THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE ROLE OF PARENTS IN ASSISTING SOCIAL SKILLS LEARNING ACTIVITIES IN ONLINE LEARNING AT THE AGE OF KINDERGARTEN (TK) CHILDREN

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to determine the role of parents in assisting social skills learning activities in online learning in Kindergarten (TK) age children. The reason for taking this research is because of the physical distancing policy which makes social activities limited. At the same time, making children's play needs become unfulfilled. So it demands not to interact directly with their friends socially. Usually studying happily at school, meeting and socializing with teachers and friends, now they are forced to study in unusual conditions, namely learning from home. The method used in this research is a survey method with quantitative research. The data collection instrument used a closed statement with these indicators adjusted to what the role of parents and those faced by children in the Covid-19 pandemic condition and distributed online. In this study, 44 parent respondents were collected from the results of distributing questionnaires via WhatsApp, Facebook broadcasts. Based on the results of the study, it was found that knowing the role of parents in assisting learning activities for social skills in online learning for Kindergarten-aged children cannot be separated from the roles and responsibilities of parents during the current pandemic which requires children to learn, play, and play interact at home accompanied by parents.

Keywords: Parents, Online Learning, Social Ability

PRELIMINARY

The Covid-19 pandemic has indirectly changed the lifestyle of Indonesian people. Circumstances that occur force people to change habits that exist in everyday life. The government urges the public to carry out activities from home. One of them occurred in the world of education, which has changed learning which is usually face-to-face but because of the pandemic finally learning is carried out online.

The existence of the COVID-19 pandemic also has an impact on human needs as social beings. Namely, there is a physical distancing policy that limits social activities. At the same time, making children's play needs become unfulfilled.

This can be seen from the current conditions where children who usually study happily at school, meet and socialize with teachers and friends are now forced to study in unusual conditions, namely learning from home. Even though
Kindergarten age children should be free to play with their friends, considering that through playing children have the opportunity to develop all aspects of their development (Wahyuni & Azizah, 2020).\(^1\)

Previous studies related to this title, including those conducted by Lia Kusuma, Dimyati, Harun (2021) in the discussion "Parental Attention in Supporting Children's Social Skills During Covid-19" stated that parental attention in supporting children's social skills showed the percentage high, it means that parents know very well their role in stimulating children's social skills during the covid-19 pandemic. As well as parental concerns about the lack of honing of social skills can be minimized by giving attention that can be done at home through giving love, supervision, giving examples and teaching to do good to others.

Second, Mawar, Dini Nur Salamah, Allif Lulu Fauziah (2020) in the discussion "Socialization of the Role of Parents in Online Learning for Early Childhood During the Covid 19 Pandemic" stated that the current condition is crowded on various social media which tells the experiences of parents while accompanying their children learn both positive and negative. For example, there are parents who are often angry because their children's problems are difficult to manage, so that they provoke emotions and want their children to go back to school. Not to mention the ability of parents to the subjects taught by the teacher is also limited, where when children study at home automatically parents have to re-explain the material presented by the teacher online, because it will be very different in children's grasping power when learning online with offline learning (directly in the classroom). class).

The difference between this research and previous studies lies in the target level of education. This study aims to determine the role of people assisting social skills learning activities in online learning in Kindergarten (TK) age children.

Meanwhile, previous studies aimed to determine the role of parents in improving social skills in early childhood.

Given that early childhood is also included in the right period to develop and improve all abilities, potential and life skills (A'yun, Prihartanti & Chusniatun 2016; Zulfitri, 2017).\(^2\)

Therefore, at this stage children need more special services and attention. Because it is not easy for a child to face the current situation.

Marinho & Casanova (2017) reveal that social skills are the individual's ability to perform certain behaviors that enable him or her to achieve social competence.\(^3\)

These skills include various responses, both verbal and nonverbal, empathetic behavior, problem solving skills, expression of positive-negative feelings to the ability to control oneself. This is reinforced by Kilic & Aytar (2017) saying that individuals who can improve social relations with their environment can be realized through empathetic behavior, participating in group activities, helping each other,

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communicating with others, negotiating and being able to solve problems. So that these social behaviors can be the foundation of a child in dealing with other people, as well as being one of the characteristics that the individual does have positive and good social skills.

With this, the role of parents becomes an important key so that children's social skills continue to develop and do not decline. In line with this, Erickson & Freud (in Lestari, 2018) suggest that through the learning process both from parents, peers and the environment, children can acquire social skills, because social skills are not abilities that individuals are born with. Therefore, the role of parents is especially important at this time, as an effort to support children's social skills in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition, Ihsan Dacholfany and Uswatun Hasanah also explained that the role of parents is as role models or role models, as mentors, as supervisors and controllers, and as facilitators. Apart from acting as a mentor, parents also act as motivators. Namely by providing encouragement for children's development and providing various supporting facilities. And parents are also responsible for the education of children, because children are a gift and a mandate that God has given.

Based on this explanation, it shows that parents have an important role in supporting and improving children's social skills during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition, this study also aims to describe what kind of role parents are applying in social skills learning activities in online learning for children during the Covid-19 pandemic.

**RESEARCH METHODS**

The method used in this research is a survey method with quantitative descriptive research. This is done by distributing a questionnaire link in the form of a Google Form. Then, it is distributed through several applications such as applications, Whatsapp, Facebook to make it easier for researchers to obtain data. The survey was conducted on April 20-25 April 2022 and got 44 respondents. The type of research used in this research is qualitative research. The purpose of this research is to get an idea of how the role of parents in assisting learning activities for social skills in online learning for Kindergarten-age children (TK) during the COVID-19 pandemic, in which all activities, be it work, study and Worship can only be done at home.

The questionnaire instrument is a closed statement of 20 statements. These questions are related to indicators of love, affection, affection, supervision, setting an example and doing good to others. Of course, these indicators are adjusted to what children are facing and the role of parents in the COVID-19 pandemic. To provide opinions, a Likert scale rating is used, namely Never, Rarely, Often, Always.

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5. Lestari, D. S. D. *Social Skill Komunitas Motor CBR (JCRI)*. Prodi Psikologi Fakultas Psikologi Universitas Ahmad Dahlan Yogyakarta, 2018
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The description of the research data that will be described in this study is the parental attention variable. The parental attention sub-variable consists of various sub-variables which include feelings of love, supervision, giving an example and teaching to do good to others.

While the indicators of parental attention in this study include accompanying children in learning, providing time and inviting children to play or do daily activities at home together, supervise, familiarize children with saying the words "please", "sorry" and "thank you", providing examples or understanding for children to always be honest, share with each other, respect older people and help each other to friends, and invite children to always worship and pray, and practice independence. Below is a description of some of the statement items on the variable role of parents in assisting children's social skills learning in online learning:

Table 1. Average Role of Parents in Learning Assistance Child's Social Skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub Variabel</th>
<th>Tidak Pernah</th>
<th>Jarang</th>
<th>Sering</th>
<th>Selalu</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cinta, Kasih, dan Sayang</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>12,98%</td>
<td>37,00%</td>
<td>49,20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pengawasan</td>
<td>0,00%</td>
<td>8,13%</td>
<td>25,20%</td>
<td>66,67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memberi Keteladanan</td>
<td>0,00%</td>
<td>2,28%</td>
<td>12,83%</td>
<td>84,78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berbuat baik kepada sesama</td>
<td>0,00%</td>
<td>1,30%</td>
<td>10,95%</td>
<td>87,80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Love, Love and Affection

Love is a very beautiful word meaning. It is interpreted as giving, caring and guiding someone without expecting anything in return or in return. For example, the love and affection of parents for their children. Every parent gives love, affection and affection to their children as a form of parental attention. Giving love, affection and affection is an important role for parents in educating children. Love in line with that, Staub (in Negoro & Lestari, 2019) states that the affectionate relationship between children and their parents will be the basis or fundamental for the development of prosocial behavior.

The love given by parents will create an atmosphere of warmth and comfort for children, this is in accordance with the opinion of Hasbullah (2011: 44) which states that "Sincere and pure parental love will be able to encourage an attitude and action willing to accept responsibility. to sacrifice his life and give help to his son."

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6 Negoro, E. S., & Lestari, S. Peran Orang Tua dalam Mengembangkan Sikap Prososial Pada Remaja Laki-laki. Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta, 2019
7 Hasbullah. Dasar-dasar Ilmu Pendidikan (Jakarta: PT RajaGrafindo Persada, 2011)
Figure 1 shows the form of the role of parents in giving love, affection and affection as a form of role in assisting the learning of children's social skills in online learning.

As many as 75.60% of parents always give appreciation when children complete a job as a form of parental attention. Providing support or appreciation to children in the learning process is one example of motivation that parents can do for their children. As Mari Moreland states, "There are so many things parents can do to get their children to come to school prepared to learn. If parents don't support their children, it must be for one of two reasons. First, parents don't know how to do it. way of supporting their children. Or secondly, they don't understand that their support is so important." That way, children are able to confidently do something, and feel happy when they are able to finish it. This has an impact on children's social and emotional.

As many as 48.80% of parents often facilitate by providing interesting game tools for children when they are at home. Of course, this is done with the aim of preventing children from feeling bored and bored. Apart from that, 26.80% of parents rarely facilitate by providing interesting game tools for children when they are at home. Sigmund Freud with his psychoanalytic theory views that “Playing in children is an important tool for releasing their emotions. And to develop a sense of self-esteem when children can master their bodies, objects and a number of social skills.

Mutiah (2017) This means that social skills can be developed through play activities, because through playing children interact with their social environment then in playing children can learn to work together and make social contact with other people. By providing game tools, it really helps children in their social emotions because playing together is a good opportunity for children to learn to adapt to the situation, because playing together with game tools that are used together, children will learn to share tools and toys, learn to wait their turn to learn. cooperate, help each other and learn to obey the rules of the game played together.

**Supervision**

Parents are the most important and main thing for personality development and the growth of a child's identity. The most inherent thing in a child's development is guidance from the family, especially parents. The task of parents themselves is to guide and direct their children so that later they become people who behave well according to existing norms. Therefore, the guidance and
supervision of parents is very important for the development of children. In a family the role of supervision is indicated by the interaction that exists between parents and children, in which the role is to protect, raise and discipline children (Pratiwi, 2018).

With an attitude of providing warm and firm supervision of their children, triggering their children to be more independent, more able to do everything with the child's own abilities and being able to make the child into a person who can trigger courage, motivation, and independence. a child. In this case, it can also encourage the growth of social skills.

![Figure 2. Graph of Sub-Variable Percentage of Supervision](image)

Figure 2 shows the opinion of parents in supervising children as a form of role in mentoring children's social skills learning in online learning.

It shows as many as 83% of parents always advise their children when their children make mistakes. Advice is giving a warning to avoid an act that is prohibited and ordering to do good deeds by giving advice by speaking gently to children. Giving advice means giving suggestions to solve a problem based on knowledge, experience and common sense. Advice is an encouragement that can change a child's behavior to a truth in behavior. By giving advice to children so that children do not do things that are not desired and with advice from parents, it is very influential for children's behavior.

Advising children must be patient and warm from parents because when parents advise children well, gentle will have a very positive impact on children's behavior. Meanwhile, parents who advise children by making children feel cornered will have a negative effect on children. The wise attitude of parents in advising children calmly can make children open up and tell about the problems they are facing.

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As many as 31.70% of parents often pay attention and control their children in playing gadgets. This is because if children use gadgets with high frequency or often cause children to be addicted to playing gadgets and ignore people around them both in the family and community environment. (Syahra, 2006) states that as the times progress, it is undeniable that the development of information and communication technology is progressing more rapidly and its users have reached various levels of people's lives from all fields, ages and levels of education. So the use of technological media such as gadgets needs restrictions and supervision by parents when children use gadgets anywhere and control what children watch while playing gadgets. Because children imitate more scenes from animation or scenes in soap operas they watch and it will have a negative impact on children's social skills.

As many as 22% of parents rarely invite and guide their children to carry out daily activities or activities at home together. Various activities can be carried out by parents to fill activities at home with their children, for example inviting children to cook, cleaning the house, watering plants, washing vehicles, and so on. In addition, the moment of doing daily activities together may have been rarely done so far because of the busyness of parents. Of course, these activities can provide a good opportunity for the relationship between parents and children because they can build and strengthen bonds. Supervising and guiding children in doing household chores can practice responsibility for children and fill their spare time compared to normal conditions at school (Wardhani, 2020).

Giving an Example

Parents must be able to be role models or role models for children. The most important means to convey knowledge that is easy to apply in everyday reality is example. It means that the example of parents greatly influences the formation of the child's personality. The example of parents is the simplest and most effective means of education.

It is felt that parents do not need to determine many rules of behavior in the family, it would be better if parents set a clear value, such as setting an example to help each other, work together, and so on and encourage children to imitate positive behavior that reflects these values. that value (Umaya, 2017).

Furthermore, Bandura's theory of social learning (in Connolly, 2017) has shown that children's social learning is strongly influenced by imitation, reinforcement and modeling. It is from this example that the personality or identity of a child is formed and nurtured. Parents who are able to give love to children will understand and understand children better.

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9 Syahra, R. Informatika Sosial Peluang dan Tantangan (LIPI.Bandung.2006)
Figure 3 shows the opinion of parents in setting an example for children as a form of role in assisting children's social skills learning in online learning. As many as 87.80% of parents always set an example for their children to always speak the truth. “Honesty is the foundation of effective communication and healthy relationships” (Kelly, 2005)\textsuperscript{13}. This proves that honesty is very important, so that the relationship between children and parents can be established harmoniously. Honesty will also create good communication between parents and children and will create a sense of trust. Children are individuals who are still clean and sensitive to stimuli that come from the outside environment. Thus, during childhood it is ideal for parents to instill the value of honesty in their children. That way the child will get used to being open or there will be nothing to hide from parents. One of the attitudes that support effective learning of social skills to be applied.

As many as 17.10% of parents often train their children to be independent, such as bathing, dressing, and eating alone. this is done by parents with the aim that the child's social skills do not decline when they are at home. Although it may take longer time to apply independence to children, this can be used to provide opportunities for self-help activities as well as fill free time while at home.

Parents can train and provide role models for children gradually starting from simple to complex activities in terms of fulfilling self-help abilities. And train children to do an activity on their own without being helped by others.

As many as 4.80% of parents rarely get their children used to saying the words “please”, “sorry” and “thank you”. Without realizing it, giving examples of saying the three magic words is a form of giving experience by parents to their children in order to establish good communication with others.

So that children become polite people so that they can be appreciated and liked by many people. If children can establish positive social interactions by showing good behavior towards their environment, children will feel accepted, on the contrary if the behavior is not good, they will be given punishment by the environment (Cartledge, G., & Milburn, J. F. in Suud, 2017)\textsuperscript{14}. This very necessary skill is needed to establish a better social relationship.

\textsuperscript{13} Kelly, HW. Pharmacotherapy A pathophysiological approach, (McGraw - Hill, New York, 2005)

Doing Good to Others

With education about social skills taught by parents, so that later children are able to apply what they have learned about social skills such as being friendly, sharing, helping each other, helping others and having a caring attitude. Parents hope that children have a good attitude towards others and do not fall into bad things in their social life. This is in accordance with Khusniyah's (2018) statement that social skills can be developed, one of which is through the learning process with the parents' environment in order to optimize their role when interacting socially.

![Bar Chart: Doing Good to Others](image)

**Figure 4. Graph of the percentage of the results of the sub-variables doing good to others**

Figure 4 shows the opinion of parents in doing good to others as a form of role in mentoring children's social skills learning in online learning. As many as 92.70% of parents always teach their children to respect older people. This is so that children grow up with mutual respect, especially for adults and as an effort to uphold the values of courtesy. Simple things such as teaching children how to talk to more people and avoiding high-pitched speech or even shouting are forms of maintaining good manners.

This is stated by Pujiningtyas (2018) that the development of good social attitudes can be seen, one of which is whether the child will be able to respect other people or people who are older than him.

As many as 14.60% of parents often teach, give understanding to children to share with others and also teach, provide understanding to children to help each other to friends when experiencing difficulties. By sharing, it has taught children not to be selfish, to be able to respect what belongs to themselves and others, also to give rise to a generous nature. In this context, children do not

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15 Khusniyah, N. L. *Peran Orang Tua sebagai Pembentuk Emosional Sosial Anak*. (Qawwam, 2018), 11(2), 87-101


always have to give in the form of goods or money, but can be in the form of services or affection such as helping when someone is having trouble. Empathy itself is defined as an attitude of concern for others as well as a dimension related to one's feelings and attitudes to support social skills (Rachman & Cahyani, 2019). In contrast to empathy, Hasanah (2019) defines sympathy as a form of feeling and emotion because she feels sorry for her and wants to take action to help her. So in other words, if the child has sympathy, he will be able to appreciate the feelings of others, not arbitrarily to others, the child will automatically have high social sensitivity so that it will bring up a generous attitude. While caring is a sense of wanting to help people who are in need of help (Nuraida & Milyartini, 2016).

As many as 2.70% of parents rarely teach or model their children being friendly to others. Hospitality by experts is defined more broadly as the behavior and nature of people who are familiar in social life manifested by actions such as smiling at others, being polite and respectful in speaking, liking to greet first when meeting other people, and so on. This does take time and a strong will if the child is really used to being friendly to other people.

Basically, the role of parents is needed to support children's social skills during the current covid-19 pandemic. Parents have an important role in the social growth of their children during the COVID-19 pandemic. In line with this, Ericson and Freud (in Suud, 2017) argue that social skills can be acquired by children through the learning process with the child's closest environment, from parents, peers to the environment around children, not abilities that are innate from birth.

Seeing the current situation and conditions, where children's activities are only carried out at home, so that social interaction is more dominant with parents. Therefore, being a parent figure is not easy, considering that parents are the beginning of the socialization process for their children. Not only that, the role of parents is also a place for children to obtain the fulfillment of their life needs, both physically in the form of providing infrastructure or psychologically through affection in the form of parental attention.

CONCLUSION

The role of parents in assisting social skills learning activities in online learning for children shows a high percentage, this can mean that parents know very well their role in supporting children's social skills in online learning during the covid-19 pandemic. This is done by parents in an effort to prevent a decline in social skills and mental health disorders in children during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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SUGGESTION

For researchers who will make further similar research, in order to add respondents who are used in order to obtain more accurate results. In addition, it is also expected to examine other parental role sub-variables that are not included in this study, so that later the results obtained can be compared.

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