

## THE ROLE OF PARENTS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

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### ABSTRACT

This article explores the important functions of childcare in child education. Children's education is a crucial period in children's growth and development, where a strong foundation is built for learning and growth later. Parents have a very important role in ensuring their children get an appropriate and supportive education from an early age. In addition, this article highlights the importance of rich stimulation and interaction in the home environment. Parents can provide educational games, read books, talk to children, and involve them in daily activities. Through these interactions, children can develop language, imagination, and fine motor skills. The article also emphasizes the importance of parents as partners in child development at an early age. Parents can communicate and collaborate with teachers or educators to understand their child's development and support their learning in schools or early childhood education centers. Successful cooperation between educators and parents can create a coherent and complete educational environment for children.

**Keywords:** *Early childhood education; Parental participation; The role of parents; Parents*

### INTRODUCTION

Because children develop rapidly in terms of physical abilities, feelings, social development, understanding concepts, and language, the home environment plays an important role in instilling a love of reading. If parents set an example by participating in reading activities, then the personality of children who like to read will be formed throughout their lives. Children who learn to read will be better able to assimilate the knowledge they gain later in life (Dermawan, 2021).

Based on God's Word, parents have the duty and obligation to impart knowledge to their children. Therefore, Islam expects all parents to equip their children with the best possible education, especially in religious subjects. The Word of Allah in written form At-Tahrim states: "O believers, preserve your personality and that of your family from the fires of hell, whose impulse is man and stone; Its protector is a heavenly being who becomes violent, hard, and deed." do not disobey Allah for what He commands them and always do what He commands" (Qs. At-Tahrim: 6) (Supriani, 2023). According to Islamic teachings, education should begin at the beginning of pregnancy. Early childhood education is very helpful in shaping the development of children's character.

Therefore, a child's parents, husband and wife, play an important role in her education from the moment she is conceived. Parents are responsible for a child's access to education. According to Leorad, parental involvement is an indication of the success of school leadership. Parental involvement is very important because schools and parents collaborate to realize aspirations and develop children's identities.

Parental participation in preschool is associated with strong reading, numeracy, and social skills, as well as good attitudes toward school. However, parental involvement in school is becoming increasingly difficult as more and more children are raised by single parents, grandparents, and adoptive parents, or when both parents are at home having to work. Adolescents from poor or abused households may find it difficult to establish relationships with adults in their schools (Hardiyanti, 2021). Ecology is a reflection of a system in humans that is not directly tied to it. The child is influenced by his mother's work. The individual exists within the macro system. Lastly, a chronosystem is a series of natural events and transitions that occur throughout a person's life. Epstein's ideas would support this ecological picture. Epstein's idea divides parental involvement in a child's education into six parameters: parenting, interaction, contribution or support to the educational institution, parental learning support at home, decision-making, and community collaboration.

The environment may also be used in the most intimate setting, i.e. the family environment. Especially during the Covid-19 pandemic, when learning is carried out at home and online, the child's closest environment is his family. The family is the smallest component in terms of the size of society that can be classified as a source of education for early childhood, and included as a source of learning because of the way it is used. Since the child was born, the family has lived in the same place. Language and communication are taught to early childhood based on individuality and its developmental phases to prepare them for school and life (Kurniawan, 2022).

exploration activities for children are very important because they allow them to learn directly from what they see around them. Because the environment is a powerful source of learning, children can develop a broad understanding of the concepts and information contained in them. In our environment, biotic (living) and abiotic (nonliving) components interact, providing stimuli to individuals as well as reactions to them. The environment around us also reflects our nature. Early childhood education prioritizes the fundamental management of physical development (fine and gross motor coordination), intellect (creativity, reasoning ability, emotional intelligence, and spiritual intelligence), and socio-emotional development (attitudes).

Every parent who has children must want their children to be successful in the future, both in terms of morals, education, and career. However, expectations often do not match reality, either due to communication barriers or parents' lack of understanding of how Islam provides education and guidance in treating children based on their proportions. Maintain the nature of the child (al-muhafazoh). Parents' efforts in educating their children must be based on the concept that every child is born in a natural state (pure). (Erica, 2019).



The process and strategy to prevent children from dropping out of school has been carried out systematically in Indonesia. However, when it comes to the strategy for children returning to school still have difficulties, as well as several obstacles and dilemmas to requires the right strategy. The purpose of this study is to examined the strategies of eradicating out-of-school children and the best practices of alternative schools to provide inclusive and free education Qualitative methods were chosen in the research process, primary data collection was carried out through in-depth interviews and focus group discussions (FGD) with 28 informants, includes policy makers, principals, teachers and students. The data was analyzed using thematic analysis ( Rosmilawati, 2024 ).

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transformative learning is learning that can change students' perspectives in meaning life experience. This transformative learning lead students to have critical awareness in seeing, understanding, or make sense of life experiences or realities what is seen or felt. Transformative learning or transformative learning developed during this time focusing on efforts to resolve internal conflicts within oneself individual to achieve harmony, because the self is a central and integral part of totality of personality ( Mustaqin, 2023 ).

Man is naturally inclined to seek and accept the truth. This happens even when the truth is only in their hearts. Parents always want their children to be moral, educated, and successful in their careers. However, there are times when such expectations are not realized, perhaps because of a communication breakdown or because parents do not understand the Islamic teachings on how to treat children properly.

National education is intended to help Indonesian people acquire intelligence while developing a dignified civilizational character, which includes self-confidence in God Almighty, integrity, mental and spiritual health, understanding, ability, creativity, independence, and independence. Education can also be viewed as an effort to preserve and improve all aspects of one's physical and spiritual nature. Becoming a human personality must occur gradually. In other words, the development of a comprehensive and complete identity as an individual, social, and as a divine human being can only be carried out if the process is carried out until the completion of its growth and development, to the peak of its ability (Zubairi, 2022).

Duties and Roles of Parents The family is the first unit and institution in society, and the ties within it are largely direct. It is there that the individual grows, where the initial stages of development are set, and where interaction with him begins; He acquires information, skills, interests and attitudes in life. The role of parents is very important in a family because most of a child's life is spent in the family environment, especially when the child is still in foster care or elementary school age, especially as a mother. To realize a quality nation, education must be built on a quality foundation. Every child needs proper education to improve his standard of life, therefore an institution is needed that is able to improve children's education through family education. Parents should not assume that family education is not

important, because education in the home is the main foundation that parents must give to their children. (Ruli, 2020).

It's important to note that sexuality refers to our full expression as male or female, not just genitals, it also has nothing to do with "flaunting" or teaching how to have sex. According to Ulwan and Hathout, sex education that must be followed by parents or teachers is separated into the following stages:

1. At the young age of 7-10 years, children get coaching on politeness in asking for permission to enter the house and courtesy in looking.
2. Between the ages of 10 and 11, known as puberty, young people should avoid items that stimulate orgasm.
3. When children reach the age of 14-16 years called adolescence, they get guidance on how to behave socially with reverse sex in preparation for marriage.
4. After puberty, young children receive instruction on etiquette to limit themselves if they are unable to marry.
5. Finally, is it permissible to bring up sexual problems to children at an early age (before adolescence). (Yafie, 2017).

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study used a literature review strategy. The theories and concepts used in this study are based on the examination of relevant scientific papers and magazines. After searching the Google Scholar database of 50 publications on environmental issues of education in early childhood education, 25 articles were selected that could be applied to the topic studied.

Then select 15 more articles. Then study these articles in detail and according to the material, 15 articles are studied in detail so that they become 7 articles that are in accordance with the theme of discussion. 7 articles were obtained, most of which were in accordance with the theme under study which would be presented in the discussion and conclusion section.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Education of infants and toddlers is very important because it can predict long-term educational performance. In addition, the younger generation also has a high absorption of science. At this point, the child's concentration is intact and he knows everything. Parents must continue to control and shape the individual personality of their children. Early childhood education must prioritize children's needs and be in line with environmental ideals (Suptiani, 2023).

**According to the results of the study, experts can draw the following conclusions:**

Title/Content	Title/Content
<p><b>PARENTS' PARTICIPATION IN THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN OF CHILDREN</b></p> <p>(Yuli Supriani &amp; Opan Arifudin, 2023)</p>	<p>Based on research findings and debates, it can be concluded that Baumrind (Supriani, 2023) identified four types of parenting patterns, which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. An authoritarian individual parenting style (parent centric), which emphasizes that children must follow all parents' rules. Parents act arbitrarily, and children have no authority over them. Children must obey and not question what their parents teach. Permissive parenting, the nature of this parenting style is child centered, namely that all the family rules and regulations are in the hands of the child. What the child does is allowed by the parents, the parents obey the child's wishes.</li><li>B. In a democratic parenting style, the positions of parents and children are equal. Decisions are taken jointly after considering both parties. Children are given responsible freedom, meaning that what they do must still be supervised by their parents and can be held morally accountable.</li><li>C. Situational parenting style; Parents who use this parenting style do not follow a specific parenting pattern. However, all of these categories are used flexibly depending on the context and conditions at that time.</li><li>D. Montessori (Supriani, 2022) defines various phases of development, including sensory processing and the intellectual capacity to "absorb" events through feelings from conception to the age of three.</li><li>E. Furthermore, language awareness and optimal language development occurs between the ages of half a year and three years. Finally, between the ages of two and four, muscle movements become more coordinated, allowing the child to walk through a variety of semi-habitual movements, develop an interest in small things, and become aware of the sequence of time.</li></ul>
<p><b>PROBLEMATICS OF LEARNING RESOURCES IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION</b></p>	<p>Problems in the home environment that often arise include the absence of recreational equipment at home due to financial limitations and parents with busy schedules who do not have sufficient and ideal time to provide stimulation to their children.</p>

<p>(Dondi Kurniawan, Ulya Rahmanita, &amp; Sulikah Septi Herawati, 2022)</p>	<p>In fact, the benefits received by parents who participate in sending their children to school are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Helping young people gain self-confidence.</li> <li>2) Increase children's desire to go to school.</li> <li>3) Encourage children's positive behavior.</li> </ol> <p>Play equipment is closely related to the start of school. Play equipment can be a valuable learning resource because children learn through playing.</p> <p>These resources can help young people develop and learn. One of the problems in this industry is the fact that the selection of available educational game tools (APE) is still limited. As a result, many early childhood institutions still fail to meet quality expectations.</p>
<p><b>The Role of Parentson Early Children's Education in Islamic Views</b></p> <p>( Denny Erica, Haryanto, Mari Rahmawati &amp; Irwin Ananta Vidada, 2019)</p>	<p>The contribution of parents in the growth and development of children in early childhood education from an Islamic perspective must be competent to show that in fact every child grows up in a state of Islamic nature, instilling a single religion and true beliefs in the younger generation, equipping children with how to do it. Saying prayers gives the younger generation the opportunity to learn to recite the Koran, encourages the younger generation to consistently say prayers, teaches children to never forget to be grateful, stimulates children to perform worship at the mosque, teaches children to always protect their aurat, and teaches them to always maintain their aurat.</p> <p>Humans go through various stages of growth and development throughout their lives, including prenatal, toddlerhood, adolescence, maturity, and old age. The critical period is between birth and six years of age, because at this age the child is not yet physically or psychologically dependent; they only accept what adults offer them; and their brains and souls are still as innocent as white paper that has not been stained or damaged. As a result, whatever the baby hears and sees is quickly absorbed and stored in his memory.</p>
<p><b>Family: A Theoretical Approach to Parental Involvement in Early Childhood Education</b></p> <p>(Dwi Hardiyant, 2021)</p>	<p>Research shows that partnerships between parents and teachers, as well as parental involvement in education, have a significant impact on children's development in early childhood education (PAUD). Bronfenbrenner's ecological theory (1979) is one hypothesis that can be used to explain how parents, families, teachers and schools influence children's personal development. This theory distinguishes five environmental systems: microsystem, mesosystem, ecosystem, macrosystem, and</p>





	<p>chronosystem. The microsystem consists of the individual's family, environment, and coworkers, while the mesosystem consists of the associations and relationships between the microsystem, environment, and coworkers. Parent participation, especially in early childhood programs (AUD). Not only do children develop their worldview at this age, but early childhood education is not driven by academic learning, which always has different good and bad values. Early childhood development (AUD) emphasizes children's understanding of social concepts that apply in society above their academic achievements. How children feel comfortable sharing with their friends, managing time, developing discipline, and practicing language and math skills from an early age will be much more important than right or wrong.</p>
<p><b>THE ROLE OF PARENTS IN THE ISLAMIC EDUCATION OF EARLY CHILDREN</b>  ( Zubairi, 2022)</p>	<p>The role and obligations of parents towards children have a large and essential influence on their growth and development, including growth in the religious, personality, social and cultural fields. Therefore, parents are responsible for their child's growth and development from the time the child is conceived until the child is born. Parents' obligations to their children, including their physical and spiritual needs, increase once they are born. In fact, parents are responsible for providing food, drinks, milk, vitamins and other nutritional guarantees to their children to ensure their physical and mental growth. Meanwhile, parents have a moral obligation to provide their children with Islamic religious education from an early age. This starts from the moment the child is born; Parents are required to recite the correct azand in the right ear and iqomah in the left ear. Furthermore, families give their children a good reputation and educate them both religiously and scientifically to prepare them for the future. The basics of trust and trustworthiness are taught from an early age</p>
<p><b>DUTIES AND ROLE OF PARENTS IN EDUCATION OF CHILDREN</b>  ( Efranus Ruli, 2020)</p>	<p>In the first stage, the task of parents in sending their children to school is to educate their children with religious education, which includes teaching them to worship, read and participate in constructive activities. At the next stage, the role of parents in educating their children is to teach social skills, such as good manners, loving each other, greeting each other, living frugally, and behaving well. friendship. to siblings and others, and encourage them to be fair. The third stage, parents play an important role in children's education by teaching moral values such as honesty and patience. Family Contribution in Parental Community Education: Social education aims to teach children how to adapt to society. If they want to share their lives with other humans, they must understand how to interact with other</p>



	<p>people. In this scenario, parents play an important role in the environmental education of their children. Introducing children to be polite is one example of religion-based social behavior. It seems that parents allow their children to chat with their neighbors with their feet up.</p>
<p><b>THE ROLE OF PARENTS IN PROVIDING SEXUAL EDUCATION TO EARLY CHILDREN</b>  (Evania Yafie, 2017)</p>	<p>In accordance with the research results, experts can draw the following conclusions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Parents must really understand the issues of sexual education and sexuality that arise in early infancy.</li><li>2) Parents must be careful about their words and actions that can have an impact on their child's sexual psychology.</li><li>3) Parents must teach sexual information to young children in the right way so that they can understand it.</li></ol> <p>According to current research, comprehensive sexuality education can reduce the risk of teenage pregnancy. Additionally, there is no evidence that it increases the prevalence of sexual intercourse or sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). "There is absolutely no harm in teaching teens about birth control, other than refusing to have sex," said Pamela Kohler, program manager at the University of Washington in Seattle, which conducted the study. Parents and teachers have long disagreed over whether children should be taught contraception or discouraged from promiscuous sexual behavior.</p>

The findings of the study from the seven journals revealed that parents play an important role in young children's education and may have a major influence in their child's daily life. According to research evaluated on the function of parents in early childhood education, it can affect the way children perceive in daily life and in the learning process, so that it has a good impact. To improve the quality of the nation, educational growth must be based on strong educational standards. To improve their survival, all children need proper education. Therefore, organizations are needed that are able to improve children's education through family education. Parents should not assume that family education for a child is not important, because it is the most important thing for the child.

It should be highlighted that there are various problems related to children's educational resources, including lack of appropriate learning materials, quality problems, and financial constraints. To address these challenges and ensure children have access to relevant and high-quality learning resources, various stakeholders, including governments, schools and communities, must work together.



## CONCLUSION

In this journal it can be concluded that the role of parents in early childhood education is very important. Parents are the first and most meaningful teachers for their children. They have a unique opportunity to provide learning experiences through daily interactions and home environments.

In this role, parents can help develop a child's social, cognitive, and emotional skills. Through educational games, reading books, talking to children, and involving children in daily activities, parents can encourage the development of language, imagination, and fine motor skills. In addition, collaboration between parents and educators is an important factor in early childhood education. Parents can communicate and collaborate with teachers or educators to understand their child's development and support their learning in schools or early childhood education centers. Good collaboration can create a cohesive and holistic educational environment for children.

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