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## Education Level and Employment Status Correlated with Parenting Patterns in Pre-School Age Children



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### Abstract

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Parenting is the attitude of parents to their children seen from their correlation, giving rules to children, how to give attention and respond to children's desires. This is the initial education received by children in the family environment. This study aimed to analyze the correlation between the level of education and the employment status of parents with parenting patterns of preschool children. This research was a quantitative, correlation research. The population based on inclusion criteria was parents who had children aged 3-6 years, willing to become respondent, and presented at Dahlia Posyandu activities. The exclusion was parents who did not complete the questionnaire and did not biological parents who attended the activities. The respondent sample was taken using a purposive sampling technique of 34 people which was carried out on July 1 - July 31, 2023. The Instrument used Parental Authority Questionnaire (PAQ). The data analysis was carried out using the Spearman Correlation test. The results obtained there was a correlation between education level and employment status with parenting patterns. Parents are expected to be able to apply good parenting patterns, namely supporting children to become independent, getting used to having discussions with children in everyday life.

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## INTRODUCTION

Children's education is a very important thing in human life, starting from the womb where humans are educated until they become adults and parents. One of the factors that supports the success of the education process is the family, because the family is the smallest unit in society that participates in providing education. In addition, the family is also a place of education that has a very large influence on the development of children's potential ([Ambariani & Rakimahwati, 2023](#)). Family is the first and foremost socialization institution for a child ([Makagingge et al., 2019](#)). Every parent has a different communication style towards their child, some are gentle, careful, communicative, and some are firm, aggressive, and passive. Parents must be careful in communicating with their children, because without realizing it, the parenting method and communication style of parents greatly influence the child ([Kamilatus Sa'diah et al., 2023](#)).

In practice, various expressions (parenting patterns) often result in deviations or even contraindications between expectations and reality, which has an impact on children's development ([Primi Astuti et al., 2019](#)). One of the deviations in parenting patterns carried out by parents is giving children too much freedom. Later, the impact of a free parenting pattern will make it difficult for children to be asked to follow the rules ([Qibthiyyah & Wulandari, 2023](#)). Another parenting mistakes are prioritizing violent methods, parental behavior, peer behavior, and the behavior of other adults where they live will greatly influence the formation of antisocial behavior in children ([Nur Aisyah Rambe & Narisah, 2021](#)). Many parents believe that by using violence, being firm with their children, and making them afraid of them will make it easier for them to control their children. Of course, this is due to the lack of parental knowledge about how to provide attention, affection, education, and care for their children ([Hardianti & Adawiyah, 2023](#)).

As many as 42.5% of parents applied a democratic parenting style, 32.5% applied a permissive parenting style, and 25.0% applied an authoritarian parenting style. From the percentage above, it can be seen that more parents apply a

democratic parenting style, because democratic parenting has the principle of encouraging children to be more independent, parents with this parenting style are warmer and more affectionate towards their children ([Farasari, 2022](#)). Educational patterns have changed over time. These changes can be seen from parenting styles in traditional and modern times. Traditional education patterns tend to be rigid and repeat habits, obeying existing culture. Meanwhile, education patterns in the modern era are starting to become flexible and open to new knowledge regarding human education and child development. Parenting is a pattern of interaction between children and parents including fulfilling physical needs and psychological needs ([Sitanggang et al., 2021](#)). If the patterns implemented by parents are bad, then what will happen is the formation of bad child behavior. The impact of inappropriate parenting is that many children no longer pay attention to manners and lack moral upbringing ([Rahma Dhani et al., 2023](#)). Inappropriate parenting will make children more aggressive so that every problem is expressed harshly or conversely they become timid resulting in a lack of openness ([Missesa, 2021](#)).

Based on the results of a preliminary study at Posyandu Dahlia, Kerjen Village, which was carried out by researchers by conducting interviews with parents who have young children, the initial results were that 5 parents did not know good parenting patterns and the various parenting styles and the impacts that had on them. child. 3 out of 5 parents apply inappropriate parenting patterns. If their child cries, parents tend to scold, pinch, or even abandon their child. Researchers also looked at the growth and development of the children of the 5 parents above, some of their children were very active and some were quiet.

## METHODS

The method used is quantitative, correlation research type. This study looks at the correlation between variables. In this study, education level and employment status are independent variables, while parenting patterns are the dependent variable. The population in this study were parents who have early

childhood children and are registered at the Posyandu in Krejen Village, Srengat District, Blitar Regency. The number of parents registered was 50 people. While the sample in this study was 34 parents who attended the Posyandu in Kerjen Village. Determination of the number of samples was calculated using the Slovin formula. The sampling technique used was purposive sampling, namely sampling using several specific considerations was carried out on July 1 – July 31, 2023. The instruments in this study were parenting questionnaires. This study used inclusion and exclusion criteria. Inclusion criteria are: (1) Parents who are present during Posyandu activities, (2)

Parents who are willing to be respondents, (3) Parents who have children aged 3-6 years. While the exclusion criteria are: (1) Parents who do not complete the questionnaire, (2) Not biological parents who are present during Posyandu activities. Parents who attended the Posyandu, according to the inclusion and exclusion criteria of the researcher were given a questionnaire to fill out. Then data analysis was carried out. Data were analyzed using Spearman Correlation. The significance level  $\alpha < 0.05$  means there is a correlation, if  $\alpha \geq 0.05$  there is no correlation between the variables. This research has gone through ethical approval on June 14, 2023, No. Ethical approval 06/PHB/KEPK/141/06.23.

## RESULTS

**Table 1.** Characteristics of respondents based on age, education, employment, of children of parents who have children pre-school at Posyandu Dahlia, Kerjen Village.

No.	Characteristics	Frequency (F)	Percentage (%)
1	<b>Age</b>		
	23-30 years old	19	55.9
	31- 35 years old	11	32.4
	36-40 years old	4	11.7
	Total	34	100.0
2	<b>Education</b>		
	Elementary School	4	11.8
	Junior High School	14	41.2
	Senior High School	15	44.1
	College	1	2.9
	Total	34	100.0
3	<b>Employment status</b>		
	Work	5	14.7
	Did'n Work	29	85.3
	Total	34	100.0

Based on [Table 1](#) above, it can be seen that the ages of respondents who have children aged 3-6 years at Posyandu Dahlia are 23-30 years old, namely 19 people with a percentage of (55.9%). Respondents with high school education were 15

people with a percentage of (44.1%), The employment status of parents at the Dahlia Posyandu, Kerjen Village, shows that 29 people are unemployed (85.3%).

**Table 2.** Correlation Education level and Employment status with Parenting Patterns Pre-School Age Children at Posyandu Dahlia, Kerjen Village.

		Parenting				Total		P value
		Good		Adequate		F	%	
		F	%	F	%			
<b>Educatio n Level</b>	Elementary School	0	0	4	11.8	4	11.8	0.026
	Junior High School	1	2.9	13	38.2	14	41.1	
	Senior High School	4	11.8	11	32.4	15	44.2	
	Bachelor	1	2.9	0	0	1	2.9	
<b>Total</b>		6	17.6	28	82.4	34	100. 0	
<b>Employ ment status</b>	Work	3	8.8	2	5.9	5	14.7	0.006
	Didn't Work	3	8.8	26	76.5	29	85.3	
<b>Total</b>		6	17.6	28	82.4	34	100. 0	

Based on [Table 2](#) above, it shows that the highest parenting pattern of respondents in the good parenting category is at the high school education level, namely 4 respondents (11.8). The largest number of respondents in the sufficient parenting category are junior high school graduates, namely 13 respondents (38.2%) and 11 respondents (32.4%) have a high school education background. It shows that the parenting patterns of respondents in the good parenting category were 6 people with a percentage of (17.6%). Respondents in the adequate parenting style category were 28 people with a percentage of (82.4%).

## DISCUSSION

### The Correlation of education level and parenting patterns at Posyandu Dahlia

The results of the correlation table of education level with parental parenting patterns ([Table 2](#)) obtained the results of the hypothesis test with a bivariate test using the Spearman correlation test obtained a p-value of 0.026 ( $p < 0.05$ ) it can be said that there is a significant correlation between education and parental parenting patterns. In this study, good parenting patterns as much as 17.6% were obtained from respondents who were mostly educated in high school. As many as 28 respondents (82.4%) obtained sufficient parenting results. The largest number of respondents in this sufficient parenting pattern were obtained from respondents who were educated in junior high school. Parental

education is one of the important factors in parenting patterns and child development ([Mulqiah et al., 2017](#)). The level of parental education has a significant positive effect on the parenting patterns applied to children ([Hanifah et al., 2023](#)).

These results are supported by previous research which states that there is a correlation between parenting patterns and the psychosocial development of preschool-aged children at Pertiwi Kindergarten, with good psychosocial development results and the majority of parents having good parenting patterns. ([Utami et al., 2017](#)). Similar studies have shown that parents with higher education tend to use good parenting patterns compared to less good parenting patterns. This condition is influenced by the experience of parents who have experienced democratic parenting patterns before, so they also use this parenting pattern. The role of mothers and fathers can provide the right parenting patterns to their children so that children can grow and develop optimally ([Kundre et al., 2019](#)). Education is one of the factors in efforts to improve parents' abilities in child development, where the education obtained will affect the knowledge and attitudes of parents ([Salsabila et al., 2022](#)).

Another factor that influences parenting is age. Older parents will have difficulty accessing information or updating information about good parenting patterns, while younger parents will be able to access broader information about good

parenting for children ([Husna & Suryana, 2021](#)). Age 20-40 years is the beginning of adulthood. At this time, parents play a role in stimulating growth and development, taking the time to educate and care for their children and paying attention to parenting patterns. Unlike middle age and over 40 years, in addition to physical, intellectual and psychological decline, the role and function of this age are currently different. Each stage of development has its own role. The older the parents, the more different their role is compared to their previous age ([Dwi Listiani & Nuryanti, 2021](#)). Age and parenting experience will affect their preparation in carrying out parenting. It is known that most parents are in early adulthood. Where at that age a person is psychologically, mentally and responsibly ready to become a parent ([Samni et al., 2018](#)).

Parental education, especially mothers, is very important for children's development, because one of the roles of a mother is as an educator in the family. Educational background has an impact on the mindset and perspective of parents in raising and educating children.

### **The Correlation of employment status and parenting patterns at Posyandu Dahlia**

The correlation between employment status and parenting patterns as seen in [Table 2](#) shows that 5 respondents (14.7%) have good parenting patterns and 29 respondents (85.3%) have adequate parenting patterns in preschool children. The results obtained in the test of the correlation between the two variables are p value 0.006 (p value <0.05) this indicates a correlation between employment status and parenting patterns in children. It can be seen from [Table 2](#) that out of 29 unemployed respondents, 29 respondents (85.3%) applied good and adequate parenting patterns, while 6 (14.7%) other respondents applied good and adequate parenting patterns. This result is in line with previous research stating that working mothers cannot care for their children in terms of quantity (intensity of meetings with children). The largest percentage of parenting patterns given by working mothers is in the good criteria of 28 mothers

(93.33%), but in terms of quality it is not much different and is even better than mothers who do not work, while there are 13 mothers (43.33%) who do not work ([Laelatul Qomar et al., 2016](#)).

Employment status can be one of the causal factors that can affect parenting patterns. Previous researchers stated that the lack of parenting patterns in this study could be influenced by the work of parents, all of whom in this study had jobs. Working mothers have less time to interact with their children. ([Apriyawanti et al., 2023](#)). Employment status and parenting patterns are the most influential factors in the formation of a child's personality. Parents who are busy working or having a career result in their attention to the family, including children, being reduced, and not a few end up not paying attention to the condition of their children. ([Hastuti & Rofika, 2019](#)).

Parents with different work backgrounds certainly have different activities that directly cause different parenting patterns for children. The role of parents is very important in educating, guiding and providing protection for children. Parents who are very busy with work have very little time to spend with their children. However, it does not rule out the possibility for working parents to still provide good parenting patterns for children by dividing their time properly between work and interaction with children. In addition to quantity, the important thing that also influences parenting patterns is quality.

### **CONCLUSION**

After conducting research on the correlation between education level and employment status with parenting patterns in preschool children, the researcher concluded that: there is a correlation between education level and employment status with parenting patterns in preschool children. The results of statistical tests show that the  $\alpha < 0.05$  for each variable. Correlation Education level and Employment status with Parenting Patterns Pre-School Age Children at Posyandu Dahlia, Kerjen Village show that p value = 0.026. Correlation Employment status with Parenting Patterns Pre-School Age Children at Posyandu Dahlia, Kerjen Village p value = 0.006. The higher the level of

parental education, the better the parenting pattern. Other factors that influence parenting patterns are the age and employment status of parents. Younger parents have easier access to information than older ones. The employment status of parents influences parenting patterns in children, this is related to the quantity of time spent with children.

## SUGGESTION

The implementation of good parenting can be done by understanding the child's character in depth. Parents are the ones who are most responsible for the development of the child, therefore it is necessary to increase knowledge or update information related to parenting. In addition, parents should always be involved in the process of child growth and development in everyday life. This certainly requires support from various parties, one of which is health workers to convey information related to parenting.

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## CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

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## AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

All author members are responsible in the process of writing this research from the beginning until the publication.

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