



Why Should Parents Be Involved In Education? A Review of the Research Literature

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ABSTRACT

A good education will be difficult to be realized without the collaboration among all education components. One of the elements which significantly contribute to determine the quality of education is the role of parents. However, many parents have no active engagement in education process of children. The phenomenon occurred shows that the educational process is still only concerned in the school. Education is only considered as the responsibility of the teacher only. There are a few parents that do the feedback from the educational process in the school. For its implication, the quality of education is not as well as expected. This study aims to acknowledge the importance of parents' involvement in improving the quality of education. This study employs literature method. The procedure of the research was conducted by analyzing various relevant literatures to answer the research question. The finding shows that the involvement of parents in education is essential, especially in the level of elementary school. There are some kinds of activity which can be done by parents to collaborate with school. The involvement of parents in education can be realized by supporting students' activity in school, appreciating students' learning achievement, supervising, providing good facilities, and giving intensive learning guidance to students outside the school environment.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Parents are the first and primary educator in children's life. From parents, a child can get the most basic education, character building, the transfer of good values and behaviors. Parents can be involved as the educators for their children, the observation of learning process, volunteers, or the involvement of parents in determining the policy at school (Cairney, 2000). The involvement of parents in education is an obligation, therefore the role of parents in education should be optimized (Schlueter, 2000). Ironically, there are still many parents who fully give the responsibility only to teachers at school (Hatimah, 2016). It is contradictive to the initial idea which expects that education is the responsibility for all related components such as family, school, and society. Initially, the school only has a role to help parents to make education becoming more systematic and

posses clear formal legality. The position of school as an educational institution should not eliminate the responsibility of parents as the primary educator. Moreover, the limitation of the school to provide optimum learning service due to some technical issues or other factors makes the role of parents in education should be optimized. Due to the limitation faced, parents should be able to collaborate with the school to optimally conduct education for students, even more children spend their time almost with their parents at home, not with teachers at school. Therefore, by the collaboration, it is expected that children can be optimally developed and become an independent individual, productive, and give benefits to people around them.

The education in family basically is the part of informal education outside the school. A child can learn the values of good character for the first time from the parents whether it is conscious or unconscious (Paul et al., 2022). The development of social-emotional condition of children is significantly affected by the role of parents which may determine their future (Chen et al., 2022). Parents can be a childminder, love giver, the place for children to moan, as a guide, educator in emotional relationship, and motivation giver. Although the education in family is included into informal education outside the school however it still has strong relation with the formal education at school (Fischer, 2022). Various mistakes conducted by parents in giving education to children such as did not give enough care and love, did not want to spend time to accompany children to study, or force the willingness to children actually can affect the learning development of children at school. For its implication, the quality of education achieved is less as expected.

Some previous research prove that the partnership between family and school is the primary collaboration in education (Gerdes et al., 2022), (Murray et al., 2008). The importance of partnership between family and school should be realized by all components involved in education. Based on the background described, it is essential to acknowledge the importance of parents' involvement in improving the quality of education. Furthermore, this study is expected to find out new information which has contribution to improve the quality of education at school.

Parents have significant role in determining the future of their children. Parents are the biggest responsibility taker in the matter of education for children (Umar, 2015). The responsibility of parents is not only in informal education but also in formal education at school. By the limitation of parents' ability in providing direct education to children, so they send their children to formal school. However, parents should not have to let the responsibility for educating the children wholly in the teacher's shoulder. Parents must still have role in their children's education to maximize the learning achievement. At least, there are three roles of parents that contribute to elevate children's learning achievement, such as: giving the opportunity to children in finding out their potency and talent, giving relevant information related to the interest and talent of children and also to provide learning facilities needed by children.

The role of parents in education can be more elaborated, which consists of the role as childminder and educator, the role as the supervisor, the role as motivator, and the role as facilitator. The role as childminder and educator is more emphasized on the development of social, mental, and character of children (Vincent & Ball, 2007). In conducting the role, parents may not to force their willingness. It means that parents guide children appropriated as potency they have. Parents as the supervisor have to give aids to children to learn independently and solve the problems without depending on other people. The role of parents as the supervisor is also meant as the process to teach responsibility to children as a student in school or as a child in home. As a motivator, parents can motivate children to be always excited in learning. In motivating children, parents must have given good examples and also have given sustainable guidances to them. Parents also have important role in managing learning pattern of children and eliminate unimportant activities to be replaced by positive activities. The role of parents which is essential in children education is the role as facilitator. Parents, in this case, are

responsible to provide learning facilities for children. Therefore, the facilities have important role in supporting children's learning program. As the result, the learning output will be less optimum if the facilities needed are not well fulfilled.

The quality of education is related to the quality of graduates produced by educational institution. To produce good graduates with high quality, not only input that should be considered but also the process taken. According to one opinion, in improving the quality of education, the thing that should be seriously considered is the process (Aziz, 2015). The quality of students can be improved through the good process which can lead to the improvement of academic achievement as the graduates. In the improvement of quality, the component that should not be forgotten is the appropriateness between the learning process and the purpose of education itself. To achieve the aim, the good collaboration among education stakeholder, government, and parents is absolutely needed. By that collaboration, the improvement of education's quality is expected to be easier to execute.

An education is considered to have good quality if it is able to fulfill the expectation and willingness of public and graduate users. It is related with an opinion which states that all things already fulfilled the criteria of good quality if they are able to fulfill the expectation of users. The improvement of education's quality cannot be done without the collaboration from all related stakeholders. To realize that, some ways can be done such as the repair of structure continuously, training and make commitment to all parties involved. The pattern should be done in responding all kinds of change which occur in society life. The repair should be based on the need of users. The quality is the obligation to make graduates possess competitiveness and become the winner. Education not only has significant role in the development of a nation, but also strongly related to the free market which is more competitive day by day. Therefore, education should be seen as something which is able to accommodate people to create a nation with the good quality residents. It is appropriate with one opinion which states that the quality is the vital essence in every education unit (Firdaus, 2021). Because the quality in education is essential, all components should be actively involved. School as the education organizer should be able to build good cooperation with government, society, or students' parents (Saifulloh et al., 2012). Especially for parents, in improving the quality of education, are demanded to be more active in the informal education outside school. The informal education outside school is important as the answer of complex life challenges so the quality development of independent human resources is undeniable (Sudarsana, 2016).

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This study was designed qualitatively with literature study approach. The source of data in this study is the results of previous studies published in the form of article in scientific journals, proceedings, or the book chapters and the findings of unpublished research. The sources were collected from google scholar or the other digital library platforms, whether in national or international level. The sources were then analyzed and filtered based on their relevance. The irrelevant sources were sorted to avoid disturbance to the primary source. The relevant sources were then reviewed and compared with the other sources in order to obtain synthesis of the answers proposed. Then, the result was discussed using credible theory to enrich the analysis. The result of discussion was then presented in the part of finding and discussion.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Based on the study towards various literatures, it can be found two main problems related to the involvement of parents in improving the quality of education. In the first

part, it is described the importance of parents' involvement in improving the quality of education. In the second part, it is described the forms of parents' involvement.

3.1 The Urgency of Parent's Involvement in Education

Parents' involvement in education has been reviewed many times in various studies. The first study reviewed the profil of parents' involvement in education. The finding showed that the involvement of parents is basically good enough, however the appropriate strategy to make parents more involved in the education process of children should be properly thought (Amini, 2015). The second study concluded that the parents' involvement in education is essential (Putri et al., 2020). In a study, it is explained that to make parents get involved in the learning process so the learning model used should be based in audiovisual based. The result of the the other studies also shows the importance of parents' involvement in education. In the study, it is explained that to make parents get involved in education, school should facilitate them. The facilitation conducted by school such as conducting parenting education, providing information about education, development, and health of children, monitoring learning process at home, facilitating children's performance show, conducting recreating event, collaborating with public community, visiting students' home, and participating in the school events (Irma et al., 2019). The third study reviewed the involvement of parents in character education. The finding of the study showed that parents have significant role in the internalization of good character values to children (Apriliyanti et al., 2021).

The involvement of parents in education has many benefits. The previous study showed that parents' involvement in education can elevate children's learning achievement (Umar, 2015). The improvement of learning achievement can be made if parents are able to give effective elanring guidance at home (Iftitah & Anawaty, 2020). Parents can become a motivator when children learn at home (Lilawati, 2020). In running their function as a motivator, parents should consider the condition of children's health. It implies that parents should not force something beyond children's ability. Besides, the character building in improving the achievement of parents' role is also important in education. The optimalization of parents role in building children's character is expected to be able to rationalize the good character values in the implementation of their daily life (Ginanjari, 2013). Based on those various previous studies described, it can be concluded that parents should be involved in education.

3.2 The Kinds of Parents' Involvement in Education

The kinds of parents' involvement in education can be analysed through the role of parents in education. The role is the realized in the form of activities which proe the involvement of parents in education. In general, the role of parents in education is as guide, educator, keeper, developer and supervisor (Kurniati et al., 2020). The activity occurs based on the role is by accompanying the children when doing homework, making good communication and doing activities together at home, creating comfortable environment, becoming a good role model, giving supervision, and also guiding and motivating children in learning. By the role, the difficulties of children in learning can be reduced. Moreover, children who have low ability in processing information properly really need the guidance of parents while learning. The children who have information difficulties are including those with learning difficulties (Marlina, 2019). One of some external factors which may deteriorate the situation is the less support of parents in children education (Idris, 2009). The problem need serious attention of parents, because of the previous studies state that parents' attention has strong correlation with the development of students' cognitive ability (Pautina, 2018). Parents should give full support to the education needs of children, not only in the mental aspect but also in preparing good and ideal learning facilities for children (Hermawati & Sugito, 2021). It is in line with the finding of the previous study which states that the involvement of parents can affect students' academic ability (Yetti, 2012).

The involvement of parents in education basically can be realized by various ways. Generally, the involvement of parents in education can be classified into two types namely the involvement in education at school and the involvement in education outside school. The involvement of parents in education at school can be realized by making partnership between parents and school supported by the school committee. According to a study of the involvement of parents through the school committee can give effect to the output of knowledge competence, attitude, and skill of students (Rahman, 2014). The partnership made can significantly affect the output of competence as the effect of the effective school program. The partnership between parents and school not only can be realized through the role of school committee but also can be done by establishing communication between teachers and parents. The effective communication is beneficial to improve the effectivity of interaction among teachers, students, and parents so the learning process can be effective (Triwardhani et al., 2020). In this case, teachers are responsible to develop the communication strategy in establishing parents' involvement. However, the communication pattern should be based on the interest of parents to the learning program at school. Whether parents or school should understand that the communication made is for the mutual needs to support the learning process of children. The involvement of parents in the perspective of partnership means that family is the first and primary educator, meanwhile the school has a role to help family to make education become more systematic, effective, and certified (Hatimah, 2016). Therefore, the collaboration of family with education unit is absolutely needed and the education unit must initiate the partnership and the involvement of family in advancing children education.

The involvement of parents outside the school is the continuation of involvement in education at school. The involvement can be realized in the form of guidance and supervision. Parents are obligated to accompany children when doing homework, establishing communication and doing activities together, creating comfortable environment, becoming good role model, giving supervision, and also guiding and motivating children in learning (Kurniati et al., 2020). Through the involvement, parents can provide education and stimulation as appropriated with the needs and the development duties so children can maximize their potential (Yeni Lestari, 2019). Referring to a research which find out that various forms of involvement of parents at home is by providing facilities, acting as a mentor, motivator, supervisor, and communicator (Wardana & Purnanto, 2021). Parents can also get involved as an instructor, give learning guidance, give motivation, and become a mentor in children's learning process.

4. CONCLUSION

The result of literature study shows that the involvement of parents in education is essential, especially in the level of elementary school. The quality of education will not occur if one element in education is not collaborating. Parents as one element of education is demanded to be more actively involved in improving the quality of education. There are some kinds of activity which can be done by parents in order to realize the collaboration with the school. The involvement of parents in education can be realized by establishing partnership and effective communication with school and also support children to learn outside the school environment.

The recommendation which can be given based on the finding of this study is the commitment from parents for the education of their children should be improved. Therefore, it is expected that parents should be more actively involved in education so the quality of education can be realized as expected.

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