Parental Support for the Education of Children with Visual Impairments

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ABSTRACT

The phenomenon of low parental support for children's education is often found in society, especially for children with special needs. In reality, socio-economic status is one of the things related to parental support for children's education. The higher a person's economic level, the easier it is for him to access every supporting aspect related to human life, for example the educational aspect. This research aims to determine the forms of support that parents can provide for the education of children with visual impairments. The writing of this article uses a qualitative method, namely literature study or literature study, namely scientific writing research aimed at the object of research or data collection in the nature of literature or research carried out to solve an existing problem which is basically based on a critical and in-depth study of the materials. relevant library materials. Literature study is a data collection technique by conducting a review study of existing books, literature, notes and reports to solve problems. Study. Parental support is an awareness of responsibility in continuously educating and developing children by providing assistance to children to fulfill children's basic needs in realizing care, feelings of calm, security and affection. Parental support is very influential in education for blind children, where this support can improve children's learning achievements. In this case, parental support for the education of children with visual disabilities greatly influences children's achievement and interest in learning at school, and children feel confident and not inferior to the obstacles they have. Realizing the importance of parental support for children with visual impairments, the research results hope that parents who have children with special needs can know, understand, and be able to implement forms of support for the education of children with visual impairments, so that children are motivated and their potential can be achieved. increase.

Key words: Parental support, education, children with visual impairments

INTRODUCTION

Every parent hopes that their child will be born in a healthy condition, both physically and psychologically or mentally. Parents definitely hope that their child will grow up to be a healthy, intelligent, intelligent child who will be successful in his education and successful in his life. This situation can change if the child born is different from children in general (children with special needs). Children with special needs are children who have different personalities from children in general. Children with special needs are children who require special treatment due to developmental disorders and certain conditions experienced by the child.

The term special needs children are children who are different in several important aspects of their human function. Physically, psychologically, cognitively or socially, they are hampered in achieving their needs and potential optimally and require trained treatment from professional staff. In an educational background, children with special needs are individuals with developmental obstacles who require special services that are different from children in general.

In implementing education, vision is an important factor in a child's learning process to capture information. So if vision problems have a negative impact on the child's development, they will experience obstacles in their education. Children with visual impairments are usually referred to as visually impaired

Visual disability is a condition of an individual with limited vision. The Department of Education and Culture (1984/1985:13) in the manual for the implementation of SLB states that "blind children are generally defined as children who cannot see or children whose vision is not clear enough, so that even though they are aided by glasses they cannot attend education properly. use facilities commonly used by sighted children."

In general, children with visual disabilities experience obstacles in seeking information, controlling themselves and their environment, they also experience difficulties in carrying out activities that sighted people usually do. With conditions like this, of course children with visual disabilities really need parental support in terms of education, life skills and so on.

Parental support is an awareness of responsibility in continuously educating and developing children by providing assistance to children to fulfill children's basic needs in the form of caring, feeling calm, safe and affection. According to (Shella, S. , & Dariyo , A. (2018)) parents in the family not only play a role in paying attention to the child's physical growth, but also pay attention to the child's mental development and competence. Parental support is also closely related to the self-confidence of parents who have children with disabilities (Rahmi, A (2017)). In this case, the presence of parental support means that the parents have accepted the child's condition. When parents have a sense of support high level towards their children, parents will be better prepared to face future challenges that occur during their children's development (Castro, M., Epósito-Casas , E., López-Martín , E., Lizasoain , L., Navarro-Asencio , E., & Gaviria , J.L. (2015)).

According to Heward (2003), support and acceptance from parents and family members will provide energy and confidence in children with special needs to put more effort into learning things and trying new things related to their life skills and in the end the child can excel. On the other hand, rejection and lack of support from those closest to them will make children increasingly inferior or self-conscious and withdraw from the environment, so that children are reluctant to try because they are always filled with fear when dealing with other people.

Parental support is also related to parental acceptance of the child's condition. Before parents of children with special needs can accept their child's condition, parents usually go through several stages before finally accepting their child's condition. The stages of acceptance are commonly known as DABDA, namely as follows: 1). Denial or rejection; 2). Angry or anger; 3). Bargaining or haggling; 4). Depression or depression, finally 5). Acceptance or acceptance.

The phenomenon of low parental support for children's education is often found in society, especially for children with special needs. There are some parents whose economy is relatively stable and are able to provide for their children's learning facilities, but do not care about their children's education. There are also some parents who belong to small/underprivileged economic groups and they are unable to provide complete learning facilities for their children, but have high support for their children's educational process, such as attention, affection and support that is always given so that their children are successful in education. . In reality, socio-economic status is one of the things related to parental support for children's education. In general, the higher a person's economic level, the easier it is for him to access every ins and out of supporting aspects related to human life, for example educational aspects.

Various forms of parental support can motivate children to excel at school, especially for blind children who can compete with normal children their age. In this condition, of course, children really need parental care.

METHOD

This article was written using a qualitative method, namely literature study or literature study, namely research into scientific papers aimed at research objects or collecting library data. Or the study carried out to solve an existing problem is basically based on a critical and in-depth study of relevant library materials. According to M. Nazir, library research is a data collection technique by conducting research studies on books, literature, notes and reports that are related to the problem being solved.

The sources used in writing this article were obtained through the results of studies by analyzing them systematically. According to Zed (2008: 3) literature study is a series of activities relating to methods of collecting library data, reading and taking notes, and managing research materials. The writing technique used in literature studies can be to look for similarities between several references, provide conclusions from the references brought, and summarize what has been obtained from the studies read. The author collected data using a literature study which was carried out by collecting secondary data related to the role of parents and teachers in carrying out self-development for children with physical impairments. Apart from that, the author also carried out a data analysis process after all the data collected was collected. The author carries out data analysis by reading, studying, understanding, examining, and comparing one source with another data source so that he can determine parental support for the education of children with visual disabilities.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

1. Parental Support
   a. Understanding parental support

   Humans as social creatures certainly need the help of other people. Physical needs (clothing, food, shelter), social needs (socialization, recognition, school, work) and psychological needs including curiosity, a sense of security, feelings of religiosity , cannot possibly be fulfilled without the help of other people. Every human being certainly always wants to fulfill every need, which in the process of fulfilling it cannot be separated from the help of other people. Especially when we are experiencing problems, of course we need encouragement because with support in the form of encouragement, individuals feel supported.

   According to Cobb (Nurrohmatulloh , 2016) parental support is part of social support, which can also be interpreted as a feeling of comfort, attention, appreciation , or assistance that individuals feel from other people or groups. The greatest support in the home environment comes from parents.

   Various forms of parental support can increase children's motivation, increasing learning achievement and children's interest in learning to be able to compete with other normal children. According to Astuti (2018) social support consists of 4 types including: emotional support, instrumental support, appreciation support and informative support. Parents who have children with visual impairments will certainly find it difficult to fight for education for their children, because this process requires a lot of very long struggle. However, without parental support, children will have difficulty developing their potential, which means children will feel less confident.

   Parental support according to Isiaq Oluwatosin Yahya et al , (2022) is one component of parental parenting that has a good or bad impact on a child's success in school. The bottom line is that parents have a huge influence in influencing their children's interest in school. Positive parental support can have a positive influence on high student achievement and

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interest, while poor parental support can have a negative impact, and can influence low student achievement (Pajarianto et al., 2020)

b. Factors Influencing Parental Support

Parental support is one of the factors that can influence a child's learning achievement as a student at school. The factors contained in parental support according to Slameto (2003) consist of: 1). How parents educate: The way parents educate their children has a huge influence on the way children learn and their thinking patterns. There are parents who educate in a military dictatorial manner, there are democratic ones and there are also families who are indifferent to the opinions of each family; 2). Relations between family members: The most important relationship between family members is the relationship between parents and their children. For the smooth learning and success of children, there needs to be good relationships within the family ; 3). Home atmosphere: Home atmosphere is meant as situations or events that often occur in the family where children live and learn. A noisy/busy and chaotic home atmosphere will not provide peace for children who study; 4). Family economic conditions: In families whose economic conditions are relatively poor, this causes parents to be unable to meet their children's basic needs. Not infrequently, economic difficulties become a motivator or driver for children to be more successful; 5). Parental Understanding: When children learn, of course children really need encouragement and understanding from their parents. Sometimes children experience weak spirits, so parents are obliged to provide understanding and encourage them, to help as much as possible with the difficulties experienced by children both at school and in society. This is important to continue to grow his self-confidence; and 6). Cultural Background. : The existence of the level of habits in the family influences children's attitudes and behavior in their lives. As parents, it is important to educate children in instilling good habits and giving them good role models. This is done to encourage children to be enthusiastic about pursuing the future and their future careers. This was also explained by Soemanto (in Supartono , 2004) who said that the way parents achieve success in their work is good capital to train their interests, skills and abilities, certain values related to the work of their child's interest.

According to Narad , (2016) the factors that influence students' academic capacity are caused by parents' economic factors, educational experience, and encouragement.

2. Education

Education for children with special needs is very important to improve the basic needs of every human being. Education is the right of every individual without exception. Education is really needed by all children, especially for children with special needs who are visually impaired, because education is a very important pillar in preparing quality people to be able to compete in the era of globalization. Education for children with visual disabilities can develop the child's potential and self -confidence to compete in the surrounding environment, and is expected to be a provision for life in the future to be more independent and responsible.

In linguistic terms, education means guiding, where this guidance is carried out by adults to children, adults to older people or adults to younger people to be able to provide direction, teaching, moral improvement and train someone's intellect. Guidance for children is not only formal education provided by the government, but also the role of family and community is also very important and can be a guiding community institution that can foster knowledge and understanding.

Education is an important aspect of human life. Quality education is very necessary to increase human intelligence so that they can compete in the era of globalization. Education has a

very big role in creating an intelligent national character who will later grow into humans who will interact and do many things with their environment, both individually and as social creatures.

Ki Hajar Dewantara defines the meaning of education where education is a nature that exists in children to provide guidance so that they can become human beings who can achieve the highest safety and happiness. Education in a broad sense is an activity in the process of guiding and this implementation can be carried out anywhere without any restrictions . In Law on the Education System No. 20 of 2003, it is stated that education is "a conscious and planned effort to create an atmosphere of learning and learning so that students can actively develop their potential with the basic knowledge and abilities needed by themselves and society".

In linguistic terms, education means the process of guidance carried out by adults whether for children, older people or younger people to be able to provide direction, teaching, improve morals and train someone's intellect. Guidance given to children is not only provided at school or formal education provided by the government, but guidance provided by families and communities is also very important in fostering knowledge and understanding. Education in a broad sense is an activity or process of education and the provision of education that can occur anywhere and at any time (Amirin: 2013: 4).

From the definition above , it can be concluded that education is a teaching and learning activity or a guiding process carried out by educators for students with the aim of moral improvement, intellectual training which aims to shape students' behavior so that it becomes even better.

3. Children with visual impairments
   a. Definition of a child with visual impairment

   Children with visual impairments are also known as visually impaired children, they are said to be children with low vision so their vision is unable to be used in normal learning even though they have been assisted with visual aids, or children who do not see at all and therefore require special modifications in learning. (Asep AS. Hidayat & Ate Suwandi, 2016).

   Many experts provide limitations or definitions of children with visual impairments. Limitations that are generally often heard are from medical experts, they say that a blind person is an individual who has a central acuity of 20/200 feet or visual acuity only at a distance of 20 feet or 6 meters or less, even when using glasses, or areas His vision is narrow to the point that the angle of distance does not exceed 20 degrees, whereas people with normal vision are able to see clearly up to a distance of 60 meters or 200 feet . (Asep AS. Hidayat & Ate Suwandi, 2016)

   The existence of obstacles in vision that are experienced causes children to experience limitations in three ways in understanding a concept (in Juang Sunanto , 2005: 47) which states that: "(1) Blind children have limitations in the variety and type of experience (cognition), (2) Limitations in the ability to move within the environment (mobility orientation (OM), (3) Interact with the environment (social emotions)".

   According to Asep AS. Hidayat & Ate Suwandi (2016) Children with visual impairment are known to have the following conditions:
   a) His visual acuity is less than that of normal people
   b) There is a complaint in the eye lens or there is a certain fluid
   c) Eye position is difficult to control by the brain's nerves
   d) There is damage to the brain's nervous system related to vision.

   From the conditions above , generally what is used as a benchmark for whether a child is blind or not is based on the level of visual acuity (Asep AS. Hidayat & Ate Suwandi, 2016).

   b. Classification of the Blind

According to Sutjihati Somantri, children with visual impairments or visual disabilities can be grouped into two types, namely: a) completely blind (totally blind); It is said to be blind if the child is completely unable to receive light stimulation from outside, b) Low Vision (Weak Vision); in this group the child is still able to receive light stimulation from outside, but their acuity is more than 6/21, or if the child is only able to read the headlines in the newspaper.

Classification of children with visual impairments is divided into several levels. Based on the level it can be classified as follows:

a) Level of Visual Acuity; Blind children who are classified based on the level of sharpness are divided into several categories, namely:

- Low Vision or lack of vision is defined as a person who is still able to see with the help of special equipment. For in- class learning, low Vosion can still use letters like ordinary children, only the distance must be closer to the eyes.
- Totally Blind or totally blind is someone who cannot see at all.
  Basically children with total visual impairment blind children need more support and educational services than children with low vision vision (lack of sight). Child with totaly blind also cannot use letters like children in general and can only use braille.

b) Based on Educational Adaptation;

This classification of children with visual impairments is based on special learning adjustments and is very important in helping blind children learn. According to Kirk , SA (1986) it is divided into several categories, namely, ability to see at a moderate level, inability to see at a severe level.

- Ability is at the moderate level (Moderate visual disability) where at this level the individual can still do tasks visually like sighted people in general, only that they need special tools in the learning process.
- When the ability to see is at the severe visual disability level at this level, the individual experiences poor vision even when using assistive devices, so that when carrying out tasks visually it will require a lot of energy to complete the task.

c. Factors causing visual impairment

a) Pre -natal (in the womb)

Factors causing visual impairment in the prenatal period are closely related to the history of the parents or the presence of abnormalities during pregnancy.

- Genetic/hereditary factors
  Offspring Marriage to someone with a blind person can produce children with the same obstacles, namely visual impairments. Apart from marriages with blind people, you will also get blind children. The consequences of hereditary factors include Retinitis Pigmentosa , a disease of the retina which is generally a hereditary factor. Apart from that, cataracts are also caused by hereditary factors.
- Child Growth in the Womb
  Disabilities in children can also be caused by the growth of the child in the womb, usually this is caused by: disorders while the mother is still pregnant; The presence of chronic diseases, for example tuberculosis, which damages certain blood cells during the growth of the fetus in the womb; Infections or injuries experienced by pregnant women due to exposure to rubella or chicken pox can cause damage to the eyes, ears, heart and central nervous system of the developing fetus; Infections due to gross disease, toxoplasmosis , trachoma , and tumors. Tumors can occur in the brain which is related to the sense of sight or in the eyeball; and Deficiency of certain vitamins can cause eye problems resulting in loss of vision function.

b) Post -natal

Post -natal is the period after the baby is born. Visual disabilities can occur during the period after the baby is born, including the following:

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- There is damage to the eyes or optic nerves during childbirth, this is caused by the impact of tools or hard objects.
- At the time of delivery, the mother experienced gonorrhoea which resulted in bacilli gonorrhea is contagious to babies, then eventually after the baby is born the baby becomes sick and results in loss of vision.
- Experiencing eye disease that causes visual impairment, for example : (1) trachomanis , (3) Cataract , an eye disease that attacks the eyeball so that the lens of the eye becomes cloudy , as a result it looks white from the outside of the eye; (4) Diabetic Retinopathy , namely disorders of the retina caused by diabetes mellitus. The retina is full of blood vessels and can be affected by damage to the circulatory system to the point of damaging vision, (5) Macular Degeneration , which is a generally good condition, when the central area of the retina is damaged by the circulatory system to the point of impairing vision: gradually worsens. Children with retinal degeneration still have the ability to clearly see objects in the center of the field of vision, (6) Retinopathy of prematurity, usually children who experience this are because they were born too prematurely. At birth, babies still have normal vision potential. Babies who are born prematurely are usually placed in incubators containing high levels of oxygen so that when the baby is removed from the incubator there is a change in oxygen levels which can cause abnormal blood vessel growth and leave a kind of scar on the eye tissue. This event often causes damage to the mesh membrane (retina) and total visual impairment.
- Eye damage caused by accidents, such as the entry of hard or sharp objects, dangerous chemical liquids, vehicle accidents, etc.

d. Characteristics

The presence of visual impairments for children with visual disabilities has an impact on their development, where children with visual impairments make it difficult for children to be oriented towards mobility and can make children difficult to obtain information. According to Rahardja (2021) , the characteristics of blind children are cognitive characteristics; The level and diversity of experience gained by using the senses that are still functioning, blind people have limitations in moving around, and blind people cannot move freely with the environment around them

- Academic Characteristics; As a result of their visual impairment, it affects their academic skills, especially in the areas of reading and writing
- Social and Emotional Characteristics; Due to the limitations that blind children have, they are also limited in developing social behavior, expressing feelings, and communicating with appropriate tools.
- Behavioral Characteristics; This means that blind children always show stereotypical behavior and exhibit inappropriate behavior

Discussion

Limitations are not an obstacle for an individual to compete with the environment around him . In fact, there are many facts that prove that despite the limitations they have, they actually give rise to a higher fighting spirit. Of course, this will not be far from the support and acceptance from family members which triggers the child's enthusiasm to further develop his potential.

According to Sarafino & Smith (2011:81) aspects of parental support are interpersonal transactions that can involve four supports, namely: *(1) emotional or esteem support , (2) tangible or instrumental support , (3) informational support , and (4) companionship support* t . Further explanation of the four forms of parental support can be explained as follows.

a) Emotional or esteem support

Emotional or esteem Support is support that involves feelings of sympathy, concern, attention, expression of feelings, and other forms of support given to children. This provides a sense of comfort to the child and can comfort the child with a sense of belonging, in the form of affection and love when the child is in trouble. Therefore, students who experience problems both at school and at home are not only given emotional support by teachers at school but also need to get support at home or in the family environment.

b) Tangibles or instrumental support

Tangibles or instrumental support is instrumental support that involves direct assistance according to the child's needs. This assistance can be realized with financial assistance or assistance in the form of goods, services and family support.

c) Informational support

Informational support is informative support which can be in the form of advice, instructions, suggestions, suggestions, or feedback. Providing information on how to solve problems so that children can solve the problems they face. Providing this information can stimulate student enthusiasm in increasing student enthusiasm in learning activities at school and at home.

d) Companionship support

Companionship support is support that occurs through positive appreciation for the person, feelings of acceptance by a group of forward encouragement or agreement with the child's ideas or feelings and positive comparisons of the person with others which involve statements of agreement and positive assessment of ideas, feelings, reinforcement and Social comparison is used as encouragement to progress. This award increases students' interest in learning, because the efforts made by students are appreciated by those around them

Parental support that meets emotional needs includes: forms of attention, warmth, statements and so on which can make children feel supported when the child is in trouble. Parental support that meets students' needs both financially, in the form of attention and so on is very much needed by students in the learning process and in everyday life. Information support takes the form of advice, suggestions, instructions and suggestions so that students can find a way out of the problems they are facing. Having parental support in the form of appreciation and reinforcement when students experience positive things at school will help students become more positive and feel valued . This support will provide positive things to students and increase their interest in learning.

The mechanisms for building parental support according to Cohen and McKay (2008), are:

a) Real Support, in providing real support, of course we will provide support in the form of money and attention. Real support is the most effective support if received by the individual and can reduce stress for the individual. Providing real support that results in feelings of inadequacy order and irregularity Unfavorable acceptance will really add pressure and stress to the individual in the parents' life. Forms of real support include attention and materials.

b) Hope support

Includes assistance to individuals in influencing individual perceptions of threats. Expect individuals in the same person who have experienced similar situations to get advice and help. Hope support provided by parents can also help improve individual strategies by suggesting alternative strategies based on previous experiences that focus on the more positive aspects of the situation.

In this case, parental support for the education of children with visual disabilities greatly influences the child's achievement and interest in learning at school, and the child feels confident and is not inferior to the obstacles he has.

CONCLUSION

aspects of parental support vary greatly , but in reality, socio-economic status is one of the things related to parental support for children's education. In general, the higher a person's economic level, the easier it is for him to access every ins and out of supporting aspects related to human life, for example educational aspects. However, this does not mean that those who are classified as economically low cannot support their children in education, because the form of support does not have to be seen from economic conditions alone, but there is also a form of hope support which has a big influence on

The bottom line is that parents have a huge influence in influencing their children's interest in school. Positive parental support can have a positive influence on children's education and can increase the high achievement and interest of students with visual disabilities, while poor parental support can have a negative impact, and can influence the low achievement of students.

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