

## Optimizing the Role of Parents in Children's Educational Awareness in Kedungsugo Prambon Village, Sidoarjo

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### Article history

Submitted: 2024/01/22; Revised: 2024/03/12; Accepted: 2024/07/10

### Abstract

This community service program identified several crucial problems, namely low parental awareness of children's growth development and potential; around 47% of people are on the poverty line; high school dropout rate at productive age; children work not according to their skills; high divorce rate due to early marriage; and a high risk of juvenile delinquency. This service aims to overcome crucial problems by increasing awareness of parents as the main driver of changing mindsets, optimizing the role of parents, and increasing awareness of the importance of education for children and families. The UNISMA Malang Doctoral Service Group (KDM) carries out this service using the Participatory Action Research (PAR) method, which data from social services and the village government supports. The results of this service show the success of the service as seen from the community's enthusiasm in participating in the program and positive responses during discussions, which are an indication of improving the quality of human resources as the main capital for change in Kedungsugo Prambon Sidoarjo Village. So, this community service can provide a solution to the needs of Kedungsugo Village to support the government's SDGs program, which focuses on quality and equitable education and socio-economic development.

### Keywords

Children's Education; Optimization; Role Parent



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Education is one of the important foundations in producing superior human resources; education provides facilities for developing maximum human potential through various theories, experiences, and realities that occur in life (Omeri, 2015). Sidoarjo Regime is one of the biggest areas in East Java in terms of getting local APBD. Not all regions in the district have a few regions with low financial and instructive development. In light of studies directed, Kedungsugo Town is one of the towns in the Sidoarjo locale that has the most minimal human development file (Siswati & Hermawati, 2018), which was proven that 47% of the total 673 families received the PKH program from the social service (Dinsos Data); other data found that the percentage of people who had no education was 27%, unemployed 16%, gardening farmers and factory workers 13% whose average education was. This village only has junior high school and equivalent standards, 1.11% for high school and 0.17% for bachelor's degrees (Village Head Interview Results). These challenges impact various crucial problems in society, which in this case will also be the main focus of this activity, namely 1) Low economic welfare of the community and; 2) Low awareness of education, especially in the productive age (Timur, 2022).

The two issues above are the main sources of different issues that keep on arising in the public eye; this will turn out to be much more serious, assuming, later on, there is no mindfulness by society to recover cutthroat and predominant people (Widyastuti, 2012). This can be begun through schooling to deliver individuals who can expand their respect for themselves and their families so life's financial and other existential necessities can be survived (Roesli et al., 2018) (Siregar, 2013). They also added that the quality of education humans possess (Reading; Society) greatly influences social life, economic well-being, and a person's characteristics (Hidayati, 2015). The nature of family training as a component of non-formal instruction is a choice to satisfy the above targets. Guardians are the main topic of this conversation, and they, in a perfect world, should prevail about turning into the primary engine of progress, having mindfulness and positive reactions in the good examples, character, and morals expected by relatives (Ardhiyanti, 2013). The risk that occurs if this is not done is that there will be various pragmatic negative responses from society, such as marrying at an early age, working instead of going to school, and juvenile delinquency such as drugs, alcohol, and other juvenile delinquency (Sufa & Setiawan, 2018).

The problems above are the biggest reasons for us to contribute to societal needs, and we are assisted by the doctoral service program (PDM) within the postgraduate doctoral program at the Islamic University of Malang (UNISMA). We expect to add to

the requirements in Kedungsugo Prambon Sidoarjo Town, particularly as far as parental mindfulness in improving their significant job in the introduction of the nature of their kids from now on. Practically speaking, this doctoral help program will be done as socialization outreach, which will be done by 313 chosen guardians who have recently organized and spoken with the town head and village head.

This information and empowerment service is vital to construct their reality and fearlessness; this ethical help is truly required by individuals who don't have the foggiest idea about how essential their job (Guardians) is for the eventual fate of their kids (Gemilang & Werdani, 2020). Explanation from Ma'arif et al., (2022) They also explained the importance of empowerment through workshops to provide hope for changes in all parents' behavior, character, and viewpoints. Next, Mister and Mas also explained the general aim of training and empowerment to train and raise awareness, find various reasons for problems, and foster a willingness to try and change and indirectly prevent the emergence of risks of crime that occur in society, especially those committed by children and teenagers (Mas, 2011) (Mistar & Sunyoto, 2020).

This program is also in line with the government program represented by Bappenas, (2023) and strengthened by the research results Siswati & Hermawati, (2018). The 17 national development programs address critical objectives such as eliminating national poverty, eradicating hunger, promoting a healthy and prosperous society, ensuring gender equality, and providing quality education. Additionally, they focus on ensuring the availability of clean water and affordable energy and promoting equitable economic growth. The programs also emphasize industrial innovation, infrastructure development, inequality reduction, sustainable cities and settlements, responsible consumption and production, managing extreme climate change effectively, and protecting marine and land ecosystems. Furthermore, these programs advocate for the establishment of peace and justice through strong institutions and partnerships, aligning with UNISMA's vision and mission and the postgraduate program's focus on multicultural education and world peace (UNISMA, 2022). The results of this doctoral activity serving in Kedungsugo Prambon Village are trying to improve parents' awareness to change their apathetic and pragmatic mindset to become competitive and progressive in increasing human resources in their environment, family members, reducing school dropout rates and other juvenile delinquency (Ma'arif et al., 2022).

This service aims to overcome crucial problems by increasing awareness of parents as the main driver of changing mindsets, optimizing the role of parents, and increasing awareness of the importance of education for children and families. With

this community service, it is hoped that it will be able to provide solutions to the needs of Kedungsugo Village to overcome the problems of education and socio-economic development in the village.

## 2. METHODS

This service method, PAR (Participatory Action Research), focuses on learning to overcome various problems discovered and carried out practically through training, mentoring, educational empowerment, and interactively carrying out cultural and socio-religious changes (Sari, 2021). The implementation of this program is divided into several stages; in the first stage, we carried out communication and coordination with village officials represented by the head of Kedungsugo Prambon Village by bringing assignment letters as well as identifying the problem issues that were needed; in the second stage we began conducting field observations as well as conducting interviews with several important informants, the third stage is an analytical study to conclude the results of the data that we have found and have gone through the testing stage of informants and village officials and community figures and related social services. Stage four is socialization and assistance activities for the community, especially with parents as the main subject. We prioritize those affected and most in need for reasons of effectiveness and enthusiasm (Putri & Sembiring, 2021).

The focus of this assistance and socialization is optimizing the role of parents and education towards educational awareness of children of productive age, especially in Kedungsugo Prambon village (Azizah et al., 2024), and the final stage of this activity is to evaluate to find a measure of the success of the program from the level of awareness and enthusiasm of the community through various responses, questions, and positive attitudes in carrying out this activity, which can practically be seen in the work chart as follows:

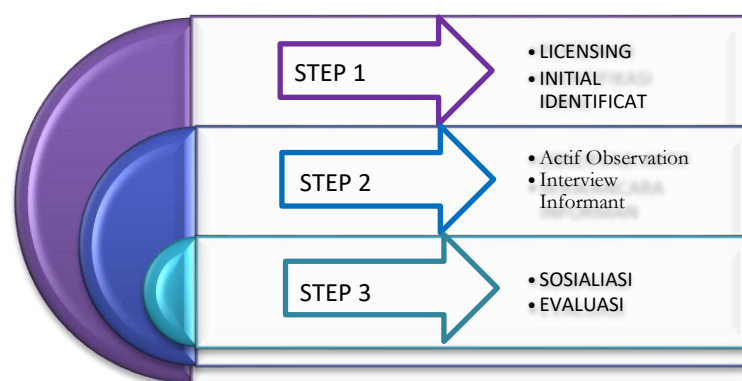


Figure 1. Community Service Work Chart.

### 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Based on the reality that occurs at the object of service, by also considering the needs and abilities of the community, especially the busy lives of parents, we streamline time by dividing technical assistance and outreach to parents through 2 main programs which are carried out on Sundays, from the total number of heads of families attending Yes, 67% attended this activity accompanied by the village head, all village officials, several community leaders and the village development non-commissioned officer (*BABINSA*), the two programs are explained as follows:

The first focus carried out during the training in Kedungsugi Prambon village, Sidoarjo regency, was how to raise awareness about the important role of every parent in the needs of children. This activity was carried out to provide an educational understanding for the community in general, especially for parents, so that the risk of Dropping out of school, working at an early age, early marriage, and juvenile delinquency are not getting bigger and more widespread. We from the UNISMA KDM program collaborate with the Sidoarjo district social service and the Kedungsugo village government to solve the problems that have been occurring. From data held by the district social service, we found indications that 47% of the recommendations validated by the social service provide an announcement that the poverty rate in This village needs to be followed up seriously so that in the future, assistance in the form of materials is considered not enough to be a solution to the social problems that have occurred so far. Hence, the village head took the initiative to provide the opportunity for KDM Unisma to collaborate to find a solution through moral support through training and mentoring. Kedungsugo Prambon village community.



**Figure 2.** Documentation of UNISMA KDM Training and Mentoring Activities

This mentoring and training activity was well received by the community, with extraordinary enthusiasm; this was proven by the number of 763 heads of families (KK) in Kedungsugo village. We invited 500 heads of families, and around 394 heads of families attended; that number was increased by all village officials present, village

heads, and community leaders. In this activity, there was some additional information that dropping out of school for boys and early marriage for girls had a very negative impact on the psychological growth, mentality and character of children and resulted in a bad image in the eyes of society (Ardhiyanti, 2013). Therefore, what is needed for a child as educational material for parents is how important education is to provide greater opportunities for their life needs, both material and non-material (Emor et al., 2019).

Parents have a very important role in raising children, not only providing material needs such as clothing and food but also providing attention and affection and creating an environment that is safe and full of trust (Hidayati, 2015). Another important thing that parents need to pay attention to is that social support needs from parents are not only limited to physical support but also involve responsibility for educating, protecting, and guiding children according to their potential and interests (Pramaswari, 2018).

Apart from that, parents are expected to prevent child marriage at an early age and be active in providing character education and moral values to their children. This forms a strong foundation for the child's holistic growth and development (Somad, 2021). Each child is unique so that several approaches can be applied based on the child's needs, interests, and characteristics. It is important to continually communicate with children, listen to them, and provide an environment that supports positive growth and healthy motivation (Hyoscyamina, 2011).

Parents can adopt Several models or approaches to motivate their children to comply. They explained the following: First, the Responsive Education Model, which is willing to listen and respond positively to children's needs and interests by giving full attention when interacting with children, understanding their interests, and providing support for personal achievement. The second Positive Education Approach prioritizes positive reinforcement rather than punishment. It focuses on motivating children through positive recognition and appropriate encouragement by providing praise and rewards for achievements, providing support when children face difficulties, and providing constructive feedback. The third approach supports autonomy by encouraging children's independence and responsibility, giving them freedom in making decisions, respecting their desires and interests by giving them age-appropriate responsibilities, letting them make small choices, and supporting their independent efforts. The fourth Democratic Parenting Model involves children in family decision-making, creating an environment where children's ideas and opinions are respected. By involving children in family decision-making, they listen to

their opinions and provide relevant explanations. The five Collaborative Learning Models work with children in the learning process, creating a relationship of mutual respect between parents and children by Encouraging open communication, collaborating in setting educational goals, and providing support in achieving those goals.

From the explanation above, it can be concluded that the problems that have occurred in children's positive growth so far have occurred due to the less-than-optimal role of parents in meeting children's psychological needs, which every child much needs more than just providing money, clothes, and food (Miyati, 2021), The ideal of the role of parents in psychological matters needs to be massively popularized among the general public, especially rural communities who live relatively with cultural doctrinism and social practices which have limited the ability and awareness of parents so far so that the role of village government and other stakeholders is needed, program and sustainable (Sirojuddin & Susanto, 2022).



**Figure 3.** KDM Training Activities with Village Heads and Community Leaders

Apart from educational activities regarding the role of parents in children, the second focus of UNISMA's KDM activities is the importance of children's (formal) education rights. This reduces the risk of increasing school dropout rates in Kedungsugo Prambon village. Apart from that, this focus is also intended to re-motivate children to like all activities related to children's intellectual productivity (Permono, 2013).

According to Anisah (2017), education can assist with fostering youngsters' mental capacities, including decisive reasoning, rationale, and critical thinking skills. The instructing and educational experience gives a boost that upholds kids' mental health and insight. Training additionally discusses parts of scholarly educational information and the arrangement of youngsters' solid person (endurance) and great morals. Hence, kids are familiar with virtues and accept practices through communication with educators and companions around them.



Interaction means that education provides children with opportunities to help children learn to communicate, collaborate, and understand the social norms needed to integrate into wider society. While explaining Ginanjar, (2017) They explained that education also helps children develop life skills needed in everyday life, such as communication skills, time management, and interpersonal skills that can adapt to changing times in the future, which is an important aspect in preparing children to face more real-world challenges. Complex, especially in the current era of globalization.

The presence of confirmation that children must be given opportunities in the world of education to develop their creativity and imagination through practicums and other applicable learning is a right that must be given and practiced so that it can stimulate and trigger children's interest in art, science, mathematics, and soft sciences. Skills in other fields and help children explore their maximum potential. Apart from that, it is no less important. Siswati & Hermawati, (2018) Reinforces that education can help children form their identity through exploring subjects, extracurricular activities, and social interactions, determining their interests and talents, trying to find their ideals, developing their responses to real life, and providing a strong foundation for the future children so they can be better prepared to face challenges and opportunities in the world of work and life as a whole.



**Figure 4.** Documentation of KDM activities with Social Service Representatives

From the various explanations above, it can be concluded that the current era of globalization and digitalization requires children in Kedungsugo Prambon Sidoarjo village to realize that parents and children should not put aside education; education provides a guarantee for children to have certain competencies and qualifications in himself who makes a child have a clear choice of profession from their scientific field.



Another thing that is considered important is that the State of Indonesia has certain graduation standards for special professions in which there is a welfare value of minimum regional income wage (UMR) that can be received every month so that education is closely related to income security (Eka, 2020).

Apart from that, analysis is another right: education not only provides knowledge but also shapes character, helps socialization, and develops various aspects of children's personalities to help them become competitive individuals and contribute positively to society. Thus, education provides knowledge and forms character, helps socialization, and develops various aspects of children's personalities to help them become competitive individuals and contribute positively to society.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

Community service activities carried out by the doctoral service program group (KDM) UNISMA have been carried out in several steps, namely the initial coordination stage with the relevant village heads as well as initial consolidation in the form of observing and analyzing the needs of the residents of Kedungsugo Prambon Sidoarjo village. The results of this service program show that the community in Kedungsugo Prambon village has a very low awareness of their children's educational needs. This occurs due to the low level of education of parents and the economic situation and status of the community, of which around 40% are on the poverty line, which requires them to be able to survive without thinking about other important things, including children's educational rights. In general, the low level of knowledge and economy forces parents to empower their children to work to make a living by working as workers in factories, rice fields, plantations, and animal husbandry, marrying young girls so that many of them drop out of school; the effect is Other than that, it creates negative behavior in the surrounding community.

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