

Fostering Children's Religious Character in Families: Case Study in a Village of Kepahiang District

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to determine the role of the family in fostering the religious character of children in Cirebon Baru Village, Seberang Musi District, Kepahiang Regency. The research method used in this research is field research to obtain primary data, in addition to descriptive qualitative research methods. The research subjects in this study were parents and children. While the data collection techniques used were observation, interviews and documentation. The results in this study about the role of the family in fostering the religious character of children in the village of Cirebon Baru, Seberang Musi District, Kepahiang Regency, are holding recitation activities for children which are carried out after Asr prayers Monday-Thursday, providing good examples to children, providing supervision to children, giving advice and direction to children, scolding children angrily, educating children so that they do not repeat, teaching children to tell the truth, and teaching children to be respectful.

Keywords: religious character; children; family and village

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INTRODUCTION

The family is an individual member of the household who communicates or interacts with one another, as well as the rules that must be implemented and mutually respected. In other words, the family is the smallest institution, serving as a shelter as well as the most basic development of each individual, after which various other efforts or efforts are pursued (Yakub, 2010).

The parents are the most important members of the family. They are the people most likely to have an impact on children. This is possible because they are the first to bond with their children, have the closest communication with them, and devote the most time to them, especially when they are young. It is easy to see how parents can have a significant impact on their children's development (Ilyas, 2014).

Children are Allah SWT's trust, and as a result of that trust, we as parents entrust full responsibility to our children. Children require not only love and affection, but also facilities, and parents must recognize that there are things that must be realized for children, such as proper education.

Parents are the primary and first educators for their children because it is from them that children receive education, which is essentially an environment that shapes and influences the

personality and behavior of children; thus, parents must educate their children based on the Al-Quran and Hadith (Daradjat, 2012).

Education for children must begin at a young age because it plays a critical role in determining the development and growth of current and future developments, including development, language, psychology, cognitive and language development (Latif, 2013).

National character is an important aspect of human resource quality because the quality of a nation's character determines its progress. Quality characters must be formed at a young age because childhood is a critical period for character development (Muslish, 2011).

The form and method of education in the family will have an impact on the development and formation of character in children. Character education in the family context aims to develop positive or commendable character in children. Children are expected to understand positive/commendable values and internalize them in their daily behavior as a result of this character education. Children will use the education they receive in their families as a foundation for socializing in society.

When discussing character education, it is impossible to separate how to shape children's character from an early age, beginning with the family, school, and community environment. The family, on the other hand, is one of three factors that have a significant impact on the development of children's personalities. Parents who understand the value of their children's education will see their child as an intelligent being who is growing, passionate, and eager to learn about everything around him. That is also why parents must feel compelled to educate their children from an early age in order to develop all of the potential that remains untapped within them. The fact is that many parents are incompetent and do not know how to educate and shape their children's personalities. Most mothers and fathers believe that once their children are handed over to the teacher at school, their job of educating them is done. Their new job is to make enough money to pay for their children's education. Despite the fact that the initial formation of character in a child occurs during parental education.

The most influential factor in the emergence of child delinquency is religious factors, one of which is morals and the loss of their personality, as well as the neglect of both parents in improving, directing, and educating the child. We must not overlook a mother's role in carrying out her mandate and responsibility for the children under her care. He is the one who educates, prepares, and guides them. A mother's responsibility is equal to that of a father. Even for a mother, the responsibility is heavier, because it is the mother who is always beside her child from the time he is born until he grows up and reaches the appropriate age to accept responsibility (Ulwan, 2017).

METHODS

This research is a type of field research, which is an in-depth study that covers everything that is happening in the field, with the goal of studying the background of the current situation in depth (Bungin, 2011). Cirebon Baru Village, Seberang Musi District, Kepahiang Regency was the site of this study.

This study employs qualitative research with a case study approach. Qualitative research yields descriptive data from people in the form of written or spoken words and observable behavior (Sanjaya, 2013). Qualitative research focuses on the people being studied's ideas, perceptions, opinions, or beliefs, which cannot be quantified. The goal of qualitative research is to obtain a complete picture of a subject based on the point of view being studied (Ahmadi, 2016).

The research method used in this study is a case study in which the researcher attempts to discover how the role of the family in fostering the character of children in Cirebon Baru Village, Seberang Musi District, Kepahiang Regency. Arikunto defines qualitative research as "research

that describes events or events that occur in the field or research location” (Arikunto, 2016). This study’s subjects and informants were all parents with children aged 6 to 12 years. Methods of data collection include observation, interviews, and documentation. The interview grid is taken based on the existing theory in the framework of thinking with the following explanation.

Table 1. Interview Grid

No	Indicator	Sub Indicator
1	Family	a. As an educator b. As a booster c. As a role model d. As a friend e. As a supervisor f. As a counselor
2	Character	a. Honest b. Discipline c. Politeness
3	Religious	a. Confidence (<i>ideology</i>) b. Religious Practice (<i>ritualistic</i>) c. Experience (<i>experiential</i>) d. Religious Knowledge (<i>intellectual</i>) e. Experience (<i>consequence</i>)

In this study, researchers tried to obtain the validity of the data findings. The technique used to test the validity of these findings is the triangulation technique. Triangulation technique is a technique of examining data by comparing information data obtained from several sources in order to obtain valid data. The steps in analyzing triangulation through sources can be achieved by: 1) comparing structured observation data with interview data; 2) comparing what people say in public with what they say in private; 3) compare what people say about the research situation with what they say all the time; 4) comparing the results of interviews with the contents of a related document (Satori & Komariah, 2013). The study use qualitative data analysis as proposed by Miles and Huberman, qualitative data analysis is an analytical process consisting of three flow of activities that occur simultaneously, which includes activity components, namely: 1) data reduction; 2) data presentation; and 3) drawing conclusions/ verification (Prastowo, 2016).

FINDING AND DISCUSSIONS

Religious character education for children

Religious character education is taught to children in Cirebon Baru Village by their parents. Character is very important to parents because it is an attitude that their children will have from childhood until they are old. In addition to teaching character education, parents should set a good example for their children. Even Cirebon Village residents have recently held recitation activities for children in order for children to receive character education from their Koran teachers. Recitation activities for children are held in Cirebon Baru Village in the afternoon, following Asr. In Cirebon Baru Village, parents and residents alike look after each other's children.

Teach and demonstrate how to worship to children

Cirebon Baru Village parents teach their children how to worship. This is done by parents so that their children become accustomed to performing acts of worship. And he is always a good role model for his children. This is due to the fact that children between the ages of 7 and 12 require not only learning but also role models. For example, if parents instruct their children to pray five times a day in the mosque, the parents must also pray five times a day in the mosque, as well as other life examples.

Allow time for children to play and supervise them

Despite the fact that the majority of them work as farmers in the garden. Parents, on the other hand, make time for their children. For example, while the husband is in the garden, the wife is keeping an eye on the children. And, after the Maghrib prayer, the children usually gather with their parents at night. In addition, parents must supervise their children at all times, including when they are playing and worshipping. This is done by parents because children aged 7 to 10 still require parental supervision.

Giving children advice

Because the child is only 7-10 years old, advice and direction from parents are required to shape the character of the child. And the diligent work of children in carrying out worship demonstrates the application of advice and learning given to them by their parents.

Teach kids to apologize when they make a mistake

Children in the village of Cirebon Baru apologize to both their parents and their friends when they make mistakes. When children make mistakes, their parents scold them angrily, which educates them by giving them advice and direction. This is necessary because when parents scold their children, it shapes a child's character, and if they are angry, they will hit or do something rude. As a result, it is essential to provide guidance, direction, and advice so that children do not repeat their mistakes.

Instill in children the importance of telling the truth

Parents instill in their children the importance of telling the truth. Telling the truth is part of noble character, so it is important to instill it in children from an early age. Because this forthright attitude will be ingrained in children until they reach adulthood.

Instill in children a sense of reverence for their parents, elders, and adults

Parents in Cirebon Baru Village instill respect in their children at an early age. Because respect entails good morals, which children must possess. As a result, it must have been taught to them when they were young. Begin by respecting each other's siblings and parents before moving on to respecting the family as a whole. So that it becomes ingrained in the child and can be applied to older people, neighbors, and friends, among others.

The family is a small social unit that consists of a father, a mother, and their children and plays an important role. One of the roles of parents is to instill religious character in their children, because character or morals play an important role in people's lives. Character refers to a person's personality, morals, or character. That character must be instilled in children from an early age. Parents in Cirebon Baru Village teach their children religious character education. Character is very important to parents because it is an attitude that their children will have from childhood until they are old. In addition to teaching character education, parents should set a good example for their children.

The following is one example of parental and community effort or role in fostering religious character in children in Cirebon Baru Village:

Hold recitation activities for children after Asr prayers on Mondays through Thursdays. This is done so that the child becomes accustomed to performing worship and develops good morals. Because the circumstances, situation, and character of the community or the environment around the community have an impact on children's education and character development. If the people are truly good and have strong personalities, it will be easier for children to learn and choose good characters. Meanwhile, if the environment is poor, children are easily influenced negatively (Suparno, 2015).

Set a good example for your children, because parents are role models for their children. Every child initially admires his parents. The child imitated his parents' entire behavior. As a result, imitation is essential. For example, when father is about to eat, he reads basmalah, which the children imitate. When parents pray, children are invited to pray as well, even if they do not know how or where to begin (Tafsir, 2012).

The family is the first environment for children, who are the first to be influenced; thus, the family is the oldest informal and natural educational institution. The family's job is to lay the groundwork for the next child's development so that the child can grow up healthy (Haq and Fatimah, 2015). As a result, parents must keep an eye on their children. This is done by parents because children aged 7 to 10 still require parental supervision.

Give children advice and direction because children between the ages of 7 and 10 really need advice and direction from their parents to shape their character. Teach children to apologize to both their parents and their friends when they make mistakes. And don't make the same mistake twice.

Scolding children with anger that educates them if they make mistakes by giving them advice and direction. This is necessary because when parents scold their children, it shapes a child's character, and if they are angry, they will hit or do something rude. As a result, it is necessary to provide guidance, direction, and advice so that children do not repeat their mistakes.

Teach children the importance of telling the truth. Telling the truth is part of noble character, so it is important to instill it in children from an early age. Honesty is defined as behavior based on an individual's efforts to become a person who can always be trusted in words, actions, and work.

Children should be taught to be respectful. Because respect is one of the virtues that children must possess. As a result, it must have been taught to them when they were young. Begin by respecting each other's siblings and parents before moving on to respecting the family as a whole. So that it becomes ingrained in the child and can be applied to older people, neighbors, and friends, among others.

The lack of time for parents to teach their children in Cirebon Baru Village is an impediment to parents teaching their children in Cirebon Baru Village because the majority of parents in Cirebon Baru Village are farmers. The next barrier is that children between the ages of 7 and 12 still prefer to play rather than learn, so when they do learn, they are less focused and pay less attention. The next barrier is that biggets have influenced children.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research on the role and business of the family in fostering the religious character of children in Cirebon Baru Village, Seberang Musi District, Kepahiang Regency, the conclusions in this study are as follows: 1) holding recitation activities for children which are carried out after Asr prayers Monday-Thursday ; 2) set a good example for children; 3) provide supervision to children; 4) provide advice and direction to children; 5) scolding children

with anger that educates so that children do not repeat; 6) teach children to tell the truth, and 7) teach children to be respectful.

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