

Father Involvement In Child Care For Toddler Viewed From Marital Satisfaction On Wife's Point Of View

Siti Maimunah, Sofa Amalia & Intan Rachmawati

Faculty of Psychology, University of Muhammadiyah Malang
sitimaimunah20@gmail.com

Abstract. Currently father's role is not merely to earn money for family but also to involve in parenting for the children. Father involvement in parenting can affect psychological condition of the mother, the condition of which will make her happy and pleased because her husband is willing to spend time to do parenting tasks although he is busy to earn some money for the family. This condition is believed to be able to increase marriage satisfaction from the wife's perspective. This study aims at finding out the connection between father involvement in parenting and marriage satisfaction from the wife's perspective. This study is a correlational study to find a relationship between two variables. Sample taking was by cluster random sampling technique, there were 6 villages as research area at Singosari sub district of Malang district. The research subject were 100 housewives of working men, having first children of 1 to 3 years of age, and do not have any assistant to take care their children. Data collection was obtained through father involvement scale which was self-developed by the researcher, while marriage satisfaction scale was adapted from ENRICH Marital Satisfaction Scale. Test analysis using product moment pearson correlation shows that there is a significantly positive relation between father involvement in parenting with wife satisfaction in marriage. Father involvement in parenting has effect toward wife satisfaction in marriage as much as 39.4% while the rest is affected by other factors ($r = 0,628$; $p = 0,000$; $R^2 = 0,394$).

Keywords: Father involvement, parenting, marital satisfaction

INTRODUCTION

Every individual who is about to start marriage life definitely longing for a happy family in all life aspects. The happiness and the well being state ensure a person to gain marital satisfaction. Unfortunately, not all marriages run well which causes certain individu to fail in achieving marital satisfaction. This is a sad fact because marital satisfaction is very important for the couple to live their marriage life.

The importance of marriage is reinforced by Lavenson, Carstensen & Gottman (1993) in their study which shows that the marital satisfaction may affect both mental and physical health. In another word, a satisfied married couple own better mental and physical health than of those who do not feel satisfy with their marriage. This is also supported by a study conducted by Lavenson, Haase dan Bloch (2014) who found that a satisfied couple over their marriage was represented in the form of positive emotion such as affection, humor, interest and fun, were more often to appear compared to those of unhappy marriage where they showed different reaction by reflecting negative emotion such as anger, hatred, complain, sadness, tension, self-defence, domination, ignorance and fight.

Marital satisfaction is affected by several factors as explained by Kim (2010) namely : spouse communication, family support, role conflict and the lack of clear family role. One of role conflicts that often appears is parenting issue. In marriage, there is a common role division where husband is often described as the second person in child care. Wife, in various circumstance, is commonly more active in family activities especially child care. Only currently, role of a husband which previously commonly is described as the wage earner who spends most of his time outside the house is now also required to engage in child care.

The amount of time a husband spends outside the house has made him lack of intensity and chance to be with his family which results in his less involvement in child care. This has made the husband is often set aside in child care issue. According to a content of mommies daily, it is said that due to the wage earner role a husband carries, it has made him less involved in taking care of his children because he is already tired after arrives home. Nevertheless, father's role is not limited only to afford the family in term of financial

support but also to be more active in child care activity. As reported in Liputan 6 news program, there are many researches that emphasize the importance of fathers' involment in their children care despite their main role as wage earner.

The husband involvement in child care makes wife feels happier and prouder to find that her husband is willing to spend time child caring in between his busy activities at work. That is believed to increase marital satisfaction for wife. According to main page of liputan 6 site the active role of husband in child care gives several benefits such as close bonding between the father and his child, lower stress level for the mother, less burden for the mother, and more flexibility for the mother to take care of other issues and activities.

Day & Lamb (in Santrock, 2007) noted that there has been massive change on father's role in United States' family pattern. During the colonial era in America, fathers were responsible for moral teaching. Along with the emergence of industrial revolution, the focus of father's role changed to emphasize his role as the main financial supporter for the family. In 1970s there was a tendency for fathers to become more active and loving in the child care issue. Father is not only responsible for the family's financial support as well as to discipline and control his children, but also to actively involve in child care.

A longitudinal study by Sarkadi, Kristiansson, Oberklaid, & Bremberg (2007) on father involvement toward children development was conducted to 24 fathers who had infant child. The result of the study shows that 22 children achieved positive effect. Father involvement gives positive impact which is marked by a decline in behavioral problems in boys and psychological issues in girls. In addition, the impact also affects cognitive improvement, reduces misbehavior and negative action that is detrimental to the family especially of those with low economic status.

The importance of father involvement to increase marital satisfaction toward wife is also proven by Lee & Doherty (2007) who stated that marital satisfaction and father involvement in parenting have positive relation. Besides that, a study conducted by Simonelli, Parolin, Sacchi, De Palo & Vieno (2016) also found that father involvement affects interaction quality in family for the early stage of children development. Marital satisfaction generally reduces

especially on husband after the birth of their child (Belsky & Pensky dalam Santrock, 2007). The decrease presumably occurs due to several reasons such as an increase in financial demand, physical demand in taking care the children, certain limitation in being parents, and emotional demand of having new responsibility as family member. However, over time, the father's parenting is associated with many positive characteristics. As an example, a study found that a father's role in child care is closely related with how to become a good partner and citizen and how to participate in local community activities (Snarey dalam Santrock, 2007).

Another study related to father involvement and marital satisfaction was also conducted by Kwok, Cheng, Chow & Ling (2013) on 1,140 mothers with different age, educational background and family income. The result of the study shows that assessment on mother satisfaction related to father involvement in child care is proven to be very high. It was reported that mothers who were satisfied with father involvement in child care also had high marital satisfaction. When a father is actively involved in child care instead of only become wage earner, his wife will feel grateful, it will reduce her burden, she will feel loved and have love commitment from her spouse. The above result of the study strengthens a previous study conducted by Mehall, Spinrad, Eisenberg, & Gaertner (2009) who stated that a satisfied mother resulted from father involvement in child care tends to have marital satisfaction.

A high marital satisfaction indicates that the individuals are satisfied and happy with the marriage and their family life. Marriage is considered to be able to provide serenity, safety and make a person feels more meaningful, complete and more optimistic to face the future. The attachment between husband and wife includes the readiness to marriage life and its consequences, mutual respect and affection, and role division in the marriage is considered as factors that support the marital satisfaction at the most (Pujiastuti & Retnowati, 2004).

A satisfied marriage is every couple's dream and vision. They are willing to do various effort to achieve it. But the fact is marital satisfaction is not such an easy aim to get. There are plenty marriage couples who face marital issue and do not feel satisfy with their marriage. Fischer (in Zulaikah 2008) stated that dissatisfaction is the beginning of marriage failure. An individual who is not satisfied with the marriage will refer to divorce as final option after trying all possible attempts to maintain the marriage.

Fower (1998) and Kurdek (2002) also said that one of the consequences of dissatisfied marriage is divorce. Hurlock (1980) argues that divorce is the ultimate result of the highest dissatisfaction in marriage, and if occurs whenever both husband and wife are no longer unable to satisfy each other, to satisfy each other and to look for solution to address both sides' needs. Afni & Indrijati (2011) find the reason wife to sue for husband divorce due to not fulfill the material, physical, and psychological needs of his partner. Stated that wife files for a divorce based on unfulfillment of material, physical and psychological needs from her partner.

The difference of this research with previous research is in this research using quantitative approach and not longitudinal research. The difference of this research with previous research is in this research using quantitative approach and not longitudinal research.

Based on the series of explanation above, the purpose of this research is to know the relationship father involvement in upcoming child care toddler in terms of marriage satisfaction on the wife. The benefit of this research is to know the description of father involvement in the care of toddler age children and to know the relation to marriage satisfaction on the wife so that the result of this research can be used as one

of the reference to hold the counseling program or psychoeducation about father involvement in the care of toddler age children.

Marital Satisfaction

Satisfaction is a situation where individuals get pleasure and prosperity, because they have achieved a goal or goal. While marriage is a socially approved partner relationship involving emotions, beliefs, laws, sexual loyalty, and parenting (Williams, Sawyer, & Wahlstrom, 2006). In the study of this study, researchers combine the two words is the satisfaction of marriage.

According to Hughes & Noppe (1985) states that the satisfaction of marriage felt by the couple depends on the level where they feel the marriage is in accordance with the needs and expectations. According to Hawkins (in Olson & Hamilton, 1983) marital satisfaction is a subjective feeling of happiness, satisfaction, and a memorable experience with a partner by considering all aspects of his marriage. Marital satisfaction can refer to how married couples evaluate their marriage relationship, whether to satisfy or not (Hendrick & Hendrick, 1992).

According to Hendrick & Hendrick (1992) there are two factors that can affect marital satisfaction, (1) Premarital Factors a) Economic background, where the perceived economic status is not in line with expectations will cause problems in the marriage relationship; b) Education, where couples with low levels of education will feel lower satisfaction as more stressors such as unemployment or low income levels c) Parent relationships that will affect couples' attitudes toward romance, marriage, and divorce. (2) Postmarital Factors a) The presence of children is very influential on the decline in marital satisfaction, especially in women (Bee & Mitchell, 1984). Research shows that with increasing children can increase stress couples and reduce time with a partner (Hendrick & Hendrick, 1992). The presence of a child may affect the marital satisfaction of a marriage related to the expectation of the child's existence; b) The length of marriage, where as Duvall & Miller (1985) proposes that the highest level of marriage satisfaction at the beginning of marriage, then decreases after the presence of the child and increases again after the child is independent.

Fowers & Olson (1989) which refers to the ENRICH Marital Satisfaction Scale posits several aspects to achieve marital satisfaction, namely (1) Personality Issues, which is a person's perception of his partner's behavior, habits and satisfaction levels perceived personality of the spouse's personality.) Equality of roles, feelings and attitudes about the various roles in marriage, including roles in work, household, role of sex, and parent role, (3) Communication, that is feeling and behavior when communicating with their partner. This includes the level of comfort felt by a partner when brainstorming, (4) Problem solving, ie partner perception of a problem and how to solve it. There is a need for the openness of the couple to recognize and solve emerging problems and strategies used to obtain the best solution, (5) Financial arrangements, namely the attitude and the way the couple manages finances, forms of spending and decision-making on finance, (6) leisure activities , ie activities performed to spend free time. In this case the activities undertaken for social activities, own, and hope to spend time with his partner, (7) Sexual relations, namely the feelings of the couple about affection and sexual relations. In this case include sexual problems, sexual behavior, sexual loyalty to the spouse, and birth control, (8) Child and nurture, namely the feeling of husband and wife when having children and raising children, which includes disciplinary problems, the goals set for children , and the impact caused by the existence

of the child in the relationship of marriage, (9) Family and friends, that is feeling, attitude and hope to spend time with family and friends, (10) Orientation of religion, ie attitude and caring someone in religious belief as well as how its implementation in a family in everyday life.

Father Involvement

Father involvement is a theory in psychology derived from parenting theory. Parenting is a behavior that basically has key words that are warm, sensitive, full of acceptance, reciprocal, understanding, and have an appropriate response to the needs of the child (Garbarino & Benn, 1992). In the case of parenting, it is necessary for the cooperation of parents of both father and mother to apply parenting or coparenting.

Coparenting is defined by Doherty & Beaton (in Santrock, 2007) as the amount of support given by parents in raising children. According to Feinberg (in Sullivan, 2008) states that coparenting refers to the interaction between parents with their children. Furthermore, McHale, et al (in Bornstein, 2002) says that there are several important aspects to realizing an effective coparenting. These aspects are cooperation, effective communication, coordinating efforts, agreed standard rules for children, the existence of clear boundaries of authority in the household, and emotional closeness. In this study, researchers focused on discussing father involvement in parenting.

Father involvement is often illustrated by the amount of time that fathers spend together with their children or the direct interaction between father and son (Hawkins, Bradford, Palkovitz, Christiansen, Day, & Call; 2002). It happens because time is often considered parenting as the most important thing in engagement with her child (Daly & Hochschild in Hawkins et al., 2002). Time, however, is not the only important dimension in father involvement (Palkovitz in Hawkins et al., 2002).

Father involvement can be defined as a father's interaction that refers to the task of raising children, caring and playing activities (Dolan in Dumaria, 2012). This involvement includes the amount of time spent with the child, such as sharing meals, spending time by bathing, preparing meals and clothes, and playing together between father and son (Allen & Daly, 2007). According to Cabrera, Tamis-LeMonda, Lamb, & Boller (1999), father involvement is a multidimensional concept that continues to grow in both science and public awareness levels. While Lamb et al. (in Hawkins et al. 2002) define father involvement as a multidimensional construct that includes affective, cognitive, and ethical components, and observable behavioral components, including indirect involvement, such as supporting the role of the mother in parenting and providing a livelihood for the family. Pleck states that father involvement is a positive participating behavior that fathers undertake in the care of their children (in Hodgins, 2007).

To explain more about father involvement, Lamb, Pleck, Charnov, and Levine (in Pleck, 1997) suggested three components consisting of paternal engagement, accessibility or availability to the child, and responsibility. The development of research on father involvement then brought Pleck (2010) to the five new components of the father involvement consisting of three main components and two additional components. These components are, among others, (1) Positive engagement activities, the direct interaction of fathers to their children through care or care and other activities with the aim of improving child development. (2) Warmth and responsiveness, which is the warmth and attitude of the father who is responsive to the signal given by the child. (3) Control, this component refers to monitoring and

decision-making activities. In this context, the monitoring in question is where a father knows everything about the child's existence, as well as the activities in which the father participates in decision-making about the child. (4) Indirect care, which refers to activities undertaken with the purpose of care and development, but the activity does not directly involve interaction with the child. Livelihood activities are also not included in this component. This component consists of two categories, namely material indirect care and social indirect care. Indirect care material is an activity that includes the provision of goods and facilities required by the child. (5) Process Responsibility, ensuring that the child's needs for the four previous components have been met, involving the initiative-taking process and monitoring what is needed by the child.

METHOD

This study uses correlational approach, where this research tries to test the relationship between two variables, namely: father's involvement and wife marriage satisfaction.

Sampling technique used in this research is cluster random sampling technique that is sampling based on area or cluster. The location used as a research place is six villages located in Singosari District, Malang Regency is Langlang Village, Tunjungtiro Village, Banjararum Village, Watugede Village, Purwoasri Village and Candirenggo Village.

The subject criteria are:

1. A full time housewife.
2. Have a husband who works outside the home.
3. Have children first toddler age (1-3 years).
4. Not assisted by anyone in terms of parenting.

In this research there are two variables namely independent variable (X) and dependent variable (Y). As for the free variable (X) the father involvement and the dependent variable (Y) is the satisfaction of marriage.

Father involvement referred to in this research is the form of wife's evaluation in terms of father's direct interaction in the case of nurturing, raising, and playing activities as well as indirect interaction such as decision making for children and supporting the role of mother in parenting referring to the five components of involvement involving positive engagement, warmth and responsiveness, control, indirect care, and process responsibility. The research instrument using father involvement scale developed by the researcher as many as 25 items based on the five components above according to Pleck (2010).

The marriage satisfaction referred to in this research is the subjective perception of the good wife is the feeling of satisfaction, happy, happy, the fulfillment of the needs in marriage and the achievement of desired goals in marriage which refers to the aspects of marriage satisfaction namely personality issues, equality role, communication, problem solving, financial arrangements, leisure activities, sexual relationships, children and caring, family and friends, and religious orientation. Marital Satisfaction Scale (EMS), adapted by Fowers and Olson (1989), has 15 items that have a validity index with a range of 0.52-0.82 and a reliability value of 0.86. Furthermore, the measuring tool was re-developed by researchers by adding a total of 33 items, bringing the total totals to 48 items representing 10 aspects of marriage satisfaction.

Table 1. Index Validity and Reliability Measure Research

Measurement tool	Number of Valid Item	Validity Index	Reliability Index
<i>Father Involvement</i>	22 item	0,327 – 0,835	0,937
Marital satisfaction	39 item	0,313 – 0,893	0,974

From result of validity and reliability test of fathers involvement and marriage satisfaction, obtained by father involvement scale from 25 items, there are 3 items that are not valid and can not be used so that there are 22 valid items that can measure father involvement level. The validity index of fathers involvement instruments ranged from the range 0.327 - 0.835 and the reliability value of 0.937. While the results of the scale of marital satisfaction of 48 items, there are 9 items that are invalid so that the remaining 38 valid items capable of measuring subject marriage satisfaction. and has a validity index with a range of 0.313 - 0.893 and reliability value 0.974.

RESULT OF THE STUDY

Subjects in this study were wives who did not work from working husbands, had first-born children aged 1-3 years and were not helped by anyone in terms of parenting. Total subjects in this study were 100 wives with the above criteria. Here is the demographic data of mother, father, and first child reported by mother:

Table 2. Subject Description

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Wife age		
Early Adult	94	94%
Mature Adult	6	6%
Husband age		
Early Adult	84	84%
Mature Adult	16	16%
Husband occupation		
Teacher		
Private sector	3	3%
Entrepreneur	59	59%
Police officer	19	19%
Civil servant	7	7%
Others	8	8%
Husband's work hour/day	4	4%
< 8 hour		
8 hour		
9-10 hour	6	6%
> 10 hour	53	53%
Marriage	37	37%
1-2 yrs	4	4%
2-5 yrs		
> 5 yrs	22	22%
Age of 1 st child	59	59%
1 yrs	19	19%
2 yrs		
3 yrs	28	28%
	40	40%
	32	32%

Based on the kolmogorov-smirnov test, the data is said to be normal if the value is significantly above 0.05. From result of normality test done on both variable is said normal because significant value equal to 0,706 ($p > 0,05$).

Furthermore, father involvement score is categorized based on husband's working hours per day. The following is a categorization of the father involvement score based on husband's working hours per day.

Table 3. Father Involvement Categorization based on Husband's Working Hour

Category	<i>Father Involvement</i>	
	High	Low
Husband's work hour/day		
< 8 hour	3%	3%
8 hour	32%	21%
9-10 hour	18%	19%
> 10 hour	1%	3%

To determine whether there is a relationship between father involvement in care of toddler age children viewed from the marriage satisfaction on the wife, the researcher performs product moment pearson correlation analysis. Here are the measurements obtained.

Table 4. Product Moment Pearson Product Correlation Test

		<i>Father Involvement</i>	Marital Satisfaction
<i>Father Involvement</i>	Pearson Correlation	1	0,628
	Sig. (1-tailed)		0,000
<i>Marital satisfaction</i>	Pearson Correlation	0,628	1
	Sig. (1-tailed)	0,000	

level of father involvement in the care of toddler aged children the higher the level of marriage satisfaction on the wife. In addition, the contribution of variable involvement involvement to the marriage satisfaction of 39.4%.

DISCUSSION

From the research that has been done, it is found that there is a significant positive relationship of father involvement in care of toddler age children in terms of marriage satisfaction on wife ($r = 0,628$; $p < 0,05$). This shows that the higher the father involvement in parenting, the higher the satisfaction of marriage to the wife as well as the opposite. The results of this study proves that the hypothesis that there is a positive relationship between father involvement in upcoming child care toddler in terms of marriage satisfaction on the wife can be accepted. So with proven hypothesis, then father involvement in parenting toddler age can increase marriage satisfaction on wife.

The results of this study can be a booster of one aspect of marriage satisfaction disclosed Fower and Olson (1993) mentions that the child and nurture aspects included in one aspect that can increase the satisfaction of marriage. Couples who also have a joint responsibility as parents in raising and raising their children need a good cooperation in terms of parenting so that will be achieved marriage satisfaction. If there is no cooperation in child care, it is not impossible to make one party feel dissatisfied with the marriage. This is reinforced by research Kurdek (2002) where the level of satisfaction marriage of men and women are different. The results showed that compared with the husband, the wife showed a decrease in the satisfaction of his marriage due to household duties and child care is increasing. If the husband does not participate in parenting, it can put pressure on his wife.

Research conducted by Coates, Batsche & Lucio (2011) related to the perception of the wife about the husband in charge is the husband who is involved in the care of their child. The results of this study show five main themes that emerged as responsible husband characteristics, among others, by spending time with children, taking care of children,

loving children, providing financial support, and playing with children..

From the results of research conducted there are 100 subjects, as many as 37 subjects (37%) have a father involvement score and high marital satisfaction, in other words they are satisfied with the marriage because the husband is involved in upcoming child care toddler. In line with previous research by Menendez, Hidalgo, Jimenez & Moreno (2011) showed a positive relationship in a longitudinal study of parenting processes in 79 couples and 29 mothers. In this study there were two research sessions, where the first session was in the first trimester of pregnancy of the mothers (T1) and at the age of one year (T2). The purpose of this study was to examine the father involvement during the transition period to parenthood. The results show that there is a significant relationship between the development of the quality of marriage and father involvement in parenting or raising children.

In addition, this research found the influence of father involvement to the marriage satisfaction of 39.4%, while the remaining 60.6% influenced by other variables outside the study. Some other aspects are also able to affect the level of marriage satisfaction on the wife, one related to intimate communication between husband and wife. In research Hajizah (2012) obtained the result that there is a positive and significant relationship between intimate communication with marital satisfaction both husband and wife. Thus, it can be said that the better the intimate communication is done, the higher the meal will be the satisfaction of his marriage, and vice versa.

Due to busy outdoors to work, making the father felt less time to engage in parenting while at home. From the results of the research, 32% of the subjects worked for eight hours a day, 18% worked for 9-10 hours a day, 3% worked less than eight hours a day and 1% worked more than ten hours a day, high father involvement score, which means father is involved in upcoming child care toddler. Ayah felt necessary to have motivation to engage in parenting. Rima, Novianti, Windisany, & Yohanes (2017) show the results of research there are some internal and external motivations related to the wishes of the father involved in nurturing and also in their child's education. These motivations are, among others, due to a sense of responsibility as a father, feeling that the child needs the attention of parents, the love of children and want the child to get a good value planting.

In terms of parenting, the wife's role is also indispensable to support the husbands involved. Similarly, longitudinal research by Lee & Doherty (2007) conducted on 165 couples collected during the second trimester of pregnancy, 6 months and 12 months postpartum. The results showed that marital satisfaction and father involvement were positively related. According to Doherty, Su, & Needle (1989) the family environment that best supports the father is a caring, committed, and collaborative marriage and the quality of the marriage process is a strong influence on the father. When the father is more satisfied with his marriage, he tends to spend more time engaging and / or actively interacting with his child, not only to fulfill the role of parenting, but also to show love to his wife. Conversely, if the father is not satisfied with his marriage, he may be more resigned from the family and spend less time with his son.

The involvement of her husband in the care of her child proved to have a positive impact on her husband. Studies conducted by Cowan & Cowan (in Schindler, 2007) found that husbands involved in parenting had higher psychological well-being levels than non-engaged husbands.

Not only father involvement in parenting, Pratikna (2016) conducted research on fathers who have teenagers between

the ages of 12-20 years stated the result that the higher the satisfaction of the defense will be followed by higher father involvement in parenting. A father who is satisfied with his marriage, then indirectly will take an active part in paying attention to the development of his teenage child through proper care.

CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATION

Based on the results of this study it was obtained that the hypothesis of the study is accepted which means that there is a positive significant relation between father involvement in child care for toddler viewed from wife's marital satisfaction ($r = 0,628$; $p = 0,000$). The implication of this research is that father and father candidate to be involved in the care of children in the family and no longer assume that the role of parenting is the mother's duty. The results of this study can also be used by the Government of Malang Regency especially the Health Department as one of the reference to conduct extension program or psychoeducation through Puskesmas or Posyandu on father involvement in parenting, considering the importance of father involvement which is not only benefited by the children, but also for mothers can increase their marriage satisfaction. For further researchers who are interested in doing research on the satisfaction of marriage, should investigate with other variables

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