

## A Comparative Study Of Parental Involvement On Students English Learning At Junior High School

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### Abstract

*Parental involvement in English language learning plays an important role in shaping students' academic success and overall well-being. Based on pre-observation, it was found that many students still have difficulties in understanding English learning. This study was conducted with the aim to find out how parents' involvement and see the comparison of father and mother involvement in English learning by using qualitative method. There were 21 respondents and 6 parents who were purposively selected. The researchers collected data by distributing questionnaires to students and interviews with parents. We found that the involvement of both parents has a positive contribution to the progress of their children's English learning. The influence of father's involvement is not as strong as the influence of mother's involvement in English learning because fathers do not spend much time with their children at home because they are busy working. However, fathers also try to be a good example for their children. From the results above, it was found to maximize students' English learning, good cooperation and support between both parents is very necessary.*

**Keywords:** *Parental Involvement, Mother Involvement, Father Involvement*

### INTRODUCTION

Parental involvement is that parents and teachers share responsibility for helping their children learn and achieve academic goals. Parents are the main and first educators for their students, because they are the first students to receive education. Parental involvement in children's English education has a significant impact on the development of children's language skills. Parents have a central role in shaping the child's learning environment at home, which will affect the motivation and quality of children's learning. There are several factors that make it difficult for children to understand learning English, such as the lack of support from parents and the difficulty in understanding the material provided by teachers at school. Therefore, it is important to understand the factors that influence the level of parental involvement in children's English learning.

Parents with different educational and professional backgrounds provide different assistance to their children. Parents' education and profession play an important role in helping children learn English at home Rintaningrum et al., (2022). Parental involvement in the education of students begins at home with the parents providing a safe and healthy environment, appropriate learning experiences, support, and a positive attitude about school (Đurišić &

Bunijevac, 2017). The family provides the basis for the formation of student's behavior, character, morals, and education. Furthermore, most of the students have difficulty in learning English. This happens because children are lazy to learn and the involvement of parents is minimal in supporting students to learn English. Parents have a very big responsibility towards their children both morally and materially in teaching their children learning English (Hilmiyati et al., 2021). So to achieve this goal parents often provide additional tutoring for their children so they can better understand learning English.

The involvement of parents in supporting their children's English learning is very important. Their support in the form of additional tutoring, moral support, and learning resources has a positive impact on their child's ability to understand English learning. Therefore, cooperation between parents and teachers is needed to achieve goals and master the learning of English. Therefore, parental involvement in creating a comfortable learning environment for their children includes helping to review material at school, reading together, discussing subject matter, and providing opportunities to practice speaking English. Parents also provide not only academic but also moral and material support such as facilitating their children to further develop their children's English learning and also

parental involvement helps to build a strong relationship between home and school.

Parental involvement is an important factor in shaping the academic success and overall development of students, including their English learning ability. However, some challenges are specific to school students' English learning, such as the lack of children's understanding and parental support at home, hindering effective parental involvement. Understanding this problem is very important to create strategies that can increase parents' participation in supporting their children's English learning. Parental involvement plays an important role in a language learning. Some of the factors are the environment this includes home, school and community support (Melvina, 2015). Home support that comes from parents makes them know about the use of language at home, the school environment refers to peers, teachers and the learning process, while the community deals with people who interact with students. In this context parents at home such as helping children who have difficulty learning English, supervising children learning, providing motivation, providing learning facilities, providing support and also advice to children (Melvina & Lidya, 2023). When parents have fulfilled these aspects, children will also feel comfortable learning English at home with their parents. This also has a good impact on the development of children's learning English both at home and at school.

Parents is associated with students outcomes and that teachers can stimulate the involvement of their parents, it seems obvious that school improvement efforts are directed at creating positive home-school relations and utilizing the contribution of parents (Boonk et al., 2021). The more often parents invite their children to practice English at home such as playing and speaking English vocabulary, the more enthusiastic children become to improve their English learning at home, so they can outperform their peers at school (He et al., 2014). The active involvement of parents at home in practicing English at home not only makes them master English well, but can also have a positive impact on children at school.

Parents who are involved in their children's learning do things like help them review lessons

and make learning plans, look over their homework, and so on (Luo, 2023). Parents who are actively involved in their children's learning tend to spend more time observing their children at home and setting examples that their children should emulate. Parents can also provide positive encouragement and motivation to their children so that children feel comfortable when parents accompany their children while studying at home.

Parents are the main factor in shaping the character of children because children will only hang out with people in their environment. Several characteristics such as the views, ambitions and actions of parents have significant value, as well as their capabilities in: recognizing their child's daily development, engaging in the learning process with the family, and establishing regular communication with their children regarding learning experiences (Carbonel et al., 2013). Related to (Schoppe-sullivan & Mangelsdorf, 2013) Parental characteristics are the main influences including personality, developmental history, and beliefs or attitudes. Factors such as the parents' personality, their personal history of development, and their beliefs and attitudes all contribute to shaping the environment and parenting styles that influence a child's emotional, social, and cognitive development.

Mother's involvement is something that refers to the activeness and participation of a mother which includes all forms of attention, support, and the role played by the mother both physically and emotionally. Mothers are generally more involved than fathers in their child's care, and their involvement has been found to relate to perceived social support, particularly to informal support (Sharabi & Marom-Golan, 2018). As children reach school age, discourses around maternal involvement stipulate that 'responsible' parents (read mothers) remain at home to care for their children and to participate in their schooling and educational development (Standing, 1999). Mother's involvement in raising children and supporting their education is considered very important. Mother's involvement in children's school activities such as participating in social activities, traveling activities, raising funds for

school needs and attending meetings with teachers in planning children's school activities. Most mothers have good relationships with teachers and other mothers (Hernawati & Herawati, 2020). This is because mothers often accompany their children during school and often communicate regarding children's school activities. Mother's involvement in children's care and education has a positive impact on children social, emotional and academic development. In addition, mothers also play an important role in shaping children's attitudes and behavior towards education and learning. Mother's involvement in children's care and education has great benefits for child's development.

Father's involvement is the father's active effort to be involved directly and continuously in the process of education and child's development, both at home and at school. This involvement includes participating in learning, making educational decisions, moral and emotional support, as well as supervising and encouraging children to learn. With good father involvement in learning, children will have higher motivation to learn, improve social and cognitive skills, and develop better self-abilities. Father's involvement tends to increase significantly in terms of their children's studies, homework, and educational opportunities especially in learning English as children enter adolescence (Levine-melendez et al., 2014). Father's involvement influences the educational outcomes of their children, then it becomes important to understand children's educational achievement as it relates to such factors as the father's or father figure's involvement in their child's life, the family configuration in which the child lives (e.g., two-parent family or single-parent family), and the relationship of the child to the father figure (e.g., biological, father figure/fictive kin) (Curtis et al., 2017). Furthermore, parents, teachers and policy makers must recognize the importance of father involvement in children's education and facilitate father participation in children's education activities. All parties must work together to create an environment that supports the involvement and participation of fathers in children's lives so as to help strengthen the bond

between fathers and children.

## RESEARCH METHOD

In this research uses a qualitative research. Qualitative research is to understand and explore central phenomena (Creswell, 2012). Qualitative comparative analysis (QCA) is a research method that integrates qualitative and quantitative characteristics (Ragin, 2009). The researchers used a qualitative method with Qualitative comparative analysis (QCA) this requires in-depth knowledge of the case to be studied. In this study, researchers used participants as samples. One of the most important tasks in the study design phase is to identify the right participants Sargeant, (2012). The participants selected by the researchers are people who provide information that can support the researchers research. Thus, the participants in this research are students and parents of students at SMP Muhammadiyah 6 Padang. In this research, researchers used purposive sampling techniques in selecting participants. The purpose of the researchers in taking participants from students and their parents was to find out whether the students' parents could be interviewed and to find out a comparative study of the involvement of fathers and mothers in students' English learning.

This descriptive analysis is used to describe frequencies characteristics of respondents grouped by gender, age, employment, last education and employment.

The formula is  $P = F/N \times 100\%$ .

Descriptive statistics provides a description of data seen from the minimum, maximum, sum, mean, standard deviation and variance (n) (Sugiyono., 2009).

The instrument is an important tool in research to collect data to support research. Instrument is a tool that is made and arranged following the development steps procedure instruments based on theory and research needs were then used to collect research data (L. R Gay, Geoffrey, 2012). The researchers distributed questionnaires to students with 9 statements from 3 indicators and then select students whose parents can interview them to obtain data to see a comparative study between father's involvement and mother's involvement in

learning English for students at SMP Muhammadiyah 6 Padang. The factor of Parental Involvement in a language learning are the environment including home, school support and community support (Melvina, 2015).

**Table 1. Intrerval Class**

Score%	Kategori
75 – 100	Very Attentive
50 – 74	Attentive
25 – 49	Lack of Attention
10 – 24	Not Attentive

(Sugiyono, 2013)

Interviewing involves asking question and getting answer from participants in a study. Individual, face to face group interviewing (De Trigueros, 2017). In this study researchers used semi-structured interviews involving individual interviews to support data for the research.

## FINDING AND DISCUSSION

### FINDING

The research findings explain the research questions that have been formulated in chapter 1. Researcher used questionnaire indicators from (Melvina, 2015) to find out parental involvement in English learning. From the findings obtained by researcher after distributing questionnaires, researcher get an average of 33% of 3 indicators which are included in the inattention category. Parents' involvement in terms of home support, schhol support and community school is very influential in children's English learning. Therefore parents and teachers must build a close relationship to create a more positive learning environment.

After the researchers obtained the data, the researchers analyzed the data based on indicators adated from (Melvina & Lidya, 2023), namely Parents as a Teacher, Parents as a Facilitator, Parents as a Motivator, Parents as a Supporter and Parents as a Counselor.

#### 1. Parents as a Teacher

From the first Indicator parents as a teachers here the researcher found data mothers have limitations in understanding

English, they still try hard to help their children learn English. Meanwhile fathers acknowledged their limited understanding of English and their inability to directly accompany their children in learning the language. They rely on family members, such as older siblings or mothers, who are more proficient in English to help their children.

#### 2. Parents as a Facilitator

In the second indicator, parents as facilitators, here researchers found data on mothers creating an environment that supports children's learning well at home by providing space and time to focus on learning and creating a calm and comfortable learning environment in the child's room, by minimizing noise disturbances such as TV or music, to support children's focus and concentration in learning as well as fathers who do the same as mothers.

#### 3. Parents as a Motivator

In this third indicator, researcher found data that mothers often praise their children and feel happy buying their children their favorite food as a form of attention and affection in the parent-child relationship. Meanwhile fathers try to provide the best for their children even though they are constrained by lack of time for their children. Fathers motivate their children by only giving pocket money. These fathers do not speak English, therefore fathers rarely invite their children to speak English at home, but there is a father who understands a little basic vocabulary and tries to talk to his child.

#### 4. Parents as a Supporter

In the fourth indicator of parents as supporter, here the researcher found data three mothers provide strong emotional support to their children in learning English. He encourages children by providing enthusiasm and motivation to overcome learning difficulties. This mother also actively communicates with her child, asking about his condition, and talking to him when the child seems less enthusiastic. Meanwhile Fathers proved that they actively provided support and advice to their children in learning English.

#### 5. Parents as a Counselor

In the last indicator, the researcher found that mothers are committed to building good emotional relationships with their children through listening, without anger or punishment that makes the child feel sad. Although the father does not have time to accompany the child to study, the father tries to build a positive emotional relationship with his child by talking when doing activities together, and although sometimes he gets angry if the child resists, he explains that it is for the good of the child.

## DISCUSSION

Dealing with the finding above, the researcher found that the influence of father involvement was not as strong as the influence of mother involvement in learning English because fathers did not spend much time with their children at home because they were busy working. Mothers are generally more involved than fathers in their child's care, and their involvement has been found to relate to perceived social support (Sharabi & Marom-Golan, 2018). Mothers involvement can have a significant impact on children's development and well-being. Mothers who are actively involved in their children's education tend to have better relationships with their children, and their children tend to be happier, healthier, because mothers spend much time with them than their father. Then fathers also try to be a good example for their children. There is a pair of fathers and mothers who tend to be more involved in their children's English learning, both in terms of morals and material as well as the facilities provided to their children. Father involvement takes the form of direct interaction with his children and is responsible for the children's needs and requirements (Septiningsih, 2019).

It is important to recognize that the role of fathers in children's learning cannot be ignored. Fathers must not only be good moral examples, but must also be active in providing direct support to their children in meeting their needs and requirements. This includes interacting directly with children in their English learning process. Fathers who are active and involved in their children's learning can have a significant positive impact on their children's English

language development. The last, parents' involvement has a positive contribution to students' English progress. Parental involvement at home such as helping children who have difficulty learning English, supervising children learning, providing motivation, providing learning facilities, providing support and also advice to children (Melvina & Lidya, 2023). Parental involvement involving various aspects as mentioned above can create a positive and supportive learning environment for students in developing their English language skills.

## CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

### CONCLUSION

Based on research results, it is proven that parental involvement in learning English is very important. Because it will help children develop their academic potential and mental well-being. Researcher conducted interviews with students' parents with 10 questions from 5 indicators to find out the differences between father's involvement and mother's involvement on students English learning in class 8.1 students at SMP Muhammadiyah 6 Padang. These findings emphasize the importance of the involvement of parents in children's English education, as well as differences in the roles and interactions between fathers and mothers. To maximize children's English learning, good cooperation and support between both parents is very necessary.

### SUGGESTION

For this reason, as a further step, it is recommended that schools and educational communities can more actively support parents in their role as partners in children's English learning. This can be done through training, workshops and support resources designed specifically for parents. Apart from that, cooperation between fathers and mothers in supporting English language learning must be encouraged in various ways, including holding activities that involve both parties. Recognition and appreciation for parents' efforts must also continue to be given to motivate them to remain involved.

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