

# Communication Patterns Of Foster Parents In Increasing The Self-Confidence Of Orphans At Alqi Ceria Orphanage Bogor

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## **ABSTRACT**

*Self-confidence is an aspect of a person's personality that arises through the interaction of individuals with their environment. Therefore, the role of parents is very influential on the development of a child's quality of self through the parenting that is applied. Alqi Ceria Orphanage won third place for outstanding social foundations/social organizations/social institutions at the Bogor city level. This shows that the relationship between parents and orphans is well established, one of which is in building the confidence of orphans so that they are able to achieve achievements. This study aims to determine the communication patterns of foster parents towards orphans in increasing self-confidence at the Alqi Ceria Orphanage in Bogor. This study uses the theory of parental communication patterns according to Baumrind, namely: permissive, authoritarian, and democratic communication patterns. The research method used is qualitative with data collection techniques through interviews, observation, and documentation. The resource persons in this research are foster parents and orphans who know how the communication patterns are applied. The results showed that the communication patterns applied by foster parents in increasing self-confidence were authoritarian communication patterns and democratic communication patterns. Orphans' self-confidence is at a fairly confident level, where orphans are able to achieve the desired achievements and are able to face various situations because they have confidence in their intellectual and physical abilities.*

**Keywords:** *Communication Patterns, Foster Parents, Self-Confidence.*

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## **I. INTRODUCTION**

As social beings, humans are interconnected to build understanding of each other through the process of communication. Communication as the basis of human social relations as it involves the exchange of ideas, thoughts, and feelings between individuals. Therefore, communication is considered essential for human survival.

The foster parents who are in the orphanage act as surrogate parents. The goal is to help foster children become better people and take responsibility for themselves and society in the future. Foster parents also help foster children develop their skills, self, and creativity in orphanages.

Yahya Sulthoni in Aman (2021) said that the role of parents is very important in building children's character. The development of self-quality in children is influenced by the parenting method applied. Due to different backgrounds, orphans and children from intact families have different ways of communicating. So foster parents need to design how to build communication that suits orphans because of their diverse backgrounds.

Orphanages are social institutions that replace the role of parents in meeting the spiritual and social needs of foster children, as well as helping their physical and mental growth to reach a mature level of maturity. According to Save the Children in Sutinah (2018), a social organization that gathers orphanages in Indonesia, there are 8,000 orphanages that are officially registered and 15,000 orphanages that have not been registered. Based on these data, Save the Children stated that Indonesia is the first ranked country in the world with the highest number of orphanages.

Alqi Ceria Orphanage (Akbar Alqi) is an Islamic-based orphanage that has been established since 2008 and was inaugurated by the Ministry of Law and Human Rights of the Republic of Indonesia in 2009. Currently, the age of foster children living in Alqi Ceria Orphanage ranges from 6 years to 18 years with a total of 45 children consisting of 8 boys and 37 girls.

In 2016, Alqi Ceria Orphanage received an award for the third rank of social foundations/social organizations/social institutions at the Bogor City level. The award certificate signifies that foster parents and

foster children have a good relationship. This is also related to building the confidence of foster children so that they are able to achieve achievements.

Self-confidence is an aspect of personality that makes a person have an attitude and confidence towards himself so that he is not afraid to act, is able to do whatever he wants, and is accompanied by a sense of responsibility for his actions. Humans have had confidence since they were born into the world, but each individual has a different level of self-confidence. Children with a high level of self-confidence have the ability and courage to achieve achievements by daring to appear and advance to do assignments or tell stories. While children with low self-confidence will show a hesitant attitude in every task done and have low communication skills because they feel no one supports them when speaking.

Tafsir et al in Aman (2021) argue that family is one of the most important factors that determine the development of a child's personality. In this case, a strong relationship is very important to meet the needs of foster children for love and attention so that the growth and development of foster children can run well. One of the most important things that foster parents need to pay attention to is how to build communication patterns to foster foster children's confidence.

## **II. LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **PARENTAL COMMUNICATION PATTERNS**

Communication patterns can be interpreted as the process of delivering messages in the right way so that messages or information can be understood properly so as to achieve communication goals. In line with Soejanto's opinion in (Nasor et al., 2022) that communication patterns are a description of the communication process that describes how its components can relate to each other.

In this case, communication patterns can also be interpreted as parenting styles applied by foster parents to orphans in an effort to build their confidence. Foster parents need to build a good relationship with orphans so that their communication process can run effectively.

The three types of parental communication patterns proposed by Baumrind in (Yudaningar, 2021) are as follows:

#### **Permissive Communication Patterns.**

This communication pattern has a high form of acceptance by parents with low control for the child. Parents will tend to educate and accept the opinions voiced by children and are passive when faced with problems. Parents who have permissive communication patterns tend to be unresponsive or inattentive to the attitudes shown by children. This makes children feel ignored by their parents and cannot know where their mistakes are and things that should not happen again.

Parents use this way of communication to give children broad freedom. In permissive communication patterns, parents tend to be relentless, fulfill every desire of the child, and protect the child excessively. However, children who break the rules do not get punished.

Some of the characteristics of parents who apply this permissive communication pattern are being neglectful in educating orphans, having a bad communication relationship with children, being less assertive when foster children make mistakes, and allowing foster children to do something that is considered right by them.

#### **Authoritarian Communication Patterns.**

Authoritarian communication patterns have a low form of acceptance by parents so they tend to be assertive towards children who do not follow their wishes. Parents use authoritarian communication patterns in an attempt to regulate and control their child's behavior. Authoritarian communication patterns tend to have high demands, are rigid, unresponsive, and impose will on children.

The involvement of parents to children communication is very little, but emphasizes obedience that needs to be fulfilled without explanation and having firm control over children. Authoritarian patterns are considered unhealthy in families because children are not given space to argue so communication is only one-way.

Some of the characteristics of parents who apply this authoritarian communication pattern are tend to determine the actions of foster children, be firm with foster children who violate the rules, have a bad relationship with children, and lack of appreciation.

#### **Democratic (Authoritative) Communication Patterns.**

Parents have high acceptance and control of children. In this case, parents tend to guide without managing children and provide opportunities for children to voice and argue. By listening and understanding, parents tend to provide support and are always involved in the child's problems.

Parents are respectful and help children communicate their emotions well, as well as help them build positive self-confidence. Punishment is given to children who behave negatively and appreciation is given to children who behave positively.

Some of the characteristics of parents who apply this democratic communication pattern are being open to opinions, suggestions, and criticisms from children, tend to guide and direct children's actions with understanding and attention, actively communicating with children, and making rules by considering the reasons of the child.

### **III. SELF-CONFIDENCE**

The definition of self-confidence according to Lauster & Mc Cleland in Hidayati & Savira (2021) is the feeling that a person has strength in himself, is aware of his abilities, and is responsible for his choices. Self-confidence is an attitude that arises from the confidence that a person has in himself, such as about the abilities, potentials, and talents that exist in him.

Madya in Syam & Amri (2017) divides the level of self-confidence into four categories, namely very confident, quite confident, less confident, and inferior. As for the aspect of positive self-confidence in a person expressed by Lauster in Sham & Amri (2017): 1) Confidence in one's abilities is a person's positive attitude about himself, where he will truly understand what he will do; 2) Optimism is a person's positive attitude, where he will have a good outlook in dealing with everything about himself, expectations, and abilities; 3) Objective, which is a positive attitude possessed by a person about a view of a problem or thing in accordance with the truth that should be, not according to personal truth; 4) Being responsible is a person's positive attitude, where he will be willing to bear the consequences they need to accept; 5) Rational thinking is a condition where someone will analyze a thing, problem, or event using thoughts that are acceptable to reason and in accordance with reality.

### **IV. CHILDREN'S ORPHANAGE**

Orphanages or child orphanages or also known as Children's Social Welfare Institutions (LKSA) are non-profit social facilities that accommodate, educate, and care for orphans and abandoned children (Karyadiputra et al., 2019). As stated in Kepmensos No.50/HUK/2004 which defines orphanages as social institutions that have the task of providing guidance and services for orphans, orphans, orphans, underprivileged children, and abandoned children so that their potential and learning capacity recover and can develop reasonably (Utami & Yusri, 2023).

The Ministry of Social Affairs in Karyadiputra et al., (2019) describes the functions of orphanages which include as welfare service institutions for children and implementing alternative care in lieu of parents, as a center for children's social welfare services, as a data and information center and children's social welfare consultation, and as a center for skill development.

One of the goals of the orphanage is to develop individuals with mature personalities who are dedicated to work, able to work independently, and able to support their families.

An orphan according to Djunaedi and Syarif in Mahmudal (2019) is a child who has been abandoned by his parents since he was a child, weak, and unable to support himself. Then the Islamic encyclopedia explains that orphans are children of pre-puberty whose father has died, whether the economic condition is poor or rich, male or female (Nuddin, 2017).

Dina et al in Irma (2021) said that foster parents are people, families, or groups of people who act as parents or guardians for disadvantaged children by providing educational support or access to learning resources so that they can pursue good education. The primary responsibility of foster parents is to meet the emotional and physical needs of the foster child affectionately. Foster parents have an obligation to guide, direct, and impart skills to orphans as usually given by biological parents in a family.

### **V. RESEARCH METHODS**

This research applies qualitative research methods that are in-depth so that the data or information obtained by researchers can be used as reasoning and boils down to the researcher's goals. The research approach applied is a descriptive approach. The sampling technique in this study applies purposive sampling techniques, where researchers choose informants who best know the state of the object of research. Data sources from this study consist of primary data obtained through observation, interviews, and documentation, as well as secondary data obtained from documents or archives of orphanages in the past.

Then this research uses the triangulation technique of sources and methods as a test of its validity. The data analysis technique uses the theory proposed by Miles & Huberman (Sugiyono, 2021: 321), which consists of: 1) Data Reduction; 2) Data Presentation (Data Display); and 3) Conclusion Drawing

### **VI. RESEARCH RESULTS**

The results of this study refer to data found by researchers which are then elaborated in accordance with the theory that has been described previously to explain how the communication patterns of foster parents in increasing the confidence of orphans.

### **Parental Communication Patterns**

Establishing a harmonious relationship with foster children aims to make the communication pattern of foster parents run effectively. Good relationships between foster parents and orphans are built through good and appropriate communication patterns. There are three types of communication patterns of parents and children mentioned earlier, namely Permissive, Authoritarian, and Authoritative. The following is the result of data analysis based on the theory used.

### **Permissive Communication Patterns**

In its application, foster parents tend to free and allow foster children to do various things according to their wishes. Foster parents do not direct the lives of foster children so they do not provide binding rules to foster children. Parents guide very little and do not warn children when they break rules or make mistakes. Therefore, this communication pattern is said to tend to be preferred by children because there are no restrictions and supervision from foster parents.

If children are able to take advantage of the freedom given by parents with full responsibility, children who are raised with permissive parenting will grow into individuals who are confident in themselves, rational in thinking and acting, and grow into responsible, creative, and independent individuals so that it can be said that children tend to have a high level of self-confidence. However, the adverse effects on children from the application of this permissive parenting style include having low self-esteem, immaturity, and tend to violate the rules because they are unable to control their own behavior.

The results of interviews and observations conducted by researchers do not show the existence of permissive parenting. Orphanage activities and parenting of orphans do not reflect permissive parenting. In the application of permissive communication patterns, there are foster parents with high acceptance and low control for foster children, but these two aspects are not visible in the communication patterns of foster parents to orphans. In observation activities, researchers actually found that the researcher's attitude was inversely proportional to aspects of permissive parenting. Researchers found that foster parents do not act indifferently or free foster children in acting, but rather care and provide a firm attitude through warnings if foster children violate rules or make mistakes. Then the foster parent tends to direct and guide the foster child by not allowing him to act as he wants even though it looks good according to the foster child. Nevertheless, the relationship between foster children and foster parents is well established.

### **Authoritarian Communication Patterns**

In its application, authoritarian communication patterns aim to shape and control children's behavior in accordance with the rules set by parents. Foster parents tend to limit and urge foster children to follow the rules that have been set so that it will be firm if the foster child does not follow his wishes. This communication pattern is applied through the rules of the orphanage, where foster children are obliged to apply the rules that have been made by the orphanage. The rules in the order aim to control and shape the personality of foster children. Foster children are obliged to obey because these rules are coercive, so there is strict action for foster children if they violate them.

In its application, researchers see that foster children are able to obey the rules or rules set by the orphanage. Starting from running pickets right according to his schedule, and asking permission from foster parents when they want to go out of the orphanage environment. In addition, there are also unwritten rules that must be done by foster children, such as carrying out the five daily prayers on time. If the foster child violates the rules or regulations of the orphanage, the foster parents act firmly by giving advice and warnings to the foster child because the rules in the order tend to be mandatory.

This applied parenting style has succeeded in forming a positive personality for foster children, including cultivating the nature of responsibility, obeying worship, and thinking and acting rationally. The adverse effects on foster children from the application of this authoritarian parenting style include being angry, impressionable and irritable, looking unhappy, afraid to do something for fear of being wrong, and having weak communication.

### **Democratic Communication Patterns (Authoritative)**

In its application, foster children have the right to have an opinion and foster parents need to respect it, and vice versa. In addition to the freedom given to foster children, foster parents also continue to supervise them with strict rules. The results showed that the application of this communication pattern was realized through sharing sessions (briefings) by providing space for opinions, conveying ideas, and expressing feelings that were being felt by foster children.

This is done as an exercise for foster children to increase their confidence. It can also be seen from the results of the investigation conducted by researchers stating that foster parents invite foster children to seek agreement in making rules tailored to the interests and needs of foster children. Foster children are also not educated rigorously, but are given a commitment so that foster children can be responsible. In this case, foster

parents tend to direct foster children in thinking and acting rationally. Foster parents tend to tell and educate foster children regarding the good and bad of things without imposing their will on foster children.

The application of this communication pattern has succeeded in forming foster children who are confident in their abilities, open, responsible, optimistic, and think objectively and rationally. However, one of the negative impacts of implementing this parenting style is that children often ask for parental policies to consider everything for themselves.

### **Positive Self-Confidence Aspects**

Researchers describe in accordance with the theory of positive self-confidence aspects proposed by Lauster in Syam & Amri (2017) which states that there are several aspects of positive self-confidence, including confidence in self-ability, optimism, objective, responsible, and rational thinking. When foster children have these aspects of self-confidence, it can be said that foster children have positive self-confidence. The orphans in the Alqi Ceria orphanage have realistic life goals. They always balance it by developing abilities and believing in the efforts that have been made to achieve their life goals. Foster children continue to train and participate in competitions that suit their life goals. If the foster child fails in the competition, the foster child makes the failure an experience that motivates him in the next competition. Foster children are able to think rationally and are able to see the rules of the orphanage objectively. Foster children see the rules of the orphanage as non-binding even though there are some rules that do not suit them, and they see these rules as good rules for themselves. Through obedience to the rules of the orphanage, foster children are considered capable of being responsible for what they value and do.

## **VII. CONCLUSION**

Based on the findings and data analysis, the researchers concluded that in increasing the self-confidence of orphans, foster parents apply the parental communication patterns proposed by Baumrind in Yudaningsgar (2021), namely Authoritarian Communication Patterns and Democratic Communication Patterns (Authoritative). However, there is one communication pattern that is not seen in the activities of the Alqi Ceria orphanage, namely the Permissive Communication Pattern. The description is as follows:

### **Authoritarian Communication Patterns**

This pattern of communication is manifested through mandatory and coercive orphanage rules and regulations with the aim of controlling and shaping the personality of orphans so that foster parents will act decisively when foster children violate them. The application of this communication pattern has succeeded in fostering positive aspects of self-confidence in foster children, including being responsible, obedient to worship, and thinking and acting rationally.

### **Democratic Communication Patterns (Authoritative)**

The pattern of democratic communication is realized through sharing activities (briefings) which become a space for opinions, conveying ideas, and expressing feelings that are being felt by foster children, as well as being a place for foster children to train their confidence. Foster parents tend to guide and educate foster children about the good and bad of things, and involve the interests and needs of foster children in making agreements and rules. The application of this communication pattern has succeeded in forming foster children who are confident in their abilities, open, responsible, optimistic, and think objectively and rationally.

### **Factors Forming Orphans' Self-Confidence**

The factor forming the self-confidence of orphans comes from the family environment. Foster parents act as substitutes for biological parents and dorm mates act as siblings of foster children. Foster children receive support from foster parents and dorm mates in the form of advice and motivation to have a high level of confidence in achieving achievements. In addition, foster parents also play a role in providing solutions to difficulties and problems experienced by foster children.

### **Obstacles Faced By Foster Parents**

In its implementation, there is an obstacle that comes from foster children who are considered not ready to receive good things from foster parents. Orphans give negative feedback when foster parents give advice to them. This attitude allows the communication process to run ineffectively because it is only one way.

## **VIII. SUGGESTION**

The recommendations that researchers want to give after conducting this study are as follows: 1) Foster parents need to create a family environment to improve communication relationships with foster children; 2) When communicating with foster children, foster parents need to pay attention to the physical and psychological

of foster children so that the role of foster parents in guiding, helping, directing, and providing advice and warnings can be done properly so that the communication process can run effectively.

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