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REVIEWING THE ROLE OF PARENTS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS' LEARNING IN THE PANDEMIC ERA

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Abstract

One of the consequences of limiting face-to-face learning in the pandemic era is the implementation of distance learning. At the elementary school level, the application of distance learning is carried out in various ways, one of which is by applying online learning. This article aims to analyze how important the role of parents in learning for elementary school-aged children is in the pandemic era. This research method uses a literature study approach. Data was collected by browsing research articles through Google Scholar. The article analyzed is a research article that discusses the involvement of parents in distance learning in the pandemic era. The results of the analysis of various kinds of literature show how important the role of parents in supporting the online learning process is. In online learning, the learning process cannot run optimally without collaboration between teachers and parents. Most of the teacher's tasks in online learning have been taken over by parents. Parents function as facilitators, motivators, and become the main guides in the learning process. Another role that is no less important than parents is as a learning supervisor, through this supervision control of the quality of learning can be carried out even though it is constrained by distance from the school

Keywords: online learning, learning quality, parental involvement

Abstrak

Salah satu akibat dari terbatasnya pembelajaran tatap muka di era pandemi adalah penerapan pembelajaran jarak jauh. Di tingkat sekolah dasar, penerapan pembelajaran jarak jauh dilakukan dengan berbagai cara, salah satunya dengan menerapkan pembelajaran daring. Artikel ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis seberapa penting peran orang tua dalam pembelajaran bagi anak usia sekolah dasar di era pandemi. Metode penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan studi literatur. Data dikumpulkan dengan menelusuri artikel penelitian melalui Google Scholar. Artikel yang dianalisis merupakan artikel penelitian yang membahas tentang keterlibatan orang tua dalam pembelajaran jarak jauh di era pandemi. Hasil analisis berbagai literatur menunjukkan betapa pentingnya peran orang tua dalam mendukung proses pembelajaran daring. Dalam pembelajaran daring, proses pembelajaran tidak dapat berjalan maksimal tanpa adanya kerjasama antara guru dan orang tua. Sebagian besar tugas guru dalam pembelajaran daring sudah diambil alih oleh orang tua. Orang tua berfungsi sebagai fasilitator, motivator, dan menjadi pemandu utama dalam proses pembelajaran. Peran lain yang tidak kalah



penting dari orang tua adalah sebagai pengawas pembelajaran, melalui pengawasan ini dapat dilakukan pengendalian mutu pembelajaran meskipun terkendala jarak dengan sekolah.

Kata kunci: pembelajaran online, kualitas pembelajaran, keterlibatan orang tua

INTRODUCTION

Restrictions on face-to-face learning activities during the pandemic in elementary schools have caused many new problems. One of the problems that arise with the limitation of face-to-face learning is the emergence of parental anxiety about the decline in the quality of learning (Pratiwi, 2020). Moreover, the learning from home model forces parents to provide independent tutoring to their children. Tutoring must be done intensively because elementary school students have low learning independence. The problem is that not all parents have the competence to provide tutoring. Many parents found complained about the role they should play for their children during the pandemic (Mustarsyida & Munastiwi, 2021). This shows that there are still many parents who do not understand their role in learning during the pandemic.

One of the learning models applied during the pandemic is online learning. Online learning had to be carried out as an effort to maintain the safety of the souls of teachers and students during the pandemic. This is related to the characteristics of Covid-19 which has a very fast rate of spread (Otálora, 2020). The implementation of online learning does not mean the problem has been solved. The application of online learning that is not properly prepared in practice faces many obstacles (Safira & Ifadah, 2021). According to one study, the obstacle faced in online learning is the limited knowledge of teachers and students regarding the use of technology (Nugraheny, 2020).

The discovery of various obstacles in online learning requires the role of parents so that students can understand learning during the pandemic (Lilis et al., 2020). For parents or guardians of students who are accustomed to using technology this will not be a significant problem, but for parents who are unfamiliar with the use of technology. Problems will arise if parents also experience limitations in the use of technology. Before the pandemic, the learning process was focused on the role of teachers in schools, parents rarely took part in children's education. Parents often underestimate their role in guiding children in the learning process. But now the situation is changing, parents are becoming more demanded in guiding their children and require parents to be responsive in dealing with this online learning.

Parental involvement in distance learning is a must. Parents are the frontline in guiding their children to stay diligent in studying at home so that online learning can run optimally and efficiently. One study shows that the role of parents in determining student achievement is very large (Cahyati & Kusumah, 2020). Parents who pay less attention to children's education can result in children being less and even not successful in the learning process. On the other hand, parents who always pay attention and love to their children, especially attention to each activity and their learning process will make children more enthusiastic about learning. Parents must always support learning activities so that children can develop their competencies to the fullest.

During the pandemic, not a few parents still care less about their children's learning



(Yulianingsih et al., 2020). Many parents feel confused about what things should be done to support the learning process during the pandemic. Parents don't know what to do so that their children can still get maximum learning services during the pandemic. This phenomenon shows that there are still parents who are not aware of the importance of the role of parents in supporting the learning process during the pandemic (Zahra et al., 2021). Based on these problems, it is necessary to research so that parents have an idea of what must be done to support learning activities during the pandemic. The main objective of this study is to analyze how important the role of parents in improving the quality of learning during the pandemic.

METHODS

This research use a systematic literature review method. The collection of information and data in library research is obtained from various materials such as articles, journals, books, documents, and so on (Zuchdi & Afifah, 2021). The research procedure was carried out with the stages of tracing previous research, sorting data, grouping or categorizing data, presenting data, and drawing conclusions. Data was collected by browsing previous research articles through Google Scholar. At the time of data sorting, not all articles were used, but those that were relevant to the research objectives were selected. The data were analyzed by content analysis techniques. The article analyzed is a research article that discusses the involvement of parents in distance learning in the pandemic era.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Parents have complex roles and responsibilities toward their children (Haerudin et al., 2020). One form of parental responsibility to their children is to provide proper education, both formal and non-formal education. The purpose of education is none other than so that children have the competence and become quality human beings who are ready to face challenges in the future. According to Law no. 20 of 2003 which discusses the National Education System in Article 5 paragraph 1, it is written that every citizen has the same right to obtain a quality education. Quality education will not be realized without the support of parents (Ruli, 2020). The role of parents in providing guidance determines the learning outcomes achieved by students (Sulastri & Ahmad Tarmizi, 2017). This shows that parents have a contribution to determining the future of their children in the future. There are at least four things that must be considered in the relationship between children and their parents, one of which is that parents must be able to provide advice and directions for good education for their children. Starting from here, it can be understood that parents and children have interrelated and inseparable roles, therefore both must go hand in hand.

Parental guidance must always be carried out under any conditions, including during the Covid-19 pandemic. One of the important roles of parents during a pandemic is to provide education about health protocols. Parents must provide understanding for their children to learn from home to avoid transmission of the virus during the pandemic (Haerudin et al., 2020). Education from parents has an important role so that students do not get infected with COVID-19 (Anhusadar & Islamiyah, 2020). People who understand and are aware of the concept and importance of a healthy lifestyle will be able to apply it well. In this case, parental awareness is needed in building clean living habits in the family. Parents who have full awareness of a clean and healthy lifestyle will be able to guide their children in implementing it. Elementary school-age children have not been able to understand something well and



clearly. They also have not been able to correctly distinguish between right and wrong. Therefore, the role of parents is very necessary for introducing something new to children, explaining the concept of it, and guiding children in applying it (Trisnawati & Sugito, 2020).

Another important role that must be maximized by parents during the pandemic is maintaining the quality of education itself (Iftitah & Anawaty, 2020). The quality of education is an implementation of education that has achieved success in an educational institution. The quality of education can be seen through two things, namely the process of education and the results of that education (Janah, 2020). The level of education quality is determined by (1) the quality in the provision of facilities and infrastructure must meet predetermined criteria so that it can support educational efforts. (2) the learning process that must be carried out following the curriculum is also adapted to the methods of teaching and learning. (3) the quality of the teaching staff who must meet the predetermined criteria. In addition to this, the quality of education can be measured through the learning achievement of students. Learning achievement can be observed through the behavior of students in studying lessons at school. Learning achievement is usually expressed by scores obtained from test results.

In improving children's learning achievement, family environmental factors are included as external factors which are the main and first place for children to grow and develop (Umar, 2015). In the family, the most prominent role is the role of parents, both mother and father figures. This is because parents are the first people to guide and protect family members. The father figure is a leader who is needed to be able to educate in the right way to improve the quality of children's education. Then the figure of a mother who can educate children with love and attention will make children able to receive education faster. In addition, the behavior of parents can also influence the behavior of children who always imitate what they often see so parental behavior is needed to educate to improve the quality of children's education.

The involvement of parents and family members in a child's education will have an impact on the absorption of values and knowledge acquired by children at school. The education received by a child must contain elements of feelings, and affection, and be practiced in everyday life. Family plays a very important role in shaping the character of children. A child in a chaotic family cannot be expected to become a reliable successor of the generation. On the other hand, a child who grows up in a good and harmonious family will be able to create a child who has good character and becomes a reliable successor. In addition, the participation of parents is also expected to be able to understand every stage of the child's development so that they can train the abilities and intelligence of the child. According to Martsiswati and Suryono (Jannah, 2020) stating that schools which are the second educational institution after education in the family have an important role to continue the basics of education that have been formed in family education. Therefore, parents and schools must have good cooperate in improving the quality of children's education where families create the basics and character of children from an early age and schools continue this task by developing children's potential and providing more complex education for children by paying attention to the quality of education. worthy to be given to children.

The six forms of parental participation in education in schools that can improve the quality of children's education include, (1) parenting, where parents provide education that is following the education that children get at school followed by steps to understand child development, (2) communicating, step The next step is to design communication between school and home regarding children's education programs and the developments experienced by children while receiving education,



(3) volunteering, namely parental participation in the success of school programs. This can be done through parents participating as guest teachers at their children's schools, (4) learning at home, which aims to guide parents who are useful to help children learn at home, and (5) decision-making, in, In this case, parents are involved in making decisions to build leadership from parents of students, (6) collaborating, integrating services from the community and resources to help the interests of the school (Jeti et al., 2021). This is useful for strengthening the resilience of schools so that they can create quality successors and provide quality education.

Face-to-face learning activities are replaced with online learning through supporting applications that are already available (Wardhani & Krisnani, 2020). This online learning of course makes learning activities hampered because direct interactions that are usually present in the learning process are hindered by the distance between educators and students (Kurniati et al., 2020). In this case, learning that makes the teacher a guide cannot be carried out optimally. This is where the participation of the parents of each student is needed in guiding the learning process. According to Winingsih (Cahyati & Kusumah, 2020), parents have four roles during online learning, namely: (1) the role of parents is as a teacher for their children who guides them in doing online learning (online) from their respective homes. student. (2) in addition, parents have the role of being a facilitator who provides the facilities and infrastructure needed by children during the online learning process. (3) parents act as motivators, where parents are a source of enthusiasm for students in doing online learning (online). Parents need to encourage children and provide words of motivation so that children can continue to be enthusiastic about learning and can improve their achievements. (4) the last role of parents is as an influence or director who can influence children's minds to continue to learn and improve their achievements. Children will be more easily influenced by seducing words so parents are needed to be good at finding children's preferences so that they can influence children.

Students, especially elementary school students who are in low grades, cannot independently learn through available tools and applications (Lilawati, 2021). Therefore, parents are required to be responsive in responding to this online learning. Parents are considered responsive if they can master technology as a support for online learning and can guide children appropriately, both in tutoring and guidance in using digital devices and applications that support online learning. With good guidance, children will judge learning to be fun so that learning will be more effective and educational goals will be implemented, and children's digital education is right on target.

The first step that can be taken by parents of students is to introduce existing and developing technology today. This is done so that children can understand the use of technology and understand how to use it wisely. Most of the children in this digital era already know and are familiar with digital devices in the world of information and communication, but very few understand their actual use (Sujana & Rachmatin, 2019). We have found that many children can use applications that are not appropriate for their age, but they still cannot use applications that are supposed to be used to support online learning during the covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, it is important for parents who are responsive and caring to understand the concept of digital devices and applications that contain other education.

Things that need to be considered by parents in the current online learning period are ways to protect children from the threat of misuse of social media and online learning media but do not prevent children from being active in online learning (Herliandry et al., 2020). And does not hinder children in exploring their abilities in using learning media and digital products. Apart from these threats, it is also important to protect children's eyes. Online learning (online) makes children have to deal with screens



for quite a long time, be it using any learning media. So parents need to keep their children's eyes from being too exposed to radiation coming from the electronic devices used. Ways that can be done by parents in protecting their children's eyes include wearing anti-radiation glasses for children to use when online learning takes place. This may make the child a little uncomfortable at first. However, if you are used to doing it along with a logical explanation from parents about the importance of using these glasses, the child will no longer object to using them.

The methods that can be used by parents in helping children in online learning include the first encouraging children during the online learning process or after online learning is complete. One way to encourage children during the online learning process is to provide encouraging words that are useful for building children's interest in the online learning process (Noortyani, 2018). The way to encourage children after the learning process is to make food that children like. We can use the food as a reward because the child has done well in learning. In addition, children will also be more enthusiastic about doing the tasks given by the teacher.

Another method is to build good communication with the teacher and the school of the child. Online learning that is being carried out during the COVID-19 pandemic requires parents of students to have good communication with teachers and the school (Suhendro, 2020)). This is because parents as children's learning guides at home must know at least what kind of learning should be obtained by children and what kind of good delivery method. The same goes for teachers and schools. Teachers must know what the development of children's learning in their respective homes is like. In addition, the teacher must also know whether the method used so far is appropriate or not. That way the teacher can arrange learning that includes aspects needed by children. In this case, the school can find out the progress of online learning and what parents expect in their children's learning. Good communication must be done both ways. This means that each party has a stake in communication so that it will be able to minimize misunderstandings. Without good communication between parents, teachers, and the school, online learning cannot be carried out effectively (Pratama et al., 2020).

CONCLUSION

The results of the analysis show that the role of parents in online learning in elementary schools is very important. Parents can act as motivators and facilitators during online learning during the pandemic. Learning at home online cannot be done alone by students because student learning independence is still lacking. Guidance and guidance from parents are needed in the learning process. Parents are expected to have care and concern for their children's learning process during the pandemic. Without a responsive attitude from parents, certainly, learning will not be effective and efficient. The role of parents cannot be ruled out in supporting the online learning process during the pandemic. Many parents take over and even replace the role of teachers in the learning process during the pandemic. Teachers and parents are expected to build collaboration, cooperation, and good communication so that the quality of online learning is maintained.

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