



ISSN: 0975-833X

Available online at <http://www.journalcra.com>

International Journal of Current Research
Vol. 10, Issue, 03, pp.66713-66715, March, 2018

**INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL
OF CURRENT RESEARCH**

RESEARCH ARTICLE

THE IMPACT OF FATHER ABSENCE ON ADOPTED FEMALE ADOLESCENT

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ARTICLE INFO

Article History:

Received 23rd December, 2017
Received in revised form
27th January, 2018
Accepted 07th February, 2018
Published online 28th March, 2018

Key words:

Father Absence,
Adopted Female.

ABSTRACT

This study aims to determine the impact of father absenteeism that occurred in early adult female adoptive children. This research is a qualitative research with case study approach. The object of this study is a family that has adopted children without any marital relationship of husband and wife, cared for by a 50-year-old woman who became the mother for early adult female adoptive children. Methods of data collection in this study using observation, interview and documentation study. In testing the validity and reliability of research using triangulation. The result of this study is the discovery of a negative impact on the development of early adolescent girls who do not feel the care of the father. Impacts that often occur in foster children who do not get the parenting of the father like, high aggressive level, have a high sense of shame, jealousy, not confident, often feel lonely, tend to choose activities in the house and choose friends with men compared to women. For her, making friends with men provides a sense of security and comfort. In this study also found that the high motivation to be a child who excel and boast her mother in the future. This positive impact occurs when the child feels that only she can help her mother when her mother is old. Low economic factors make the child aware that she should get a good job to improve the family economy.

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Citation: Cempaka Putrie Dimala, Agustina Ekasari and Endah Swarni, 2018. "The impact of father absence on adopted female adolescent", *International Journal of Current Research*, 10, (03), 66713-66715.

INTRODUCTION

The value of children for parents in everyday life can be known from the fact that the child becomes a place for parents to devote love, the child as a source of family happiness, the child as a consideration of couples when wanting divorce, the child as a place to socialize values in the family and inherited family property and the child as a place of parent in hanging his expectations (Ihromi, 1999). For some parents, the presence of children in the family forms the family into a perfect family. The presence of children can also increase the motivation of both parents to be better. This is what causes each married couple to always crave the presence of children in the family. Not a few who choose to appoint children when the age of marriage has exceeded 5 (five) years but has not been blessed with a child. There is also a trying to get a child through the IVF program and not a few who raised their own children to be used as a child. In the Pougnet (2011) study, explaining one type of family that is becoming increasingly common in North America is a family headed by a single mother. In 2006, about 13% of Canadian families and 22% of families in Quebec include biological fathers who live separately from their children (Statistics Canada, 2007a).

Families with one parent who do not stay at home usually have lower income levels than the parents' two families (Ricciuti, 2004). In 2006, 7.7% of Canadian children and adolescents in two-parent families were under low-income cutoffs, compared with 32.3% of children and adolescents in single-parent families (Statistics Canada, 2009). A maternal-headed family also occurs in Indonesia, but a different case experienced by a middle-aged woman called Rani's mother, who lives alone with her adopted daughter 14 years ago without feeling the father's role in their family. The purpose of raising this girl is to divert Rani's mother's world from a marriage relationship. But Rani's mother has a fear of her old age. The solution to overcome the fear of old age is parenting without a husband. In the development of parenting, Rani's mother often experiences fatigue in coping with children, especially during the transition of children to early adolescence. Mrs. Rani sees that her girl is very happy when it comes to men. Blankenhorn (1996) further associates a woman's love for her worth of independence in the next relationship. If a woman has a good relationship with her father, she is less likely to seek male approval or seek male affection through promiscuous free sex. The interpersonal theory of adolescent development explains how a father is essential in shaping the identity of the girl (Bottaand Dumlaio, 2002). This theory shows that the interpersonal relationships that a child can grow can affect his or her own feelings. Furthermore the dysfunctional family environment can create a

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negative self-image, which can then contribute to direct-directed hostility and the development of poor interpersonal relationships as adults. In addition it was found that a daughter's relationship with her father as a teenager related to self-esteem more than her relationship with her mother. The adverse effects of negative or low self-esteem manifest themselves in tense interpersonal relationships. Negative behaviors often appear to children in everyday life such as high anger, aggressive, unwilling to listen, feel the most right, prefer to spend time with girlfriend and ignore the homework. Juvenile delinquency is usually done by teenagers who fail in their mental development processes, both in adolescence and in childhood (IQEQ staff in Maharani and Andayani, 2003). Viewed from a psychological point of view, juvenile delinquency is a manifestation of the inability of adolescents to adapt to the social environment and rapid changes of time, as well as unresolved conflicts well in childhood and adolescence of the perpetrators. Often found in adolescents there is trauma in the past, rough and unpleasant treatment of the environment, as well as trauma to existing environmental conditions.

Rogers (1985) argues that the family environment is one factor that can affect the social development of adolescents. The family is the first place teenagers socialize and develop themselves before plunging into society. Internalized values will affect the personality of the child, for example a closed family, not having much contact with others, resulting in the child having difficulty in making contact and not easily trusting others. If a child does not have a close relationship with his family members, especially parents, then in society he is unable to be a good member of society and cannot adjust properly. Often the daughter of Rani's mother questioned the figure of a father she had never seen since birth, but Rani's mother always had a way of masking the truth by showing her a photo of Rani's girlfriend at a young age and scolding her child if she constantly questioned the whereabouts of the father. At the age of 15, Rani's mother still conceals the true status of her daughter, even though her surroundings already know this. The absence of father figure is referred to as fatherless. Fatherless is the absence of a figure or father in a child's life. A child is said to have fatherless when a child has no father, no relationship or communication with his father, caused by parental, divorce or death issues. The absence of a father figure can also occur if the child is the result of a relationship outside of marriage (Sundariand Herdajani, 2013). Mancini (2010) also states that the absence of a father usually occurs when the father does not live or distance away with his child with a long period of time. Including due to divorce, work, more social conditions are not present at home. The problems that occurred in this family ultimately made an interest in the authors to examine the impact of father absence on adopted female adolescent.

Research Focus

The importance of the focus of qualitative research according to Moleong (2000) is to limit qualitative studies while limiting researchers to select which data are relevant and which data are not. Without the focus of research, researchers will be stuck on the abundance of data volumes obtained from the field. Therefore, the focus of research has a very important role in mixing and directing the course of research. In accordance with the problems described above, the focus of this study is the impact of father absence on adopted female adolescent.

Subject

In qualitative research, the subject of research is referred to as research informant. In this study, the selected informants to look for the real data were Rani's mother (foster mother), adopted daughter, teacher at school and close family of Rani's mother. The primary subjects in this study were children, and Rani's mother. The secondary subject is the teacher and the immediate family of the Rani's mother.

Data Collection Technique

Data collection techniques used by researchers through: interview, which is one method to obtain data by establishing a direct relationship with the informant in the study. Observation, is observation includes the activity of focusing attention to an object by using all the senses. Documentation, This technique is used as a method to find secondary data in the form of documents, archives relating to the subject and object under investigation.

Data Analysis

Data analysis according to Moleong (2000) is the process of organizing and sorting data into patterns, categories and units of basic descriptions so that it can be found the working hypothesis suggested by the data. Meanwhile, Miles and Huberman (1992) stated that the analysis of qualitative data with data reduction procedu

RESEARCH RESULTS

The case of this family has become a very unique family case to investigate. Foster children and their mothers who live together for 14 years without any father role are present in the midst of their small family. As time passes and the presence of children in the social world like the world of school, children begin to see and pay attention to the family of their friends. Rani's daughter's questioned the existence of the father's role at home by comparing the family of friends in the school class. However, a definite answer is not found from her mother. As the child grows older, the question of father's presence becomes more intense. Mom keeps answering that her father has left them since childhood and shows only pictures of her ex-boyfriend. The development without involving the father in it makes the child feel embarrassed when other people question the existence of his own father. This child is often angry when her friends always ask about her father. The fact that happened in his youth, Rani's mother adopted a one-day-old baby daughter from a mother who could not pay for hospital fees due to low economic conditions. At that time, Rani's mother wanted to have a child without having a marriage bond. In the end this daughter becomes the right of Rani's mother completely to this day.

This story is not known to the child until now because Rani's mother is not willing to tell the true story to her daughter. So that in her care, Rani's mother spoiled her daughter because for Rani's mother when she is doing firm parenting to the child then feelings of guilt over her. This pattern of parenting raises negative traits on the child. In school, Rani's daughter always shows aggressive behavior. Very often angry if only a little disturbed. Often angry if a friend invites him to joke, but happy to see her friends suffer for her actions.

When another friend reprimands for the negative treatment she is doing, then this child will bring a big rage. In school, she loves to play with boys because she thinks that when she is with a boy she feels protected and comfortable. When making friends with women, this child often performs abusive treatment such as slapping, saying dirty and injuring his female friends. She enjoys doing harsh treatment but is not happy to receive harsh treatment. The level of egoism is seen in the social environment of the child. Negative treatment is also raised in family life. Rani's mother often receives negative treatment of her girl, such as not listening when given direction, do not want petrified her mother in completing homework, choose to spend time with boyfriend than help her mother work. Feeling jealous if her mother is close to other girls. Rani's mother is sometimes angry at her girl's behavior, but Rani's mother does not want to hurt her child because of the desire to have children without thinking of the side effects of the absence of the father's role.

The absence of father's important roles will have an impact on the low self-esteem when she matures, anger, shame because it is different from other children and cannot experience the experience of being together with a father felt by other children, (Lerner, 2011). The loss of the father's role also causes a child to feel loneliness, envy, and grief, (Lerner, 2011) and the great loss, accompanied by low self-control), (Kruk, 2012), initiative, risk-taking, (Williams, 2011). In addition to the behavior of children who tend to negative things, children have a great desire to happy mother through the achievements of her work. The child sees her mother often slumped so that the child has a big goal to raise the family and not want to live in the poverty they are experiencing today. The academic achievement of children in schools also does not show poor academic performance although negative behaviors and attitudes are often raised in social interaction in schools.

Conclusion

Family life without getting the role of father or often called Fatherless very much experienced by families in Indonesia. Causes of various kinds such as divorce, job demands, death, and others. Losing the role of the father in the family provides a void for the family including in the development of children. Many studies have discussed the impact that occurs on boys or girls who do not get the full role of the father in its development. This research is due to so many families who have experienced fatherless. The absence of the father role in the development of girls as in the case of Rani's mother's family who had adopted foster children in early adolescence. From this case, there are some negative or positive impacts of the absence of father's role in child development: high aggressiveness, jealousy, low self-esteem, embarrassment when faced with a father-owning family, very irritable, not accepting criticism, more happy to be friends with men, choose the activity in the house, but have the motivation to become a great person. This case study of early adolescent girls provides a great contribution to the whole family that in the development of every child, it requires the father's role to perfect the development of the child. Father has a different role to the mother in her duties and in her presence in the child's side. The role of the father in the development of the child is as a support that teaches children to be more confident, as a fighter and can maintain self-defense.

In the academic development of children, the father also has a big role so that children have a wide ability in academic. In the case of the absence of the father's role in the family of Rani's mother provides new knowledge that the presence of the male role (as father or father) is needed by the child in the course of development especially in the transition period of the child into early adolescence. The role of this father will help the child in many ways, such as self-restraint, motivation and struggle.

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