of Parenting and Culture on Infant Growth and Development)

From the research results, it was found that there were positive and negative impacts of parenting and culture on infant growth and development. The positive impact of this research from democratic parenting patterns is that communication within the family can be established well. This is relevant to the research conducted by(Handayani et al., 2020)Good family education or primary education is found in the democratic parenting pattern type. The existence of a democratic pattern can provide a positive effect or role for children to be able to have good morals and social attitudes.(Handayani et al., 2020)The results of the study showed that 5 participants stated the positive impact of the culture applied in the growth and development of children, namely, social interaction, helping each other and strengthening friendships. This is in accordance with research conducted by(Gunawan, 2022)The culture practiced by Chinese people is manifested in the meaning of gratitude for safety expressed in an atmosphere of togetherness with others.

The negative impact of authoritarian parenting is that children have a quiet attitude and tend to be individualistic. The results of this study are also relevant to research conducted by (Sinambela & Sinaga, 2024) shows the high negative impact of authoritarian parenting on child development, starting from the emergence of personality problems, behavior, to learning disorders and children's ability to socialize with the environment. One participant was found to have a closed nature in raising children because he was afraid of the perspective of society towards participants who did not follow customs. This is relevant to research conducted by(Awaliah, 2012)There are several factors that influence parenting patterns, namely the personality of the parents. Each person is different in their energy levels, patience, intelligence, attitude and maturity. These characteristics will affect the ability of parents to meet the demands of the role as parents and how sensitive the parents are to the needs of their children.(Awaliah, 2012).

CONCLUSION

8 informants have children of different ages. There is no delay in child development, the type of parenting pattern in this study is democratic and authoritative. There are positive and negative impacts of parenting patterns and culture on growth and development.

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