

Parents Understanding of Verbal Abuse in Early Childhood in Sungai Pinang

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ABSTRACT

This research was conducted with the aim of knowing parents' understanding of verbal abuse in children with the research location in Sungai Pinang village. The background of this study is that not a few parents who are verbally abusive to their children realise that this attitude will have a negative impact in the future. This study used a descriptive qualitative method involving 7 parents as participants. The findings of this study suggest that most of the parents involved as participants do not understand verbal abuse, as well as the forms and impacts of verbal abuse itself. Thus, this research is expected to provide an overview of parents' understanding of verbal violence in Sungai Pinang village.

Key Word:

Early Childhood, Verbal Violence, Understanding

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Introduction

Parents play a fundamental role in a child's life. In general, parents are individuals who have the responsibility to raise, educate and provide emotional support to children. Parents are the most entitled party to the child's condition and the most responsible for the child's life in all aspects (Wahyuni & Novianti, 2021; Wahyuni & Rudiyanto, 2021). As for the duties and obligations of parents, namely guiding and teaching children in good things and in accordance with religious and cultural norms prevailing in society.

The provision of parental love and parenting has a great influence on the growth and development of the child. Parenting is the interaction between parents and children by providing guidance, educating, providing protection, and encouraging growth and development so that children feel safe in accordance with parental expectations. All attitudes and actions of parents are imitated by children. If parents behave well, children will behave well, but if parents behave badly, children will behave badly (Antika, Sri Damayanti, & Supriyadi, 2019).

According to the Consultative Body of the Indonesian Child Welfare Foundation, there are 30 incidents of violence reported every month. Most incidents of violence occur among children between the ages of three and six. As much as 80% of the violence experienced by children was perpetrated by family members, 10% of this was in educational settings, and the rest was by strangers. Based on the incidence of violence, it was found that 60% were subjected to mild violence such as verbal abuse, and 40% were subjected to physical violence in the form of sexual abuse. The Indonesian Child Protection Council (KPAI) announced that there were 3,087 cases of violence against children in 2020, most of which involved family members and caregivers. Based on the data collected, it appears that there are still many children who experience acts of violence, and these acts of violence are mainly perpetrated by family members, including parents.

To find out parents' understanding of violence, there are stages of systematic action in interpreting, understanding, translating or expressing a meaning in their own way so that it is recognised, easy to remember and has meaning in real life (Afriani, 2018). There are 3 levels of understanding according to Benjamin S. Bloom in (Zelia,

2023), namely: a) Understand, Understanding can be given an understanding as a level of knowledge that can be used to provide an adequate explanation of knowledge. However, at this level of knowledge, those who understand are usually unable to apply their understanding to real problems (the real world). b) Insufficient Understanding (Less Understanding), Insufficient Understanding (Less Understanding) means that a person is able to express his opinion, but only knows that he cannot reveal the source, or even still a mystery. c) Do not Understand, Do not Understand is the capability of expressing an opinion in response to a question without understanding what the person is talking about.

According to (Erniwati & Fitriani, 2020) Verbal abuse is violence carried out with words such as swearing, yelling, slandering, mocking and saying harsh words and insulting in public. Meanwhile, according to (Cahyo, Ikashaum, & Pratama, 2020) Verbal abuse is an act that is not commendable and can make someone psychologically sick and related actions in the form of yelling, cursing, blaspheming, insulting, mocking, shouting, and humiliating someone in public with harsh words or dirty swear words.

Then according to (Laura, 2022) verbal abuse is violent behaviour that tends to offend or hurt feelings and cause mental distress in the person experiencing it, for example in the form of violence, intimidation, fear, insults, curses, harassment, comparing or exaggerating other people's shortcomings. Regarding verbal abuse, (Effendi, Wandoyo, & Rahmawati, 2022) argues, 'Direct violence is verbal abuse that results from insults, harsh words, or shouting. Even in small tones, this violence can be done. This violence is less observable because there is no physical injury, the cause of this violence is mental damage.'

There has been a lot of research on violence that occurs in Indonesian children. Previously discussed by several researchers with research (Kurniawati & Nabila, 2022), it was stated that children who received minimal verbal abuse more easily showed their confidence and more easily adapted to the surrounding environment. Further research (Fitriahadi & Rosida, 2023) also states that children who tend to get violence are more likely to experience obstacles to growth and development. However, although research related to violence has been conducted, it only touches on end

results such as the absence of children's self-confidence (Kurniawati & Nabila, 2022), impaired child development (Fitriahadi & Rosida, 2023).

From the research that has been done previously, researchers have not seen any research that describes parents' understanding of violence, especially verbal abuse. So this research will focus on parents' discussion of verbal abuse, forms of verbal abuse, and so on.

Method

This research uses a descriptive qualitative method. The objects in this study were 7 parents of students at PAUD Al-Farizi. Parents were interviewed regarding their understanding of verbal abuse in early childhood. This research was conducted at Paud Al-Farizi, which is located at Jl. Sungai Pinang Irng Sampurna, Kec. Rambutan, Kab. Banyuasin, Prov. South Sumatra in the even semester of the 2023-2024 school year.

Data collection methods carried out by researchers include observation, interviews, and documentation. The data sources in this study are parents and children. The researchers wanted to explore further information about parents' understanding of verbal violence in children, so the researchers conducted semi-structured interviews based on interview guidelines that could be developed according to the conditions when the interview and observations took place.

Results and Discussion

This research was conducted for approximately one month starting from approaches, observations, observations and in-depth interviews with parents. After the necessary data was collected, the researcher analysed the data so that the truth could be believed. The data analysis used in this research is the Miles and Huberman model. The following are the steps of data analysis based on the Miles and Huberman model:

In this study, informants or subjects are parents who have children aged 5-7 years who come from Sungai Pinang, South Sumatra province. There are four mothers and three fathers who are labourers and traders, and their education varies between junior and senior high school graduates.

The data reduction stage in this study which is also the focus of this research includes the definition of verbal abuse, forms of verbal abuse, perceptions of the impact of verbal abuse and attitudes towards verbal abuse. The explanation of the data related to the research findings is as follows:

Parents' Understanding of Verbal Abuse. 5 out of 7 respondents answered that the definition and form of verbal abuse is limited to scolding with a loud voice and abusive or cursing words. It can be concluded that parents do not understand much about the definition and forms of verbal abuse. Meanwhile, other questions about whether parents often consider other children better than their own children and how parents behave, received similar answers. Respondents answered often, because they felt disappointed with their children's behaviour. This comparing behaviour is done in the hope that the child will be motivated and make an example to emulate. They consider that such comparisons are not considered verbal abuse.

In addition, in other answers, 5 respondents revealed that if a child's behaviour or attitude was not in accordance with their wishes, it caused annoyance and led to anger at the child. The other 2 respondents stated that upset does not have to be scolded, depending on the situation. As explained in the following table:

Table 1. Parents' level of understanding of child verbal abuse in Sungai Pinang

Responden	Understand	Less understanding	Do not understand
AR	+	-	-
DI	+	-	-
WP	-	+	-
MD	-	+	-
YL	-	+	-
SR	-	+	-
MH	-	+	-

The table above shows parents' understanding of verbal abuse against children in Sungai Pinang. 2 respondents are in the understanding category and the other 5 are

in the less understanding category. As stated by Benjamin S. Bloom, there are 3 levels in understanding, namely: a) Understanding, Understanding can be given the understanding as a level of knowledge that can be used to provide an adequate explanation of knowledge. However, at this level of knowledge, those who understand are usually unable to apply their understanding to real problems (the real world). b) Insufficient Understanding (Less Understanding), Insufficient Understanding (Less Understanding) means that a person is able to express his opinion, but only knows that he cannot reveal the source, or even still a mystery. c) Do not Understand, do not Understand is the capability of expressing an opinion in response to a question without understanding what the person is talking about.

Perceptions of the impact of verbal abuse and attitudes towards verbal abuse. From the results of interviews conducted by researchers about parents' responses. regarding the impact of verbal abuse on children, the following answers were obtained. 5 respondents believed that verbal abuse such as hurtful words can cause problems, especially in children's self-confidence and closed attitudes in their social relationships. The rest answered that they did not know much about the impact of verbal abuse. Then on the question of how parents' attitudes towards verbal abuse in children, all of them unanimously answered that they disagreed with verbal abuse in children. The reasons given included that they believe that good communication between children and parents can prevent violence in parenting. Open communication between parents and children can also avoid conflicts in parenting.

This different understanding of verbal abuse is also seen from several educational, economic and social backgrounds. Parents with a high educational background consider verbal abuse to be a serious problem, while parents with a low background think that verbal abuse is a common occurrence in the parenting process.

Although there is a gap between understanding and behaviour from parents because they think it has a good purpose, namely to discipline. Based on data from 7 parents with 15 questions interviewed, parents do not understand verbal abuse and its impact on early childhood. Based on the results of the interview, verbal abuse is carried out due to several factors including parents' lack of patience in advising children, parents' ignorance in using the right way to talk to children, and considered

it a common thing in educating children because it can make children more disciplined.

In accordance with forms of understanding such as relational understanding where at this level, people not only know and remember something, but also know how and why something happened. In addition, he can use it to solve problems related to other situations. (Susanti M., 2019). A similar view was expressed (Khotimah, 2022) with the title 'Single Parent Perceptions of Verbal Abuse in Children'. Based on the results of the study, parents do not understand the concept of verbal abuse.

Conclusion

Based on the findings of the research that has been conducted on parents' understanding of verbal abuse in Sungai Pinang early childhood, it can be concluded that parents do not understand what verbal abuse is and do not have much knowledge about what forms of verbal abuse behaviour and the impact of verbal abuse. However, everyone agrees that they do not agree with verbal abuse, but there are times when parents still cannot completely avoid verbal abuse of children. In short, verbal abuse is easy to understand in meaning, but difficult to avoid in behaviour. The researcher's suggestions that can be given include, among others, fostering a sense of affection for children so that children feel comfort from their parents. Form good and warm communication between children and parents, so that both know the purpose and purpose of what is being discussed. Understand their nature and habits, so that parents can adjust the right way to educate without using violence.

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