# SOCIALIZATION ON THE ROLE OF FATHERS IN PARENTING

Fitria Budi Utami<sup>1\*,</sup> Sisca Wulandari<sup>2</sup>, Faisal Kemal<sup>3</sup>, Yogi Gumilar<sup>4</sup>,

<sup>1</sup>PG PAUD FKIP Universitas Muhammadiyah A.R. Fachruddin fitriabudiutami@unimar.ac.id

**Abstrak:** Even though fathers spend some time with their families, especially their children, not all fathers fully understand their roles at home. Most fathers feel that they are not as effective in caring for their children compared to mothers. According to a study, Indonesia has seen an increase in its ranking as the third fatherless country. Therefore, it is important to conduct socialization on the role of fathers in parenting. The Community Service was carried out using the Participatory Action Research (PAR) approach. The results of the community Service showed that the involvement of fathers in parenting is not only important to discuss but also needs to be applied by every parent. When fathers are involved in parenting, it indirectly enhances the cognitive abilities of children, improves their socioemotional skills, prevents maternal fatigue and stress, fosters attachment bonding, and ensures the fulfillment of children's rights. The survey results indicated that the socialization activities on the role of fathers in parenting achieved a success rate of 94.9%, indicating excellent implementation and providing valuable knowledge about the father's role in parenting. Therefore, these activities can be conducted periodically to continue promoting awareness and understanding of the importance of fathers in parenting.

Key Word: Father's Role, Parenting, Child

# PENDAHULUAN

The first education for a child truly begins within the family (Lestari & Utami, 2023). In the family, each member has their respective roles in child rearing. Ideally, there should be a father and mother working together in parenting to provide optimal education for the child's growth and development (Imroatun et al., 2020; Santoso, 2020). However, due to the demands of work outside the home for fathers and the belief that domestic responsibilities are solely the mother's, it has become a norm and a prevailing value in society. This strengthens the perception that educating and nurturing children is solely the responsibility of mothers.

From another perspective, the married life and partnership of both the father and mother are seen as complementary roles, including being complete role models for their children for the future life. This aligns with Rahmi's (2015) opinion, stating that besides the mother's role, the father's role is also part of parenting in the family. The term "parents" refers to both the father and mother. Consequently, both are expected to jointly play a role in the child's development, family life, and other aspects of marital relations (Fadli et al., 2021:174). According to Lamb et al. (as cited in Palkovits, 2002), a father has three roles: paternal engagement, paternal accessibility, and paternal responsibility. The father's role is associated with the task of guiding the child to become an independent individual in their adulthood. The father's role encompasses spending time together, providing warmth, being friendly, offering motivation, being sensitive to the child's needs, protecting and supervising the child from dangers, enforcing discipline, and giving

advice(Ningsih & Watini, 2023) . Early childhood is a crucial period for individuals undergoing rapid processes of growth and development (Rabiah Al Adawiyah & Nita Priyanti, 2021).

The father's role can be maximized when there is awareness and sufficient time. For faculty members and academics at Muhammadiyah A.R. Fachruddin University, the argument about the father's busyness as a wage earner is considered a contributing factor to the limited time fathers spend with their children. The father's daily work outside the home often forces many fathers to be unable to allocate quality time with their families, resulting in a loss of meaningful moments with their children. Although spending time with family, especially children, is important at times, not all fathers seem to fully understand their roles at home (Utami et al., 2023; Wulandari et al., 2022). Most fathers feel less confident in parenting compared to mothers. According to a study, Indonesia has seen an increase in its ranking, now standing at the third position in the category of a fatherless country. A fatherless country is characterized by a tendency towards the lack of significant involvement and role of fathers in a child's daily life at home (Prisca Devina, 2022).

Based on the above background, the issue faced by the partner is the lack of understanding of the father's role in parenting and the positive impact that children can experience when fathers are actively involved in the parenting process. Thus, the problem formulation given to address the partner's issues is: "Through this seminar, will fathers in the academic community of University of Muhammadiyah A.R. Fachruddin gain understanding and knowledge of the father's role in the parenting process?"

## METODE PENELITIAN

The necessary components for supporting the implementation of this socialization activity include: 1) Tape Recorder, 2) Camera as an instrument in data collection for Community Service, and 3) the required stationery and office supplies. Furthermore, the tools used in the implementation of this activity are:

- 1. Computer/laptop, serving as the main device for completing the Community Service Report.
- 2. Camera/Photography equipment, used to document every activity of the Faculty Team in delivering presentations.

The activity takes place at University of Muhammadiyah A.R. Fachruddin. The target participants for community service are lecturers and academic as well as non-academic members. The method used in this activity is a brief socialization about the Father's Role in Parenting. Participants are given presentations using a classical method, providing

information followed by a question and answer session. The participants include lecturers and academic as well as non-academic members. The Participatory Action Research (PAR) approach is employed. This approach has the advantage of conducting research and participatory action simultaneously, involving guidance, improvement, and evaluation of decisions made by the participants themselves (mentoring teachers) (Yudiawan et al., 2020). In this approach, participants are asked to fill out a questionnaire at the end of the event.

	Time	Agenda
14	15.00 - 15.05	Reading of CV by Moderator (Maya Lestari, M.Pd)
	15.05 - 15.15	Material Presentation 1
	15.15-15.40	Reading of CV by Moderator (Maya Lestari, M.Pd)
	15.40 - 15.50	Material Presentation 2
	15.50 - 16.00	Question and Answer Session and Discussion.
	16.00 - 16.20	Group Photo Session
	16.20 - 16.25	Closing by MC (Dyah and Maya)
	14	14 15.00 - 15.05   15.05 - 15.15   15.15 - 15.40   15.40 - 15.50   15.50 - 16.00   16.00 - 16.20

## A. Agenda Arrangement

#### **B.** Event Committee

No.	Name of the Socialization Implementer	<b>Position</b> Responsible Person	
1.	apt. Drs. Jaka Supriyanta, M.Farm		
2.	apt. Abdul Aziz Setiawan. S.Si., M.Farm.	Responsible Person	
3.	Dadang, SE.MM	Responsible Person	
4.	Fitria Budi Utami, M.Pd	Head of Program	
5.	Sisca Wulandari, M.Pd	Member	
6.	Faisal Kemal, M.Pd	Member	
7.	Maya Lestari, M.Pd	Member	
8.	Yogi Gumilar, M.Pd	Member	

## HASIL DAN PEMBAHASAN

The community service activity on "The Father's Role in Parenting" was conducted on April 14, 2023, with participants from the academic community of University of Muhammadiyah A.R. Fachruddin. The community service took place in the evening, approved by the Research and Community Service Institute (LPPM) of University of Muhammadiyah A.R. Fachruddinand official letters (surat penugasan) from the organizing committee. The researcher collaborated with the Talkshow Hijrah Finansial team from the Institute for the Study of Islam and Kemuhammadiyahan and the Research and Community Service Institute of University of Muhammadiyah A.R. Fachruddin. During the implementation, the researcher, along with the entire academic community, occupied the campus mosque at University of Muhammadiyah A.R. Fachruddin. The participants included lecturers and educators from the academic community, comprising both male and female participants, totaling 17 attendees.

The socialization activity began with a voting session, presenting questions about participants' perspectives on daily activities with children. As Triluqman, H. (2009) suggests, voting using internet-based applications during socialization or teaching activities can be an alternative for collecting participants' opinions (polling). The facilitator then discussed the results of the poll as part of the introduction before starting into the core material regarding the father's role in parenting. Subsequently, the facilitator invited participants to engage in an Ice Breaking session. This Ice Breaking involved movements and songs led by the facilitator team and participated in by all attendees (Budi Utami et al., 2023). Ice Breaking activities are highly effective in enhancing participant focus, fostering camaraderie among participants, building communication, and promoting collaboration (Putri, 2022). During the Ice Breaking session, the facilitator team used media such as videos displayed through an infocus screen, guiding participants to move in pairs following the rhythm of the song presented in the video.

On the main part of this community service, participants were arranged to sit in their chosen places, and their attention was ready to listen to the material (Lestari et al., 2023; Wulandari et al., 2023). The socialization material focused on the role of fathers in parenting. This included the basic needs of children such as care, affection, and stimulation. For example, health and nutrition needs, the need for affection, and also the need for stimulation and education. In addition to the basic needs of children, the material presented in the socialization also discussed about who plays a role in parenting as mentioned by Yudiawan et al., 2020, parents consist of both fathers and mothers. Therefore, in parenting, both parents, fathers, and mothers, should play a role. Furthermore, the facilitator also emphasized that having children and being parents are blessings. Thus, parents need to consciously work together to provide the best for their children.

The involvement of fathers in parenting is not only important to discuss but also needs to be adopted as good practice by every parent. When fathers are involved in parenting, it indirectly improves the cognitive abilities of children (Putri, 2022), enhances the socioemotional abilities of children (Triluqman, 2009), prevents mothers from exhaustion and stress (Putri, 2022), acts as a form of bonding attachment (Yudiawan et al., 2020), and fulfills the rights of children (Triluqman, 2009).

Father involvement in parenting can start during pregnancy, and when the baby is born, fathers can take care of the baby. Furthermore, the involvement of fathers in parenting can include being there for the child, being present for the child and the partner entirely, engaging in activities together, removing anything that disrupts the quality of family togetherness, and creating good communication with the child. At the end of the activity, the male and female participants of the socialization on the role of fathers in parenting were given the opportunity to ask questions about parenting. Through this question-and-answer session, participants and facilitators could share good parenting practices that involve fathers parenting.

# **Survey Results**

This Community Service activity received a highly positive response from the participants. Here is a summary of the results:

What are the parents' opinions about the socialization regarding this community service titled 'Socialization on The Role of Fathers in Parenting'?

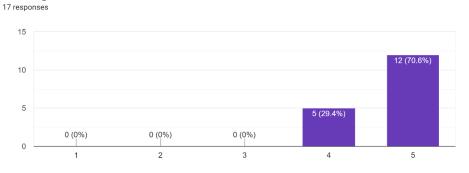


Fig. 1. Result of The Survey About the Community Services Satisfaction

The above diagram shows that 70.6% of participants are very satisfied and 29.4% are satisfied. Therefore, it can be concluded that 100% of participants feel satisfied with the implementation of the father's role socialization activity in parenting.

What are the parents' opinions about the registration system regarding this community service titled 'Socialization on The Role of Fathers in Parenting'

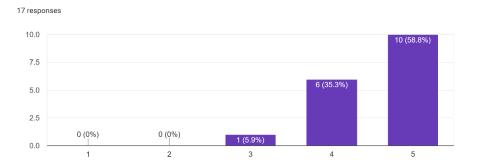


Fig. 2. Result of The Survey About the Community Services Registration System

The diagram above shows that 58.8% of participants chose "very easy" and 35.3% chose "easy". Therefore, it can be concluded that 94.1% of participants find the registration process for the father's role socialization activity in parenting to be easy.

What are the parents' opinions about the material delivery by the speaker regarding this community service titled 'Socialization on The Role of Fathers in Parenting'

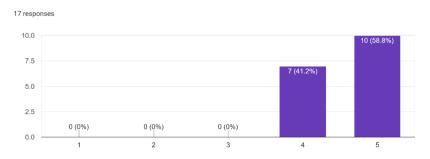


Fig. 3. Result of The Survey About the Community Services Material Delivery

The diagram above shows that 58.8% of participants chose "very suitable" and 41.2% chose "suitable". Therefore, it can be concluded that 100% of participants feel that the father's role socialization activity in parenting is suitable for their lives.

What are the parents' opinions about the benefit regarding this community service in the future?

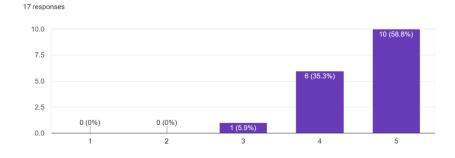
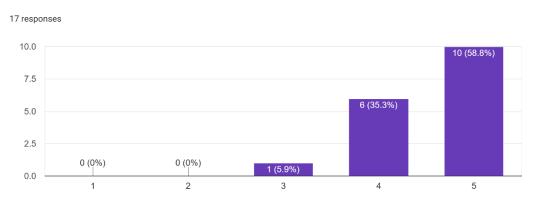


Fig. 4. Result of The Survey About the Community Services' Benefit

The diagram above shows that 58.8% of participants chose "very beneficial" and 35.3% chose "beneficial". Therefore, it can be concluded that 94.1% of participants feel that the father's role socialization activity in parenting is beneficial for their current lives and the future.



Was the material presented interesting?

Fig. 5. Result of The Survey About the Community Services' Material Opinion

The diagram above shows that 58.8% of participants chose "very interesting" and 35.3% chose "interesting". Therefore, it can be concluded that 94.1% of participants find the father's role socialization activity in parenting interesting.

What are the parents' opinions about the discussion during this community service?

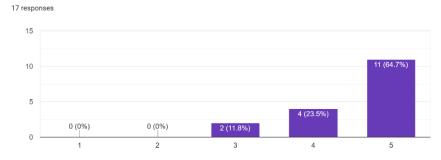


Fig. 6. Result of The Survey About the Community Services' Discussion

The diagram above shows that 64.7% of participants chose "very smooth" and 23.5% chose "smooth". Therefore, it can be concluded that 88.2% of participants feel that the discussion ran smoothly during the father's role socialization activity in parenting.

What are the parents' opinions about the whole community services activity program titled 'Socialization on The Role of Fathers in Parenting'?

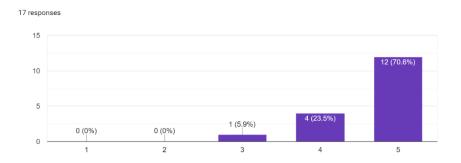


Fig. 7. Result of The Survey About the Community Services' Opinion

The diagram above shows that 70.6% of participants chose "very good" and 23.5% chose "good". Therefore, it can be concluded that 94.1% of participants feel that the father's role socialization activity in parenting is good and can be conducted periodically.

## CLOSING

The Community Service Activity titled "Socialization on the Role of Fathers in Parenting" received a very positive response from the participants. The Community Service yielded data indicating that father involvement in parenting is not only important to discuss but also necessary to be adopted as a good practice by every parent. When fathers are involved in parenting, it indirectly enhances children's cognitive abilities, improves their socio-emotional skills, prevents maternal fatigue and stress, fosters attachment bonding, and ensures children's rights are met. The survey results of the activity show a success rate of 94.9%, indicating excellent implementation and significant assistance in providing knowledge about the father's role in parenting. Therefore, this activity can be conducted periodically.

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