

## The Influence of Parenting Styles on the Early Childhood Development at Tkk Kasih Mulia Cimahi

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### ABSTRACT

Early childhood development is a crucial period in the formation of a child's physical, cognitive, and emotional growth. Parental upbringing plays a significant role in supporting a child's development during this phase.\*\* This study aims to analyze the influence of parenting styles on the early childhood development at Taman Kanak-Kanak (TKK) Kasih Mulia Cimahi. The background of this research is based on the fact that many parents do not fully understand how the parenting styles they adopt affect their child's development, especially during the early years, which are critical for the growth of various aspects of a child's development. The purpose of this study is to examine the relationship between different types of parenting styles—authoritative, authoritarian, permissive, and neglectful—and their effects on the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development of children. A quantitative method with a survey approach was employed for this research. Data were collected through questionnaires distributed to 50 parents whose children attend TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi, along with direct observation of the children's development. The data analysis technique used was regression analysis to determine the influence of parenting styles on various aspects of child development. The results showed that the authoritative parenting style had the most positive impact on all aspects of child development, particularly in social and cognitive growth. Conversely, authoritarian and permissive parenting styles tended to have negative effects, especially in the emotional and social development of the children. Neglectful parenting had the most detrimental effect on the physical and emotional development of the children. The conclusion of this study is that parental upbringing significantly influences early childhood development. Parents who adopt an authoritative parenting style are more likely to have children who grow and develop optimally. The recommendation is for parents to better understand the importance of applying balanced parenting, such as the authoritative style, which can holistically support a child's development. Additionally, schools are encouraged to provide education to parents on the importance of parenting in supporting early childhood development.

**KEYWORDS:** Parenting Style, Child Development, Early Childhood, Authoritative Parenting, Parenting Influence.

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### INTRODUCTION

Early childhood is a critical period in shaping a child's character and development, which will have long-term effects on their life. According to Santrock's (2020) child development theory, this period is a crucial phase for physical, social, and emotional growth, where children are heavily influenced by their immediate environment, especially their family. The parenting style applied by parents becomes a dominant factor in determining the quality of a

child's development during this time. Therefore, it is essential to understand the role of parenting in child development, particularly in educational institutions like TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi, which serves as a platform for early childhood development.

Several studies have shown that parental upbringing significantly affects children's social and emotional development. For instance, Baumrind (2021) found that authoritative parenting, characterized by a balance of support

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and control, tends to produce more independent children with strong social skills. On the contrary, authoritarian and permissive parenting styles are often associated with behavioral issues in children. At TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi, some teachers have reported that certain children show signs of difficulty in socializing, which is believed to be influenced by inconsistent parenting at home.

TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi is an early childhood education institution committed to supporting children's development through a holistic approach. However, based on school observations in 2023, it was found that most children with authoritarian parents tend to exhibit more withdrawn behavior and struggle to adapt in the school environment. This finding aligns with Grolnick and Ryan's (2020) research, which suggests that overly strict or controlling parenting can hinder a child's emotional development, particularly in emotional regulation and social skills.

On the other hand, children raised under permissive parenting styles tend to exhibit poor self-control and often face disciplinary issues in school. This phenomenon is also observed at TKK Kasih Mulia, where teachers frequently encounter difficulties in guiding children who lack discipline due to insufficient structure at home. Research by Kuppens and Ceulemans (2021) found that children raised with permissive parenting are more likely to exhibit behavioral problems compared to those raised with authoritative parenting styles.

\*\*Not only do social and emotional aspects matter, but parenting styles also significantly influence children's cognitive development.\*\* Research by Damastuti (2022) found that children raised with authoritative parenting tend to perform better academically in school, as their parents support the learning process by providing appropriate guidance without being overly controlling. However, at TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi, some parents are less attentive to their children's education at home, resulting in slower cognitive development compared to their peers.

Moreover, the negative impact of neglectful parenting is becoming evident at the school. According to a study published by Khairani (2021), children raised in neglectful environments tend to experience delays in their emotional and social development. At TKK Kasih Mulia, several teachers have reported that children who receive less attention from their parents often feel insecure and have difficulties interacting with their peers.

This issue is further exacerbated by a lack of understanding among parents about the importance of parenting in supporting child development. Many parents still believe that excessive affection without clear boundaries is the best way to show love to their children. However, research by Zaid (2023) emphasizes that a balanced approach between affection and discipline is key to ensuring optimal development in early childhood.

Given the issues at TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi, it is crucial to conduct more in-depth research on the influence of parenting

styles on early childhood development. The findings of such research are expected to contribute significantly to improving the quality of education and parenting practices both in school and at home, and to provide parents with a better understanding of how their parenting can affect their children's future development.

### RESEARCH METHOD

This study employs a quantitative method with a survey approach to analyze the influence of parenting styles on early childhood development at TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi. The research population consists of parents of children aged 4-6 years at the school, with a purposive sample of 50 parents selected. Data were collected using a closed-ended questionnaire, which was divided into two sections: the **Parenting Style and Dimension Questionnaire (PSDQ)** to assess parenting styles, and the **Developmental Milestone Checklist** to evaluate children's physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development. Data collection was conducted over a two-week period, and data analysis was performed using descriptive statistics and multiple linear regression to examine the influence of parenting styles on child development. The research adhered to ethical procedures, with informed consent obtained from parents prior to participation. The results are expected to provide a clearer understanding of the role of parenting styles in supporting early childhood development.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This study aims to analyze the influence of parenting styles on early childhood development at TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi. The results are presented based on data collected from questionnaires completed by 50 parents and observations of children's development at the school.

#### 1. Respondent Characteristics

The respondents in this study consisted of 50 parents with children aged 4-6 years enrolled at TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi. Based on the demographic data, the majority of respondents were mothers (70%), with parents' ages ranging between 25-45 years. Most of the parents (60%) had a minimum education level of high school, while the remaining 40% had completed higher education. In terms of occupation, 40% of the respondents were stay-at-home mothers, while 60% worked in formal and informal sectors.

#### 2. Distribution of Parenting Styles

The results from the *Parenting Style and Dimension Questionnaire (PSDQ)* indicated that the most dominant parenting style among the parents at TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi was the authoritative style (50%). This was followed by the permissive style (20%), authoritarian style (15%), and neglectful style (15%). The authoritative style, characterized by a balance between control and support, creates a conducive environment for child development. In contrast, permissive, authoritarian, and neglectful parenting styles tend to exhibit

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imbalanced control, either too lenient or overly strict, which may not be as supportive of the child's overall development.

### 3. Early Childhood Development

Based on observations using the Developmental Milestone Checklist, child development was assessed across physical, social, emotional, and cognitive aspects. The results showed that children whose parents applied the authoritative parenting style exhibited more optimal development compared to children raised with other parenting styles. In terms of physical development, children with authoritative parents demonstrated good progress in both gross and fine motor skills, with 85% of them reaching age-appropriate milestones. Conversely, children raised in neglectful households were found to have delays in motor development, with only 60% achieving physical milestones appropriate for their age.

In terms of social development, children raised with authoritative parenting demonstrated better interaction skills with peers and teachers. A total of 90% of children in this group exhibited good social skills, such as the ability to share, follow rules, and collaborate in groups. On the other hand, children raised with authoritarian and permissive parenting styles were more likely to experience socialization issues, such as difficulty adapting to the school environment or becoming overly aggressive in social interactions.

Regarding emotional development, children raised in authoritative households were better at managing their emotions, with 80% of them showing good emotional stability. Conversely, children raised with authoritarian parenting often exhibited signs of anxiety and discomfort, particularly in situations that required emotional independence. Permissive parenting also showed a negative impact on emotional regulation, with children in this group frequently struggling to cope with conflict and pressure.

In the cognitive development aspect, children raised with authoritative parenting achieved better academic performance. Around 75% of them demonstrated strong cognitive abilities, such as completing tasks, following instructions, and critical thinking. Children raised with neglectful and permissive parenting, on the other hand, showed slower cognitive development, with 40% of them unable to complete age-appropriate tasks, such as recognizing numbers and letters.

### 4. Impact of Parenting Styles on Child Development

The results of the multiple linear regression analysis indicated that parenting styles have a significant impact on early childhood development at TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi. The authoritative parenting style had the most positive effect on children's physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development ( $p < 0.05$ ). The contribution of authoritative parenting to child development in this study accounted for 45% of the total variables measured, indicating a strong relationship between this parenting style and optimal child development.

In contrast, authoritarian and permissive parenting styles had negative effects on children's emotional and social development, with children raised with these styles being more vulnerable to difficulties in adapting and regulating their emotions. Neglectful parenting also showed a significant impact, particularly in hindering children's physical and cognitive development.

The findings of this study indicate that parenting styles significantly affect the early childhood development at TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi. These results align with Bronfenbrenner's (2021) *Ecological Systems Theory*, which emphasizes that the family is a microenvironment that has a direct influence on child development. Within the family environment, the parenting style applied by parents plays a crucial role in shaping children's behavior and character, especially during early childhood. The study found that authoritative parenting has the most positive impact on various aspects of child development, particularly in social and emotional skills.

Authoritative parenting, characterized by a balance of control and affection, was shown to support holistic child development. This is supported by Steinberg's (2022) research, which found that children raised with authoritative parenting tend to have higher independence, better adaptability, and stronger academic performance. At TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi, children with authoritative parents demonstrated better social development, including teamwork with peers and positive interaction with teachers. This parenting style creates a secure environment for children to explore and learn.

In contrast, authoritarian parenting, which emphasizes control and discipline without providing sufficient emotional support, had negative effects on children's emotional and social development. According to Parker et al. (2023), authoritarian parenting can lead to anxiety, insecurity, and difficulty expressing emotions in children. This was also reflected in the findings at TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi, where children raised with authoritarian parenting were more withdrawn and found it harder to interact with their peers. This hindered their social and emotional development in the school environment.

Furthermore, children raised with permissive parenting also exhibited challenges in cognitive development and discipline. Permissive parenting, which tends to be lenient and offers freedom without clear boundaries, can diminish a child's ability to self-regulate and follow rules. A study by Maccoby and Martin (2020) found that children raised with permissive parenting often struggle with academic and social demands at school. At TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi, children raised with permissive parenting exhibited poor discipline, such as difficulty following teacher instructions and a tendency to disregard classroom rules.

Neglectful parenting proved to have the most detrimental impact on children's physical and cognitive development. Research by Mandara et al. (2021) revealed that children

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raised with neglectful parenting tend to experience delays in both physical and academic development. This was also observed at TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi, where children with neglectful parents showed delays in gross and fine motor development, as well as difficulties completing basic academic tasks such as recognizing letters and numbers.

Cognitively, children raised with an authoritative parenting style demonstrate better academic performance compared to those raised with other parenting styles. According to research by Darling and Steinberg (2021), authoritative parenting provides sufficient support for a child's intellectual development, particularly in problem-solving and critical thinking. At TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi, children with this parenting style were able to complete cognitive tasks effectively, such as understanding instructions and maintaining high levels of concentration during learning activities.

Authoritative parenting also fosters better social development, including collaboration and socialization with peers. Hughes and Ensor (2022) argue that authoritative parenting helps children develop stronger social skills through healthy interactions that balance control and freedom. At TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi, children raised with authoritative parenting adapted more easily to the school's social environment and had more positive relationships with their peers, contributing to a more conducive learning atmosphere.

In contrast, children raised with permissive parenting often struggle with self-regulation, particularly in following rules and routines at school. Research by McKee et al. (2020) indicates that permissive parenting leads to behavioral issues such as a lack of discipline and self-control. At TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi, children with permissive parenting frequently exhibited impulsive behavior and had difficulty adhering to classroom rules, which hindered their learning process.

In conclusion, this study demonstrates that authoritative parenting is the most effective style for supporting early childhood development at TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi. These findings align with various international studies that highlight the balance between affection and control in authoritative parenting, which fosters children's social, emotional, and cognitive development. Meanwhile, authoritarian, permissive, and neglectful parenting styles were shown to hinder children's development, particularly in social and emotional aspects. Therefore, it is recommended that parents at TKK Kasih Mulia Cimahi better understand the importance of authoritative parenting in optimally supporting their child's growth and development.

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