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The Role of Parents in Shaping a Child's Personality in Islam

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Abstract

The Role of Parents in Shaping a Child's Personality specially in Islam is crucial in the development and growth of children, considering that the future of the nation lies in the hands of today's children, who face various challenging obstacles. The decline in morals, virtues, and etiquette in today's society poses a challenge for parents to transmit understanding and practice moral and ethical values to their children. A child's personality is formed through the interaction, influence, and education provided by parents throughout their growth. The purpose of this research is to explain the role played by parents in shaping a child's personality. This study is a literature review conducted using qualitative research methods and a descriptive approach. Data analysis of the subject matter is carried out using an inductive approach, with data sourced from books, journals, and scientific writings related to the examined subject. The results of the research indicate that parents play a significant role in shaping a child's personality. They serve as role models, provide guidance and direction, instill moral and ethical values, and offer emotional support to their children. Furthermore, effective communication and positive interaction between parents and children also play an important role in shaping a child's personality. The role of parents in shaping a child's personality cannot be ignored. Through interaction, influence, and education provided by parents, children can develop a healthy, responsible personality with positive values. Therefore, it is crucial for parents to be aware of their role and actively engage in shaping their children's personality development.

Keywords: Parents, child's personality, influence, interaction, education, Islam.

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INTRODUCTION

The role of the family in developing a child's personality is extremely important. While this narrative may seem ordinary, upon deeper reflection, this role actually has a significant impact on shaping the character of children as they mature. The formation of a child's personality is influenced by various environmental factors, including the family, school, and community. However, among these factors, the family environment holds the strongest influence. This is due to the interactions and mutual influences among family members that occur within it.

Family is the smallest unit in society and the nation. It consists of a father, mother, children, and other members such as domestic helpers, grandparents, and nieces/nephews. The family environment plays a primary and fundamental role in life because it is where children are raised, experience early experiences, and learn, which forms the foundation for their growth and development of their personality in the future. In the family environment, children first interact with other human beings and receive their first protection and love. The family is the place where personality is formed, serving as the center of tranquility in life and an essential foundation. The family has a role as a center for education, training, culture, and religion. Therefore, the relationships among family members should always be harmonious, integrated, and filled with cooperation, mutual support, and love.

Each family member should experience peace, joy, happiness, and comfort within the family. Therefore, the family is the primary source of tranquility and happiness in life. In Islam, the family is not only considered the smallest unit in life but also an institution that has the potential to influence the happiness and salvation of its members, both in this world and the hereafter. Therefore, the family has a significant role and responsibility, as the success or failure of its members becomes the responsibility of the family itself.

As the head of the family, the father has the responsibility to imbue the family with good moral values, be an exemplary role model, and protect the family members from negative behaviors. Similarly, the mother, as the head of the household, has an equally important role in shaping the child's personality. Both parents have the responsibility to guide their children in their development. In Islam, the family is seen as a means of spiritual growth and a source of support and love. It is within the family that children are nurtured, educated, and prepared to become righteous individuals. The family unit is emphasized as a place where love, respect, compassion, and cooperation should prevail.

Parents play a primary role in shaping a child's personality. To achieve the desired

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personality development, there needs to be good communication between parents and children. Through communication, parents can better understand their child's character and thus facilitate the process of shaping their personality. Effective communication also helps parents to better control their child's behavior. Therefore, careful and thoughtful communication plays a vital role in shaping a child's personality.

The role of the family in shaping a child's personality is highly significant, as the family is responsible for supporting the child's personality development from an early age. With the support provided by the family, a child can make positive adjustments both in the present and in the future. The thoughts and behaviors of a child are greatly influenced by how parents educate them. The formation of personality that begins early has important implications as it will impact the child's life in adulthood.

For example, if a child is raised in a family environment that promotes good values, they are likely to exhibit good behavior as well. This is because the role of parents in shaping a child's personality from an early age is influential. According to Levine (2005), it states that:

“Being a parent is truly a dynamic process, and family situations often change. There is nothing mechanical about this process. However, by understanding that personality activates energy, develops step by step, and being aware of the implications of each step on the child, parents will be able to foster self-confidence in their child”

We often hear the saying "one action speaks louder than a thousand words," emphasizing the importance of parental role modeling in shaping a child's personality. The positive habits practiced by parents will form the same habits in their children. One concrete example is when a father or mother consistently stops all activities upon hearing the call to prayer (adhan). It is important for parents to take a break and pause their activities when the adhan is called. Another example is when parents teach their children to always recite the Quran or engage in Quranic studies after Maghrib prayer, the parents must set an example by practicing this habit themselves. Parents who aim to instill discipline must begin by demonstrating discipline in various aspects.

By providing good role models, parents can help develop positive habits in their children. The principles of discipline and values that are internalized and practiced by parents will provide an important foundation for the child's development in terms of discipline and responsibility. Such habits, if instilled from an early age, will make the child disciplined, as they have been taught by their parents beforehand.

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Consider the bravery of Abdullah bin Zubair. The story tells of Abdullah bin Zubair, who embraced Islam at the age of 8. When he turned 12, he was influenced by a suggestion from Satan that the Prophet Muhammad was captured in the highlands of Makkah. Zubair, who was 12 years old at the time, left the house carrying a sword. Everyone, including the Prophet, was astonished and asked Zubair, "What's wrong with you, O Zubair?" Zubair then said to the Prophet, "Whoever dares to capture you, I will decapitate them with my sword." The bravery shown in Abdullah bin Zubair's story was influenced by the bravery of his parents (Siyar A'lam an-Nubala, 1/1-42).

With the examples above, it can be clarified that the formation of a child's personality depends on the role of both parents in raising and setting good habits from an early age. Therefore, as a child grows up, they become accustomed to everything that has been taught by both parents. Both parents must be cautious in their behavior in front of their children.

DISCUSSION

Factors Influencing Child Personality

Personality is an innate trait gifted by God to humans from birth. Personality, also known as "personality" in English, is divided into four types: "choleric, sanguine, phlegmatic, and melancholic". Human personality can be influenced by various factors, such as self-concept, traits, environment, physical aspects, and others. Therefore, human personality can be changed. Thus, in order to change a child's personality, efforts are made to educate and shape their character. This means that a child's personality can be improved, transforming initially unfavorable traits into positive ones. The development of a child's personality includes critical and creative thinking. Hence, it is necessary for both parents to provide early guidance and nurturing to their children in order to foster a positive personality.

The factors within oneself or inherent factors include everything that is present since birth, both psychological and physical aspects, and are influenced by heredity from one or both parents. Hence, the saying "the apple doesn't fall far from the tree" exists. Psychological aspects such as emotions, desires, memories, and others that are present since birth can influence a person's personality, while the physical condition, such as the arrangement of nerves, muscle structure, and bone structure, also affects human character.

Besides inherent factors or factors within a person themselves, there are also external factors that influence a person. External factors usually consist of the influence of the individual's

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environment, ranging from the smallest environment such as family, friends, and neighbors, to the influence of media such as television, magazines, and newspapers. The family environment can have an impact on a child's personality and self-concept from an early age. Everything outside the individual, whether it is inanimate objects or living beings, can influence human personality. In addition to these two factors, there are also factors that influence a child's personality, namely the experiences they go through (life experiences) or commonly known as empirical factors. Each person has their own unique life, so the experiences they go through may vary. It is not surprising that even though a child may receive good guidance from both parents during childhood, they may show some differences as they grow older, influenced by physical changes and life experiences.

Of all the factors that influence the development of a child's personality, the family has the most significant influence. The family is the first education for children as they become acquainted with the world. Within the family, a child grows and develops for the first time before encountering the outside world. In this regard, the family plays a crucial role in shaping and developing a child's personality. Everything parents do is imitated by their children. Therefore, children are often referred to as excellent imitators. The family is the first social group known to a child, and because children spend most of their time with their families, the parents' personalities can influence how they educate their children. If parents' personalities have an impact on the process of shaping a child's personality, then parents must consistently provide good education. According to Hastantyo (2010), there are nine types of parental personalities that influence a child's personality, as follows:

1. Moral advisor: They emphasize details, analysis, and moral values.
2. Helper: They prioritize their child's needs while disregarding the consequences of their child's actions.
3. Organizer: They always seek cooperation with their child and create tasks to improve the situation.
4. Dreamer: They strive to emotionally connect with their children in any situation and seek creative solutions together.
5. Observer: They always look for a comprehensive perspective, striving for objectivity and different viewpoints.
6. Worrier: They constantly engage in mental questioning and doubt, having worst-case scenarios in mind until they are sure their child truly understands the

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situation.

7. Entertainer: They apply a more relaxed approach.
8. Protector: They tend to take over responsibility and act protectively, shouting at their child but then shielding them from threats.
9. Peacemaker: Influenced by their personality, they always try to avoid conflict.

Apart from the nine types of parental personalities mentioned earlier, there are also nine pillars for cultivating a character-based personality in children, according to (Megawangi, 2004). These nine character pillars are as follows:

1. Love for God and truth.
2. Responsibility, discipline, and independence.
3. Having trustworthiness.
4. Showing respect and courtesy.
5. Having compassion, empathy, and the ability to cooperate.
6. Self-confidence, creativity, and perseverance.
7. Having a sense of justice and leadership qualities.
8. Goodness and humility.
9. Having tolerance and love for peace.

With the presence of the nine good parental personalities, parents can easily shape their children's character in a positive way, just as there are nine pillars for a character-based child. Parents can mold their children's personality according to these nine pillars. Shaping a child's character from an early age is not easy, as it can significantly impact their future. If a child is taught to behave poorly from an early age, they may exhibit negative behavior as adults, and vice versa. Therefore, parents must consistently set a good example for their children to cultivate positive behavior. Because no matter what, children will always remember everything they were taught by their parents during their childhood.

The influence of the family environment

The family plays a vital role as the primary social environment that significantly influences a child's development. It is within the family where children begin to engage with others, discover their traits, attitudes, and abilities, and learn to differentiate various elements in their surroundings. Therefore, the function of the family is to foster communication and resolve

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children's issues, ensuring that children feel valued and attended to by their parents. This creates an environment where children feel comfortable discussing any problems they may have with their parents. Consequently, openness and mutual support between parents and children are established, allowing them to provide input and find solutions together. This fosters a close and supportive relationship between parents and children, where they can develop a strong bond and assist each other. Cultivating such practices from an early age can have a positive and long-lasting impact.

The family environment is crucial, especially when it involves the presence of parental love and affection. The love and affection from parents have a significant impact, as children interact with others during this phase, such as siblings, teachers, and peers. It is during this time that the child's willpower and external demands come into play. Tensions may arise, and the child may exhibit stubbornness or a headstrong attitude, which is considered normal for their development. Therefore, it is essential for parents to provide love and affection to ensure that the child does not feel stressed or overwhelmed. Incorrect habits or behaviors instilled during childhood can have detrimental effects on a child's character and personality. Both parents have important roles in shaping the child's personality and character.

Al-Ghazali believed that children are a trust given to parents, pure like precious gems, and their goodness or badness depends on parental guidance (Syamsul, 2003). Therefore, being a parent entails providing guidance, protection, welfare, education, and skills to one's children. Through these efforts, children grow and develop into individuals with good character. Instilling positive habits from an early age ensures that they become ingrained in the child's behavior as they mature. This also helps them gain acceptance from society, enabling them to grow into individuals with good character. On the other hand, if a child is exposed to negative habits from their parents at a young age, they may continue to emulate or remember those behaviors as they grow older, resulting in a negative and socially unacceptable personality. For example, if parents instruct their child to lie about their whereabouts to visitors by saying that the parents are sleeping, this seemingly trivial act of teaching dishonesty can become deeply ingrained in the child's behavior. The child will become accustomed to lying and may adopt other negative behaviors easily imitated by children.

The role of the family is crucial in shaping a child's personality. Everything that is instilled by parents from early childhood to adulthood will be remembered and implemented by the child. In day-to-day life, the mother plays a significant role in raising the child. As the one who

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conceives, provides breastfeeding, and cares for the child every second and every moment, the child's life is heavily dependent on the mother. Hence, it is often said that a mother's feet are the paradise of the child, meaning that a significant part of the child's behavior is determined by the example and conduct of the mother. The child follows the footsteps of the mother from the moment they are born until they can walk on their own, greatly influencing their personal development.

To ensure that a child possesses good character and lives up to their parents' expectations, parents must take an active role in shaping their child's personality by doing the following:

1. Parents should provide love and affection to their children. With sufficient parental love, children can effectively solve problems by discussing them with their parents or finding solutions based on what they have been taught. However, if parents constantly pressure their children to comply with their wishes, it can hinder the development of a good and well-rounded personality. This type of parenting can make children less sensitive to their surroundings and hinder the formation of a complete personality. For example, a child may become fearful, struggle to make friends, and rarely engage in activities with peers due to fear of their parents' reactions.

2. Both parents and children should show mutual respect. Demonstrating respect means that parents must be firm in their interactions with their children, allowing them to learn to respect not only their parents but also others. Parents can set a good example by teaching children to speak politely to their parents and use respectful language. For instance, if a child passes by an older person, they should lower their head as a sign of respect. Although seemingly trivial, these habits are crucial. If children are taught such behaviors from an early age, they will continue to practice them into adulthood.

3. Both parents and children should spend time together frequently to foster a sense of familiarity and closeness. Through regular gatherings, parents can observe their children's growth and development. By engaging in conversations, parents can listen to their children's stories and address any issues or challenges they may be facing, providing them with solutions and ensuring they don't feel burdened by their problems. Moreover, parents should explain to their children about values, religious teachings, beliefs, and various aspects of life, as well as physical changes and growth experienced during their childhood.

4. Both parents should maintain a peaceful family environment and ensure the emotional

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well-being of their children. This responsibility is crucial as it significantly impacts the development of children's potential and creativity. If parents can effectively maintain a peaceful environment, children will develop strong decision-making skills and should be given the right to choose among their options. Parents should accompany and provide appropriate guidance to their children to prevent them from making wrong choices. Inner peace is crucial for children when faced with various options. They should use their hearts to make decisions without rushing. If children's inner peace is disrupted, they may feel confused when faced with choices. Parents must consistently support and guide their children.

5. Building trust is essential by giving trust to their children, it is as valuable as giving them rewards. This will motivate children and encourage them to be more courageous in their actions. Having self-confidence enables children to easily accept their flaws and mistakes. With a sense of self-confidence, children will be more willing to take on challenges and this can be instilled from an early age. For example, when a child helps others, they will feel proud of themselves for performing a good deed and realize that their existence is beneficial and meaningful to others.

Therefore, it can be concluded that the influence of the family role is crucial as the foundation for shaping a child's personality. In order for children to have a good personality, parents must provide love and affection, mutual respect among family members, establish trust with their children, create a peaceful family environment and inner peace for the child, and regularly spend time together as a family. Through these actions, parents can effectively guide and control the growth and development of their child's personality. They can also understand the extent of their child's knowledge, provide better guidance to broaden their child's understanding, and shape their child's character to be good and complete.

The Role of Family in Shaping a Child's Personality

In a family, everyone has an influence, but the greatest influence comes from the father and mother. Educating children is one of the most important responsibilities for parents, as it can have a significant impact on the success of the family. However, the success of a family means little if there is a failure in educating and shaping the character and personality of the child according to the parents' expectations.

Most of the child's time is spent with the family. The family environment is also the primary environment, and as such, a child receives a significant amount of education from the family. The family environment has a major influence on the process of shaping a child's

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personality.

According to (Nazmul Adam, 2011), there are several functions of the family in educating and shaping a child's personality, namely:

1. Family serves as the primary environment and first experience that children encounter during their childhood. As the child's first experience, parents need to understand how to educate and behave towards their child. Parents should establish positive approaches in dealing with all aspects of their child's behavior, ensuring that the child feels loved and cared for by both parents.
2. Family members, including both parents, play a crucial role in ensuring the child's emotional well-being. The family must consistently manage the child's emotions as they greatly influence the child's personality. Emotions can also impact how others perceive the child, and uncontrolled emotions may lead people to conclude that the child is naughty, affecting the child's adaptation patterns. Increased emotional intensity often results in aggressive behavior, frequent moodiness, and causes distress and restlessness for both the child and those around them. Therefore, parents must safeguard their child's emotional well-being to prevent them from being negatively judged.
3. Family can take responsibility for providing motivation and encouragement to help the child achieve success. Parental support and motivation prevent the child from easily giving up and keep them enthusiastic. When actions are supported by their parents, children are not afraid to take on challenges.
4. Family can establish the foundation of religious education for their child from an early age. Providing a solid religious foundation is beneficial as it equips the child with guidance for both their worldly and spiritual life. If a child has a strong religious foundation, parents will be proud to have a child with strong faith who is less likely to be led astray towards negative behaviors such as wrongdoing and the like.
5. Family serves as the basis for instilling moral education in their child. Moral education relates to human behavior and habits. If a child is trained in good habits and behavior from an early age, they become accustomed to these values, which become a foundation for their future adulthood. Children can distinguish between right and wrong actions.
6. Family serves as the foundation for providing social education to their child. As a child enters social environments, such as school, they encounter new peers, their peers. If parents support their child's social interactions and involvement in school, the child will

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strive to please their parents and learn how to be accepted by their peers. Acceptance or rejection by peers significantly influences a child's desires, prompting them to develop qualities that will gain their peers' approval. If a child is accepted by their peers, they gain confidence and make more friends. Conversely, a child who faces rejection may feel jealous, resentful for not being invited to play, become easily offended, and even trivial matters can escalate their anger. If that happens, it hinders their development of social personality, and their character may grow negatively. The social acceptance factor has a significant influence on a child's personality.

7. Family ensures the child's health, allowing them to comfortably engage in a complete learning process. Health also has an impact, as a sick child will feel uncomfortable and unmotivated to learn.
8. Family provides opportunities for children to learn by introducing them to knowledge and various subjects.
9. Parents should provide religious education to their child to attain happiness in both the worldly life and the hereafter as the ultimate goal of human existence.

CONCLUSION

The role of parents in shaping a child's personality is considered very important and highly valued in Islam. In Islamic teachings, parents are regarded as the first leaders and educators for their children. They are responsible for guiding their children in their lives, both morally, ethically, and spiritually. One important aspect of shaping a child's personality in Islam is by setting a good example. Parents should be living examples who adhere to the teachings of the religion, demonstrating righteousness, honesty, patience, and a loving attitude. Children tend to imitate the behavior they see in their parents, therefore, righteous and God-conscious parents will have a strong positive influence on the development of their child's personality.

Furthermore, parents in Islam are taught to provide religious education to their children. They should teach the values of the religion, knowledge about Allah, and the comprehensive teachings of Islam. This religious education includes understanding the concept of monotheism, worship, noble character, and the religious laws that serve as a guide for life in Islam. By providing a strong religious education, parents help their children understand the fundamental principles of morality and ethics in Islam. Moreover, parents are also responsible for shaping the moral and character traits of their children. They should instill values such as simplicity, honesty,

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fairness, patience, and respect for others. Parents should also guide their children in controlling their emotions and resolving conflicts in an Islamic manner. Thus, children will grow up to be responsible individuals, fair, and possessing good morals.

In Islam, parents are also taught to pay attention to formal education and worldly knowledge for their children. They need to ensure that their children receive a good education and acquire the necessary knowledge to face the challenges of the modern world. By educating their children comprehensively, Islamic parents can help them become individuals who are faithful, have noble character, and make positive contributions to society.

Overall, in Islam, the role of parents in shaping a child's personality is of utmost importance. They have the responsibility to set a good example, provide a strong religious education, shape the character and morals of their children, and pay attention to formal education and worldly knowledge. By fulfilling their roles effectively, Islamic parents can help their children grow into God-conscious individuals with noble character and positive influence in society.

The role of parents in shaping a child's personality is extremely important. Parents are the primary influence and guide in a child's life, significantly impacting their character development. Through interactions, modeling, and instilling values, parents play a crucial role in shaping their child's personality. The family environment, as the primary social unit, provides the foundation for a child's personality development. Parents serve as role models, transmitting moral values, ethics, and behavior through their actions and words. Effective communication, emotional support, and positive interactions within the family contribute to the development of self-esteem, resilience, and interpersonal skills in children.

The influence of parents is not limited to the family environment but extends to society as well. Children who receive appropriate guidance and attention from their parents tend to develop healthy and responsible personalities. They internalize positive values, become empathetic individuals, and make positive contributions to their communities. It is important for parents to be aware of their crucial role and actively engage in shaping their child's personality development. This includes creating a supportive and loving environment, providing guidance and direction, instilling moral values, and encouraging effective communication. By doing so, parents contribute to the growth of well-rounded individuals who possess positive personality traits, enabling them to face life's challenges with integrity and resilience.

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