

**THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PARENTING PATTERN AND THE OLDEST
CHILD'S SELF CARE INDEPENDENCE AT PRESCHOOL AGE IN THE
PERMATA IBU KINDERGARTEN
GUNUNG ANYAR SURABAYA**

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Abstract

Self-care is the effort of preventing the occurrence of health problems. The parents who are too over protective and worried about their child's abilities will inhibit the child's independence in solving each of their problems. This research is purposed to find out the relationship between parenting pattern and the oldest child's self-care independence at the preschool age in the Permata Ibu Kindergarten Gunung Anyar Surabaya. The design of this research was an analytic with cross sectional approach. The population was all parents and their oldest children in 2015 whose age was 5-6 years as 48 parents and 48 oldest children. The 43 respondents were taken as the samples by using probability sampling in which simple random sampling technique was applied in this research. The independent variable was parenting pattern, whereas the dependent one was self-care independence. The instrument of the research used to collect the data was questionnaire. Moreover, they were analyzed by using Kruskal-Wallis statistic test with the significance level $\alpha = 0.05$. The result of the research showed that nearly half of the respondents (30.2%) applied a democratic parenting, whereas most of the children (62.8%) were independent in performing self-care. Furthermore, the result of Kruskal-Wallis test showed that $p = 0.004 < \alpha = 0.05$ means that H_0 was rejected and it showed that there was a relationship between parenting pattern and the oldest child's self-care independence at the preschool age in the Permata Ibu Kindergarten, Gunung Anyar, Surabaya. In conclusion, the parents with a democratic parenting can make the oldest children to be independent in performing self-care. Hence, they are expected to be able to choose an appropriate parenting pattern and train their children's self-care independence since the early age through their daily activities.

Keyword : Parenting Pattern, The Oldest Child's Self Care Independence, Preschool Age

1. Introduction

Childhood is an important period in growing process of self-reliance, so understanding and the opportunity that is given by parents to children in promoting independence is very crucial (Marini, 2008). Child care independence is characterized by the ability to perform simple daily activities, like eating without being fed, able to put on his/her own socks and shoes, and other activities without depending on others (Nakita, 2005). The oldest child (the eldest son) in this case is seen as the heir

to the culture, power and wealth, besides the oldest child is usually expected to be an example for his/her younger siblings. Parents have higher demands and expectations of the eldest child, so he/she can be more independent in carrying out its activities (Puspitaningrum, 2012). The child's independence to perform self-care is an effort to prevent the onset of health problems or problems due to development of the child (Herlina, 2013). If the child asks for a help and the attitude of parents who always want

to protect and feel anxiety to the child's ability is still maintained, it can inhibit the child's independence in solving any problems that face him/her (Hawari, 2007).

In one research found that 33.8% of mothers claim their oldest child is smarter in the class, and only 1.8% of the oldest child who admits their child is at the bottom in the class. That research was conducted on 12,000 respondents in the United States. The fact showed that the parents will be harsh if their eldest child gets bad score at school. Whereas on the second child and next, their attitudes are more lenient. In the research it was also proved that the oldest child generally has better academic achievement and higher IQ scores than the second and so on. The leader of the researcher, Joseph V argued that in fact the level of intelligence is not influenced by the order of birth, but rather to the treatment of parents to children. It could be due to the oldest child treated more disciplined and also gets assistance in learning to have better school achievement and that is also interesting from this survey that parents act firmly on the oldest child as they try to build a reputation. After the parents feel tough on his oldest child, next they tend to be more lax to him/her. Susan Whitebourne, a professor of psychology at the University of Massachusetts said that parents' assertive parenting on their oldest child was due to bear the burden and the expectations of them (Nakita, 2005).

Based on the research that has been conducted by Nayla Muchsinati (2007) Faculty of Psychology at State Islamic University of Malang on the relationship of birth order in the family with the independence of early childhood in Medina kindergarten Malang was obtained that in general the independence of early childhood in Medina kindergarten Malang was quite various, namely 23% high independence, 54% medium independence, and 23% low independence. The analysis also showed

that there was a relationship between birth orders in families with early childhood independence, which was indicated with the presence of significant differences in independence if it was seen from the the birth order of the child in a family. The results also showed that the oldest child was more independent than the middle child, and the last child was more independent than the middle child and the oldest child had an almost equal degree of independence to the last child.

In addition to the research above, there was a research that discussed about the parenting patterns to their children, and based on the research conducted by Joko Tri Suharsono et al in 2009 about the relationship of parenting patterns on social skills of preschool children in Pertiwi kindergarten, North Purwokerto showed that the child cared by an authoritarian parenting: 1 child had good social skills (5.3%), 7 children had enough social skills (36.8%), while children who had less social skills as 11 children (57.9%). Children with permissive parenting have good social skills was as 4 children (17.4%), quite social skills was as 10 children (43.5%), and less social skills was as 9 children (39.1%) while children are nurtured with a democratic parenting more than half had good social skills which was 27 children (79.4%), while children who had enough social skills and lack were as 3 children (8.8%) and 4 children (11.8%) and the results of the study can be concluded that there is a relationship between the parenting pattern on the preschool children's socialization skills in Pertiwi kindergarten, North Purwokerto.

Based on the preliminary studies conducted in Permata Ibu kindergarten Gunung Anyar Surabaya, it is found that the result of interviews with six parents who have oldest child at preschool age, 4 of them said that they were not bear to see their children performed daily activities by themselves, in addition they also said that if their children did self-care independently, the results were not

clean and untidy and it also required a long time then the parents should immediately took an action to help their children. While 2 of them told their children were quite independently to perform self-care with little direction, they said that their oldest child had been trained independently because he/she had a young sister/brother so the oldest child could be an example for her/him and sometimes help keep her/him.

The efforts that can be done are to train children's care independence as early as possible regardless of their birth order of children in families by giving their children the same opportunity and involving them in a variety of specific activities aimed at improving their independence of self-care children (Mulyani, 2005). Other efforts to do is to teach and give responsibility to them, such as making a schedule of daily activities from waking up in the morning to sleeping at night. Children's ability to manage their time would have a positive impact, they are able to be discipline and responsible to themselves. Giving positive reinforcement to the child's independence will motivate them to be able to do more to make themselves independent (Herlina, 2013).

2. Research Methodology

The purpose of this research was to understand the relationship between parents' parenting and the oldest child's self-care independence at preschool age in the kindergarten of Permata Ibu, Gunung Anyar Surabaya. This research is a quantitative research with correlation descriptive design with *cross sectional* approach. The population of the research was all parents with their oldest child of Permata Ibu Kindergarten Gunung Anyar Surabaya in 2015 whose age was 5 to 6 years as 48 parents and 48 students, whereas the number of the samples was 43 respondents. The sampling was a probability sampling with simple random sampling technique. The study was in June 2015. Analysis of

the data used Kruskal Wallis statistical test with $\alpha = 0,05$.

3. Result

The result of the research of parenting pattern on the oldest child's self-care independence will be described in the following table:

Table 1 The Frequency Distribution Based on Parenting Pattern of the Oldest Child at The Preschool Age in the Kindergarten of Permata Ibu Gunung Anyar Surabaya in 2015

Parenting pattern	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Authoritarian	12	27,9
Democratic	13	30,2
Permissive	11	25,6
Situational	7	16,3
Total	43	100

Based on the table 1 above almost half (30.2%) of the respondents used a democratic parenting pattern.

Table 2 The Frequency Distribution Based on The Oldest Child's Self-Care Independence at Preschool Age in The Kindergarten of Permata Ibu, Gunung Anyar Surabaya in 2015

Self-care independence	Frequency	Percentage (%)
not independent	0	0
quite independently	16	37,2
independent	27	62,8
Total	43	100

Based on the table 5.2 above, most (62.8%) of the respondents had performed self-care independently.

Table 3 Cross Tabulation of The Relationship between Parenting Pattern and the Oldest Child's Self-Care Independence at Preschool Age in the Kindergarten of Permata Ibu Gunung Anyar Surabaya in 2015

Parenting Patterns	Self-care independence				
	Not independent	Quite independent	Independent	Total	
	n	%	n	%	Σ %
1 Authoritarian	0	0	18	91,1	11
2 Democratic	0	0	32	76,1	11
3 Permissive	0	0	9	81,2	11
4 Situational	0	0	34	57,7	11
Total	0	0	137	62,4	11

According to the table 5.3 above shows that the 12 respondents of 43 respondents who used an authoritarian parenting pattern was almost entirely (91.7%) independent in performing self-care, from 13 respondents who used a democratic parenting pattern was almost entirely (76.9%) independent in it, the 11 respondents who used a permissive parenting was almost entirely (81.8%) quite independent in it, while 7 respondents who used a mixture parenting was majority (57.1%) independent in it.

Statistical test result was done by using Kruskal Wallis test. Calculation used SPSS 16 for windows with a significance level $\alpha = 0.05$, it was obtained that value $p = 0.004$ and $\alpha = 0.05$. It means that $p < \alpha$, then H_0 was rejected. It means that there is a relationship between Parenting Pattern and the Oldest Child's Independence in

self care at the Preschool Age in the Permata Ibu Kindergarten, Gunung Anyar Surabaya.

4. Discussion

4.1 Parenting Pattern

Parenting pattern has an important role in educating children, especially at the preschool age. Based on the result of the research in Permata Ibu Kindergarten, Gunung Anyar Surabaya in the table 5.6, it was obtained that almost half (30.2%) of the 43 respondents which are 13 persons used a democratic parenting. This result shows that quite a lot of parents who used a democratic parenting in educating the children. Democratic parents get more warm, and the child is given the freedom to conduct his activities but he remains under the supervision of the parent, besides the parent disciplines a child by advising him/her, explaining the aims and the objectives, giving understanding and trying to steer him/her rationally so it is possible for the child to become a person who is more responsible, confident and has a good character.

Baumrind in Judy et al (2012) which states that parents with democratic parenting always behave rationally that they always underlays their behavior on the ratio or thoughts. Parents are also realistic on the child's ability, give freedom on the child to choose and act something and their approach to the child is in a subtle way. This parenting will produce independent child characteristics, have self-controlled and have good relationship with friends.

The distribution data of parenting pattern of the oldest child in the Permata Ibu kindergarten showed that not all mothers apply a democratic parenting to their children but they also used an authoritarian, permissive and situational parenting pattern. Almost half of parents (27.9%) also used an authoritarian parenting which was as 12 people, while a minority of parents used a permissive parenting (25.6%), which was 11 people and the situational parenting (16.3%) was as 7 people.

Based on the data obtained from fulfilling the questionnaires, parents who applied authoritarian parenting to their children tend to be a little pushy towards their children with a good intention and scared them with the bad things that would happen if they did not want to listen to their advice. The result also showed that an authoritarian parenting is also quite widely used by parents of the oldest students in the kindergarten of Permata Ibu. Parents who used an authoritarian parenting had an adequate high of force control, strict in applying the variety of rules and very disciplined in educating their children. If parents used this parenting well for a positive purpose, it is possible that the life of the children at the preschool age could be more disciplined and obedient to their parents.

According to Dariyo (2007), this authoritarian parenting lays parents as a control of all children's activities. Children will always be under parental control. They will not be given the freedom to do everything that they want. Parents do not hesitate to apply hard rules so that their children become obedient. Parents think that the rule is stable and unchanged; it is often that the parents do not like the actions of children who protest, criticize, or deny them.

The result showed that a minority of parents used a permissive parenting (25.6%) was as 11 people and the situational parenting (16.3%) was as 7 people. The permissive parenting indicates that the freedom given by parents to their children is very exaggerated, but with a little guidance given, usually parents do not want to take a risk it seems that they let and always understand things done by their children, but sometimes the affection given is too excessive, parents give more help and do everything that their children desire so it is possible that the child will be spoiled. While in the situational parenting which is a mixture of a democratic, authoritarian and permissive parenting is freer in applying any rules

at home and sometimes they also do not have to bother to supervise them, parents can also be flexible to their children.

Gunarsa (2008) states that in a permissive parenting, parents provide too much freedom to their children. Parents tend not to prohibit or require anything. This parenting is strongly opposed to the authoritarian parenting. If in the authoritarian parenting puts the parents as a control / central in the family, so in the permissive parenting the child becomes the control in the family. Parents simply act as "policemen" who supervise, reprimand, and probably scold. Parents are unusual to get along with their children, their relationship is not familiar and feels that their children should know themselves.

Dariyo (2007) states that a situational parenting is a mixture of democratic, authoritarian, and permissive parenting. Parents do not use special parenting. Parents sometimes use different parenting in certain times. Parents are more flexible to their children and adjust parenting with the children's condition.

4.2 The Oldest Child Self-Care Independence at The Preschool Age

Based on the result of the research on the oldest child at the preschool age in the Permata Ibu Kindergarten, Gunung Anyar Surabaya, in Table 5.7 shows that a large majority (62.8%) of the 43 respondents have been independent in performing self-care. This result indicates that every parent wants his/her oldest child to be able to do his/her self-care by himself/herself without depending on others. The oldest child at the preschool age is appropriate for learning responsibility by exercising his/her independence through daily activities.

Hurlock in Agus, et al (2012) states that the oldest child is usually given the responsibility by parents to assist in taking care of and supervising younger

siblings, and is required to give a good example to his/her younger siblings, consequently the oldest child tends to adhere to the regulations that exist around it. Therefore, the oldest child is possible to reach self-independent sooner than younger siblings.

Most of the oldest child at the preschool age in the Permata Ibu Kindergarten Gunung Anyar Surabaya has been self-independent in performing self-care. It can be seen from the result of questionnaires that the child's independence of self-care can be shown from the children who are able to take a shower and wash their own hands, wear and undress themselves, feed themselves without being fed, go to school by themselves without getting accompanied by their parents and they are able to keep their own luggage by themselves.

The researcher's statement is in accordance with Wulandaru (2012) that in 5-6 years old children must be able to interact with others and begin to abide by the rules, can control their emotions, may be responsible, able to maintain their safety by themselves, accustomed to protecting the environment, show an attitude of independence, discipline and self-confidence.

4.3 Relationship between Parenting pattern and The Oldest Child's Self-Care Independence at The Preschool Age

The research result of the relationship of parenting pattern with self-care independence of the oldest child at the preschool age was done by using Kruskal Wallis correlation test at the significance level $\alpha = 0.05$. Calculation was done by using SPSS 16 for windows and it was obtained that the value $p = 0.004$ and $\alpha = 0.05$, $p < \alpha$ so that H_0 was rejected, it means that there is a relationship between parenting pattern and the oldest child's self-care independence at the preschool age in the Permata Ibu Kindergarten, Gunung Anyar Surabaya.

Based on the cross-tabulation table

5.8 shows that among 43 respondents, the 12 respondents who used an authoritarian parenting are almost entirely (91.7%) independent in performing self-care, from 13 respondents who used a democratic parenting was almost entirely (76.9%) of the respondents perform their own self-care themselves, from 11 respondents used permissive parenting is almost entirely (81.8%) of the respondents are quite independent in it, while 7 respondents who use a mixture parenting was majority (57.1%) of the respondents were independent in it.

The child's self-care independence taught by many parents will have a positive impact for children's health. In addition, it has the rights and obligations of parents as the primary responsible for educating their children. Children need the opportunity, support and encouragement from parents and families as well as the surrounding environment to be able to live independently. Therefore, parents need to teach independence as early as possible in accordance with the child's ability. According to Supartini (2004) things that the parents done when the child is sick, does not want to eat, sad, cries, acts aggressively, or is lying, in this case, a parent is required in order to be better prepared to carry out the role of parenting to the children so they have the life skills and can build independence optimally in the adulthood.

Based on the result of the research, it showed that among 43 respondents there were 12 respondents who used authoritarian parenting and 13 respondents who used democratic parenting are almost entirely (91.7%) and (76.9%) independent in performing self-care. It shows that many parents of the oldest child at the preschool age in the Permata Ibu Kindergarten Gunung Anyar Surabaya used an authoritarian and democratic parenting. In the authoritarian parenting pattern, parents tend to be disciplined, firm, tight and

stressed their child's adherence to the rules of their children made without giving an explanation. Parents will be emotional when their children did something that was not in accordance with the parent's desire. That makes the child will obey, obey with their parents, disciplined and self-independent in performing self-care.

Children who are grown up with this parenting although they look disciplined and independent in their daily life, feared to be unhappy, paranoid or always in fear, easy to be sad and depressed, happy to be out of the house when the parents do not apply this parenting wisely for a positive purpose, Indrawati (2006) states that the authoritarian attitude used by parents in parenting, will cause a significant psychological disorder in children's lives. According to Riyadi (2009) authoritarian parenting pattern does not mean that it can not be used in parenting and making the children's independence, it can be used when in a state of forced or critical for the children's health if the child does not want to listen.

While in the democratic parenting, parents who behave democratically prioritize more to the child, always gives guidance to him/her with guidance and explanation while providing limit and control to him/her so it can encourage him/her to be more confident and independent, especially in the term of performing self-care. Children need the opportunity, the support and encouragement of their parents to be independent. Parents also play a role as a nanny, so a proper parenting is needed to foster the child's independence.

According to Agus' research et al (2012), parents with a democratic parenting greatly stimulate the child's independence, the role of parents as mentors who pay attention to the activities and needs of children, especially in terms of interaction in the neighborhood and at school.

4.4 Limitations of Research

The process of collecting data by using questionnaires has weaknesses to be filled dishonestly by respondents so the results are less able to represent qualitatively. Questionnaire made by researchers themselves who are still unknown the level of validity and reliability as well as researchers should make a visit to the home of the respondents because the research period that coincides with the school vacation schedule so it takes a long time.

5. Conclusion

It is concluded that parents with a democratic parenting pattern can shape the oldest child of preschool age to become independent in self-care. Parents are expected to choose an appropriate parenting and train their child's self-care independence since an early age through daily activities.

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