

Relationship Between Parenting Styles of PEKKA Mothers and Social Development and Emotional Intelligence of Children Aged 3–5 in Jember Regency

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ABSTRAK

Angka perceraian di Kabupaten Jember tergolong tinggi, peringkat ke-3, di Jawa Timur pada tahun 2022 dengan mencatatkan 1.544 kasus Cerai Talak dan 4.320 kasus Cerai Gugat. Kondisi tersebut memicu lonjakan jumlah Perempuan Kepala Keluarga (PEKKA). Fenomena ini menimbulkan permasalahan kompleks bagi ibu tunggal yang dituntut untuk menjalankan beban ganda yaitu mencari nafkah dan memberikan pengasuhan optimal bagi anaknya. Beban tersebut berpotensi memengaruhi efektivitas pola asuh yang diberikan, yang akhirnya dapat memengaruhi tumbuh kembang anak usia dini. Tujuan penelitian untuk mengetahui hubungan antara pola asuh ibu PEKKA dengan perkembangan sosial serta kecerdasan emosional pada anak usia 3–5 tahun di Kabupaten Jember. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode analitik korelatif cross-sectional dengan 25 responden dan instrumen berupa kuesioner. Analisis data menggunakan uji statistik Chi-square. Hasil analisis menunjukkan adanya hubungan yang signifikan antara pola asuh ibu PEKKA dengan perkembangan sosial anak ($p = 0,002$). Sebaliknya, tidak ditemukan hubungan yang signifikan antara pola asuh ibu PEKKA dengan kecerdasan emosional anak ($p = 1,0$). Kesimpulannya, pola asuh ibu PEKKA berhubungan erat dengan perkembangan sosial anak, namun tidak berhubungan dengan kecerdasan emosional anak usia 3–5 tahun di Kabupaten Jember.

ABSTARCT

The divorce rate in Jember Regency was notably high in 2022, ranking third in East Java with 1,544 cases of talak divorce and 4,320 cases of contested divorce. This condition triggered a surge in the number of Female-Headed Households (PEKKA). This phenomenon creates complex challenges for single mothers, who are required to bear a dual burden of earning a living and providing optimal childcare. Such a burden potentially compromises the effectiveness of their parenting, which ultimately affects early childhood growth and development. This

study aims to determine the relationship between PEKKA mothers' parenting style and the social development and emotional intelligence of children aged 3–5 years in Jember Regency. This study employed a correlational analytic cross-sectional design involving 25 respondents, using a structured questionnaire as the research instrument. Data analysis was conducted using the Chi-square statistical test. The results demonstrated a significant relationship between the parenting style of PEKKA mothers and children's social development ($p = 0.002$). Conversely, no significant relationship was found between PEKKA mothers' parenting style and children's emotional intelligence ($p = 1.000$). In conclusion, PEKKA mothers' parenting style is strongly associated with children's social development, but shows no significant correlation with the emotional intelligence of children aged 3–5 years in Jember Regency.

Introduction

Jember Regency recorded a highly significant divorce rate, ranking third in 2022 with a breakdown of 1,544 husband-initiated divorce cases (cerai talak) and 4,320 wife-initiated divorce cases (cerai gugat). This high rate of marital dissolution has direct implications for the increasing number of Female-Headed Households (PEKKA), requiring mothers to fulfill a dual role as both the primary breadwinner and the sole caregiver. During early childhood (ages 3–5), fulfilling developmental milestones, specifically social development and emotional intelligence, relies heavily on the parenting styles implemented by parents. Future social interaction maturity is rooted in early childhood social development, whereas emotional intelligence plays a crucial role in emotion regulation and establishing harmonious relationships with

the surrounding environment.

The relationship between parenting styles and child development has been extensively examined in prior literature. A study by Putri (2019) revealed that parenting styles, particularly the democratic (authoritative) style, are positively and significantly correlated with the emotional intelligence of preschool-aged children. In line with this, studies by Yusuf (2012) emphasize that parental attention and emotional involvement are key factors in shaping the maturity of children's social interactions from an early age. However, the majority of prior studies are limited by their primary focus on intact (conventional) family dynamics or homemakers in general. Empirical studies specifically examining parenting styles within single-parent families, particularly PEKKA mothers who bear a double burden across economic and

domestic spheres, remain severely limited.

To address these literature limitations, this study re-evaluates the impact of parenting styles on two dimensions of child development simultaneously (social development and emotional intelligence) within the context of PEKKA-based single-parent families. The novelty of this study lies in its empirical examination of whether the parenting styles of PEKKA mothers in regions with high divorce rates, such as Jember Regency, maintain a consistent impact on children's emotional and social intelligence, or whether other external variables exert a more dominant influence. Given this background, this study aims to analyze the relationship between PEKKA mothers' parenting styles and the social development and emotional intelligence of children aged 3–5 years in Jember Regency.

Method

This study employed an analytical cross-sectional correlational design. The population of this study comprised mothers acting as female heads of households (Perempuan Kepala Keluarga / PEKKA) with children aged 3 to 5 years in Jember Regency. A sample of 25 respondents was selected using the simple random sampling technique. The data source was primary

data, and the data collection technique and instrument involved administering questionnaires directly to the respondents. Finally, the data analysis procedure was performed statistically using the Chi-Square test to examine the relationship between the mothers' parenting styles and the children's social development and emotional intelligence.

Results

1. The Relationship Between Parenting Styles of Mothers as Female Heads of Household (PEKKA) and the Social Development of Children Aged 3–5 Years

Parenting Styles of Female Heads of Households	Social Development of Children Aged 3-5 Years						Total	p-Value
	Moderate		Good		Excellent			
	F	%	F	%	F	%		
Non Demokratis	0	(0%)	8	(8%)	0	(0%)	8	0,002
Demokratis	0	(0%)	5	(5%)	12	(48%)	17	
Total	0	(0%)	13	(52%)	12	(48%)	25	

Based on the Chi-Square test between parenting styles and social development, a p-value (significance level) of 0,002 was obtained. Using an alpha level of 0,05, the p-value is less than 0,05 ($p < 0,05$). These results indicate a significant relationship between the parenting styles of PEKKA mothers and the social development of children aged 3–5 years.

2. The Relationship Between Parenting Styles of Mothers as Female Heads of Household (PEKKA) and the Emotional Intelligence of Children Aged 3–5 Years

Parenting Styles of Female Heads of Households	Emotional Intelligence of Children Aged 3-5 Years				Total	p-Value
	Low		High			
	F	%	F	%		
Non Demokratis	0	(0%)	8	(32%)	8	1,00
Demokratis	2	(8%)	15	(60%)	17	
Total	2	(8%)	23	(92%)	25	

Based on the Chi-Square test between parenting styles and emotional intelligence, a p-value (significance level) of 1,0 was obtained. Using an alpha level of 0,05, the p-value is greater than 0.05 ($p > 0,05$). These results indicate no significant relationship between the parenting styles of PEKKA mothers and the emotional intelligence of children aged 3–5 years.

Discussion

1. The Relationship Between Parenting Styles of Mothers as Female Heads of Household (PEKKA) and the Social Development of Children Aged 3–5 Years

Based on the results of statistical analysis using the Chi-Square test, a p-value of 0.002 ($\alpha = 0.05$) was obtained, indicating a statistically significant relationship between the parenting styles of female heads of household (known locally as PEKKA) and the social development of children aged

3–5 years. The data demonstrate that the tendency of PEKKA mothers to implement a democratic parenting style is directly proportional to optimal social development outcomes in children, with 48% of children achieving the "very good" development category and 20% falling into the "good" category. These empirical findings reinforce contemporary theories of early childhood socio-emotional development, which posit that family-based caregiving environments serve as the most dominant foundation in shaping preschool-aged children's social interaction capabilities (Santrock, 2023)

Caregiving during the 3–5 age bracket plays a strategic role, as children at this developmental stage begin to expand their social interactions beyond the domestic sphere. Emotional engagement, warmth, and responsiveness exhibited by parents directly predict the degree of children's independence and prosocial skills, such as sharing, cooperation, helpfulness, and environmental consciousness (Rahmawati et al., 2023; Yusuf, 2012). Theoretically, parental attentiveness is manifested through focused psychological and physical dedication to fulfill both the material and emotional needs of the child. Such attentiveness encompasses supervision, positive role modeling, the cultivation of

moral and religious values, and the provision of unconditional affection, which together form the pillars for achieving children's social maturity (Enjelita et al., 2025).

As single parents and primary household breadwinners simultaneously, PEKKA mothers face dual challenges consisting of complex time management, financial stressors, and psychological burdens. Despite economic constraints, the emotional involvement and supportive parenting provided by single mothers function as a crucial protective factor that safeguards optimal social growth and development in children (Wardani & Kuswanti, 2022). Conversely, unmanaged life pressures risk triggering unresponsive or authoritarian parenting practices, which ultimately elevate the vulnerability of children to social developmental obstacles, such as social withdrawal and aggressive behaviors (Lubis et al., 2023).

Considering the imperative significance of early social developmental stages as a fundamental prerequisite for subsequent life milestones, fostering children's social maturity from an early age remains paramount. The attainment of socio-emotional developmental indicators, such as independence, empathy, and

adherence to established rules, fundamentally relies on familial interaction dynamics (Peraturan Menteri Pendidikan Nasional Republik Indonesia Nomor 58 Tahun 2009). Consequently, reinforcing the parenting capacity of PEKKA mothers through targeted intervention programs, such as positive parenting workshops and the establishment of robust social support networks, is vital to support children's social growth inclusively, optimally, and sustainably (Pratiwi & Setiawan, 2024).

2. The Relationship Between Parenting Styles of Mothers as Female Heads of Household (PEKKA) and the Emotional Intelligence of Children Aged 3–5 Years

Based on the results of the Chi-square statistical test analysis regarding the relationship between the parenting styles of female-headed households (PEKKA) and the language development of children aged 3–5 years, a significance value (p-value) of 1.0 was obtained. Because this p-value is greater than the established significance level ($\alpha = 0,05$), the Null Hypothesis (H_0) is accepted and the Alternative Hypothesis (H_a) is rejected. These test results statistically indicate that there is no significant relationship between the parenting styles applied by PEKKA mothers and the language development of children

aged 3–5 years in the studied sample group. An absolute p-value of 1,0 indicates that the distribution of parenting style variables and the children's language development levels are independent or possess no linear association pattern within quantitative statistical analysis.

Although parenting style is often theoretically identified as the primary foundation for child growth and development stimulation (Santrock, 2023), these findings clarify that a child's language proficiency is not solely determined by a single parenting variable from the mother. In preschool-aged children (3–5 years), language comprehension and vocabulary are also influenced by the expansion of the social environment outside the home, such as interactions with peers, playgroups (PAUD), grandparents, or caregivers who substitute for daily interaction roles (Astikasari & Weto, 2018). Furthermore, the specific characteristics of PEKKA mothers who bear a double burden, namely earning a living while managing the household, result in a tendency for the quantity of direct interaction time with children to be limited, which is frequently compensated for by stimulation from other family members or exposure to audiovisual educational media (Wijaya & Herwanto, 2023).

On the other hand, previous studies generally state that parenting styles are positively correlated with children's emotional intelligence, wherein democratic parenting enables children to possess higher emotional intelligence (Putri, 2019). Nevertheless, the results of this study indicate the opposite, namely that there is no relationship between parenting styles and children's emotional intelligence. This contrasting finding aligns with Harlock's (2011) theory, which asserts that aside from parenting styles, various other factors can influence the level of emotional intelligence in children.

The factors influencing such emotional intelligence encompass the child's health condition, home atmosphere, relationships among family members, peer interactions, overprotection, and guidance. Good health conditions encourage the dominance of pleasant emotions, whereas a harmonious home atmosphere and peaceful relationships among family members prevent the emergence of negative emotions such as anger and jealousy. In addition, favorable acceptance by peer groups, a moderate level of parental protection without overprotection, and guidance in coping with frustration play crucial roles in shaping a child's emotional balance (Harlock, 2011)



Conclusion

PEKKA mothers' parenting style is strongly associated with children's social development, but shows no significant correlation with the emotional intelligence of children aged 3–5 years in Jember Regency

Abbreviation

PEKKA : Perempuan Kepala Keluarga
(Female-Headed Households)

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2. The community and village officials of Kamal Village, Arjasa District, Jember Regency, East Java Province

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