



Parents' Efforts to Improve Children's Learning Interests in Islamic Families in Indonesia

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Abstract

This study aims to analyze parents' efforts to increase children's interest in learning. This research uses qualitative methods with a case study approach. Data collection techniques used are interviews, observation, and documentation. Data sources were taken from six informants consisting of parents and elementary school children through direct interviews. All data were analyzed thematically using the Miles and Huberman technique. The results of the study as a whole describe nine main themes of parents' efforts to increase children's interest in learning, namely i) parents know children's learning development, ii) complete children's learning facilities, iii) guide children to study at home, iv) control children's study time, v) limiting the use of gadgets, vi) a comfortable learning environment, vii) children attend tutoring, viii) give rewards to children, xi) parents' economic influence.

INTRODUCTION

Parents must have great patience in educating, caring for, and loving children. As parents, of course, they have great expectations for children, such as parents wanting their children to be successful, and even parents want their children to have a better life than the lives of their current parents. it's not like writing on blank white paper. Children can't be written at the will of parents, meaning that parents can't force their will on children, because children have their own desires and have their own interests and talents for science or have been instilled since the child was born. We can compare educating children to the process of growing a seed into a big tree. We have to look after, water, fertilize and care for the tree so that it grows well. We cannot shape a tree to grow at will. This means that we must learn to treat trees according to their development and we can see the results after a long time until they become mature trees with strong roots, lush leaves, and dense fruit. This mature tree can provide the greatest possible benefit to all creatures around it. That's how parents should be in educating their children, they must need extra patience so that the goal of parents wanting their children to be better than themselves will be achieved and can benefit those around them (Muttakhidah, 2016; Ramdhani et al., 2020).

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Allah SWT said in Al-Qur'an Surah Ar Rum verse 30 and the hadith of Rasulullah SAW about children being nature for both parents.

The Meaning: "Then face your face straight to the religion of God; (remain on) the nature of God who has created man according to that nature. There is no change in God's nature. (That is) the straight religion; but most people don't know"

Abu Hurairah said Rasulullah said:

The Meaning: "Abu Hurairah said Rasulullah (PBUH) said, "No child is born except on Al-Fitra (Islam) and then his parents make him Jewish, Christian or Magian. (Narrated by Imam al-Bukhari and Muslim. In Sahih Bukhari 8/372 no. 4775 and in Sahih Muslim 4/2047)

Based on the foundation of the Qur'an and the hadith of Rasulullah SAW, we can understand that children are natural from Allah SWT for both parents, therefore parents are responsible for meeting all the needs of children, one of which is providing education to children. From education, children will learn a lot of various things. Kinds of knowledge, for example, the science of adab and manners, the science of Islamic education, character building, science, and other sciences (Engkizar et al., 2021; Febriani et al., 2022; Mutathahirin et al., 2022).

However, it is not certain that children can master all the subjects taught by the teacher. There must be one of the subjects that children like and master the most. Elementary school children tend to like playing games rather than studying. Parents have an important role in guiding and fostering children's interest in learning. Therefore, parents must be able to optimize their efforts in persuading and getting used to children being able to learn various things in education (Oktori, 2021).

Parents or family play an important role in the implementation of their children's education because most of the time is spent in the family environment, especially young children (Dong et al., 2020; Neville et al., 2013; Sierau et al., 2016). Interest in learning needs special attention because interest in learning is one of the factors supporting the success of the learning process. In addition, interest that arises from student needs is a very important factor for students in carrying out activities or efforts. Children will learn well if they have a great interest in learning. If he has a high desire to learn, he will quickly remember and understand what he learns (Pratiwi, 2017; Umar, 2015).

Interest is a tendency that is closely related to individual feelings, especially feelings of pleasure (positive) towards something that is considered valuable or according to needs and gives satisfaction to him. Something that is considered valuable can be in the form of activities, people, experiences, or objects that can be used as stimuli or stimuli that require a directed response (Nur'ani, 2021).

In the process of learning at home, children's interest is needed in its implementation, especially the role of parents as substitute teachers. Both really need good communication in order to realize the learning process. Parents' efforts in fostering their own children's interests must be further enhanced because, in the learning process at home, children can repeat lessons

that have been given by the teacher while studying. So how do parents have to manage their children's time in terms of studying, playing, resting, and other activities? others (Multazam, 2022).

LITERATURE REVIEW

As the author explains in the background section of this article, in a family, parents' efforts to foster children's interest in learning are very important, especially when children enter school age and are of educational age, parents will be the first teachers to teach children and accustom children to keep learning while studying (Engkizar et al., 2021; Setiyadi & Rosalina, 2021). Both parents have their respective roles in educating children. The father is the head of the family who leads a family, earns a living for the family, and fulfills all the needs of his family, while the mother is the wife of her husband and the mother of her children, the mother has a role to take care of the house households, as caregivers and educators of their children (Laka et al., 2018).

Every parent has various ways or efforts to foster children's interest in learning, parental support and attention is an important points that children must get to keep their enthusiasm for learning and increase their interest in learning. Because without maximum effort from parents, it is possible that the child's interest in learning will decrease (Putro et al., 2020; Tanjung, 2021).

Islam has regulated how to educate children according to the age level of the child. The first education given is with affection and seasoned with advice. Compassion for children will have a positive impact on children's development, for example, can improve brain work, generate enthusiasm, there is the closeness between people and parents with children and make children more open and confident (Engkizar et al., 2021; Zen et al., 2022). Education with love and advice is found in the Qur'an surah Al Luqman verse 13.

The Meaning: "Behold, Luqmān said to his son by way of Instruction: "O my son! Join not in worship (Others) with God: for False worship is indeed the highest wrong-doing."

So great is the love and service of parents for their children, so children should be devoted to their parents and never disobey their parents. except for bad orders and don't forget we have to be grateful to Allah SWT who has given such great favors to mankind so that we can still feel the love of our parents as found in QS. Al Luqman verse 14.

The Meaning: And We have enjoined on man (To be good) to his parents: In travail upon travail Did his mother bear him, and in years twain Was his weaning: (hear the command), "Show gratitude To Me and to thy parents: To Me is (thy final) Goal

In the process of parents' efforts to increase children's interest in learning, there must be a lot of obstacles that are found when guiding children to study, such as parents not understanding the child's subject matter, parents not having enough time for their children because they have to work, financially constrained because they have to provide for their children's needs, and other obstacles (Arwen, 2021).

If there are many obstacles experienced by parents, there must be ways to overcome these obstacles so that they can foster children's interest in learning, because parents want their children to be better than themselves and the many roles, ways, efforts, and efforts made by parents for the future of their children (Arwen, 2021; Durotunnisa & Riyadi, 2021; Fitri, 2021; Lie & Triposa, 2021).

METHODS

This study uses a qualitative method with a case study type, according to Bartlett & Vavrus, (2016); Bolton, (2021); Greenwood, (1993); Gustafsson, (2017); Martell, (2017); Taylor, (2013). A case study is a type of research if the researcher wants to observe phenomena or events both individually and in community groups. Referring to the opinion above, related to the issues and problems that the authors raise in this research, this type of research is very appropriate to use.

After the interviews were completed, all informants were taken, a transcript of the interview data was carried out, and then the themes were taken in accordance with the objectives and needs of the research data. According to Clarke & Braun, (2018); Herzog et al., (2019); Šula, (2018) thematic analysis is an analytical technique that researchers can use in analyzing the results of interviews so that they can be seen clearly and easily understood by readers. The entire process of thematic analysis above was carried out using the Miles and Huberman technique. In Miles and Huberman's technique that is collecting data, after the data is collected then do data analysis, then data reduction and conclude the research (Engkizar et al., 2022; Mutathahirin et al., 2022).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Research related to issues and problems on how to increase children's interest in learning has been widely studied by previous research but in different aspects. This research will examine nine parents' efforts to increase children's interest in learning in the home environment with their parents.

Based on the results of interviews and observations conducted with six informants. The results of the analysis actually found that there were nine important themes related to parents' efforts to increase children's interest in learning. The nine themes can be seen in Figure 1 below:

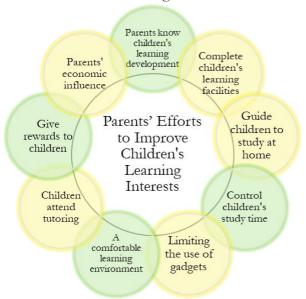


Fig 1: Parents' efforts to improve children's learning

In Figure 1 we can note that there are ten themes of parents' efforts to increase children's learning interest which the author will describe more broadly in the form of interview excerpts with informants.

First, parents know children's learning development, the first writer wants to know how far the efforts of parents are close to their children and to know the child's development in

learning and how the attitude of parents is in guiding children in learning. This heme was stated by informants 1,2,3,4 & 5 as excerpts from the below:

...there is knowledge, my child is more into religious values, he likes memorizing the Alquran, studying religion like that, for example when he enters the call to prayer, he rushes to the prayer room and all kinds of things... (1)....God willing, there will be, so every time we come home from school, we assess each child's development and see the grades after studying at school if, for example, the grades are bad, then we look for what is wrong, then fix it to the correct answer, my child likes math... (2).... You know, yes, the grades go up and down or the grades circulate, how he develops at school, the development in terms of character... (3).... Its development has started to increase like that, sometimes it's lazy, sometimes it's diligent. He can already do multiplication in mathematics and he is fluent in reading... (4).... You know, how to find out by looking at the notes or exercises after the child comes home from school whether he can do the questions given by his teacher... (5).

Second, completing children's learning facilities, every parent must be able to provide learning facilities for children because with sufficient facilities children will enjoy studying at home. A lot of attention from parents to children, one of which is providing learning facilities to children, such as in terms of clothing, school clothes, stationery, school shoes, bags school, study desks, and so on. Parents will also fulfill children's requests related to education as the writer already feels the amount of attention parents pay to their children, when the writer asks for additional study books which are not yet in the school library the author's parents immediately grant them. From the author's experience, it would be better for parents to add books to support children's learning, for example, reading books that are appropriate for the child's age, for example, picture story books for elementary school children. This theme was stated by informants 1 & 4 as excerpts from the below:

... Adequate facilities, that's mandatory, because when children study it is really needed... (1). ... Fulfilling children's learning facilities, helping children do their homework... (4).

Third, guiding children to study at home, everyday life children meet parents more often than teachers, not only at school children gain knowledge but at home also with parents. There are many kinds of knowledge but character education is more dominant than parents who teach children, knowledge of manners, behavior, manners, time discipline, and various advice will definitely be taught by parents to children and can even be felt by children every day. The formation of this character can come from the child's personality because parents always educate, train, and accustom children to doing this work so that when they grow up, children are used to doing a job without being asked by their parents. This theme was stated by informants 1 & 4 as excerpts from the below:

... cooperation between parents and children, for example, if the child is wrong, don't be too hard on him, guide him in a good way, how will he go that way, don't be too restrained by his child... (1). ... When he comes home from school, he goes home early in the morning at 10 o'clock, so you can see what his lesson is today, for example in Indonesian, so the child wants to repeat his lesson so he can master it again... (2). ... get children used to getting up early for breakfast and for example from a young age getting used to activities that really can train children to become disciplined people like that don't need to be awakened again they are used to doing these activities without the role of parents like that but parents are still the child's guide...(3). ... for example, if we make it a habit to learn mathematics, God willing, in the future they will like mathematics, because their parents often teach mathematics at home, but if we usually teach children about general subjects, they may not like mathematics...(5).

Fourth, controlling children's study time, parents' efforts to increase children's interest in learning are to control children's time so that it is more effective, there are learning activities up to playing time. This theme was stated by informants 1 3, & 5, as excerpts from the below:

...Controlling study time, limiting, for example, playing on the cellphone, limiting study time, for example, when you go home from school, you have to study, later in the evening you can play on your cellphone, and even then, you are limited to playing your cellphone for about half an hour...

(1). ...That effort, every day is controlled, children come home from school, what are the lessons at school, children who can be controlled are children who are still in elementary school, go to school in the penis, come home from school in control and everything is controlled, when he is in junior high school he has to study independently, he already understands the elementary school materials, so he doesn't need to be too controlled anymore... (3). ... Our efforts as parents in increasing children's interest in learning are the first to control their activities at home after school. We check whether there is homework or not, then at night we work on or guide children in learning to do homework if there is homework from school... (5).

Fifth, restricting the use of gadgets, in guiding children to learn, there must be distractions or difficulties for parents, such as being busy playing with gadgets, watching TV, while learning is engrossed in playing with friends, and so on. Using technology is important for children to learn, but parents must be able to limit it so they don't make children become addicted to playing with gadgets. If children are addicted to playing with gadgets, parents must be swift in dealing with it so that it will not have a bad impact on their daily lives. The bad impact of gadget addiction can be seen in the behavior of children who do not want to let go of gadgets, anti-social, don't want to learn, when at school it will be difficult for children to focus and children will be lazy to study, and other bad effects. In this case, the author has talked to parents about gadget problems. In general, parents can immediately know the bad effects of using gadgets so that parents can be swift in managing their child's time playing with gadgets. Using gadgets does not always have a bad impact on children, there are many impacts. positive for children so parents don't have to forbid children from playing with gadgets. This theme was stated by informants 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 as excerpts from the below:

... The influence of cell phones too, so if he already looks at his cell phone, his mind goes to his cell phone and doesn't focus on his studies, so the cell phone must be restricted from children before the task is finished, don't show the cellphone first... (1). ... When he watches TV, he likes not to focus on studying and He also likes playing with his cell phone, likes playing games on his cell phone, but if he is studying, he pulls his cell phone, so if I play his cellphone, I control it, there is time to study, there is time to play with the cellphone, that's it... (2). ... playing with gadgets, if my child plays with gadgets there is a schedule and I control playing with his cellphone, when he is studying, yes, when he is studying, he does play with his cellphone, if he is studying, he can't use his cellphone if he is at tutoring, so there is no learning playing HP after that he can refresh... (3). ... usually, he often plays HP, friends environment likes to play games like that so he rarely studies... (4). ... At home, he likes to play games, but indeed we as parents have to limit playing with cell phones at home, so there is a time to study and a time to play or play with cell phones. like coming home from school, we control how the lessons are at school, then we give them cell phones or gadgets, but of course, we limit the time we can use these gadgets, for example, we can play cellphones for a few hours... (5).

Sixth, a comfortable learning environment, the environment is one of the factors that can affect a child's learning process. Therefore, parents can certainly provide a comfortable and good place for children to concentrate on learning. In addition, a calm atmosphere can make children enthusiastic about learning accompanied by parents with laughter. and not tense. Not only the family environment but there is also a child's friendship environment, in which parents can direct children to study in groups with their peers so that in terms of making friends they not only play but also study in groups. This theme was stated by informants 1 & 3 as excerpts from the below:

... a good learning environment, for example between parents and children, for example, if the

child is wrong, don't be too hard on him, guided in a good way, how to go like that, not too restrained by the child, creating a comfortable atmosphere in the learning process. If he makes a mistake, for example, we joke around like this and like that, chatting with the children... (1).... The first is the family environment, how do children want to progress, while the family is not supportive, such as parents who don't care. If parents have principles, they can pull their children forward so that they are more advanced in developing children as well as increased learning... (3).

Seventh, children follow tutoring, every child has a different learning style in understanding subjects at school. There are children who can immediately understand lessons in class and there are also children who need extra help in understanding lessons, such as following tutoring or studying at home with a private tutor. For busy parents who cannot accompany their children to study, of course the main solution is for children to take tutoring. Tutoring is beneficial for children to repeat school lessons, help with schoolwork, and can improve children's learning achievements. This theme was stated by informant as excerpts from the below:

... To support the school, I am looking for tutors, and private teachers who can come to my house or my children can come to their place to add to their knowledge. My child is an obedient person and he is even more enthusiastic about learning with his private teacher than me, I am an angry person, if the child's parents learn a lot of behavior but if with the teacher, he obeys like that... (3).

Eight, giving gifts to children, children will definitely like receiving gifts, not only adults will also like receiving gifts. Gifts that can be given to children are in the form of food they like, toys, items they want, and so on. Giving gifts to children must be able to provide a lesson for them. children like something they want is not as easy as turning the palm of their hand, it must be with great effort so that the goal can be successful and get what you want. For example, parents want their children to win the class, so giving gifts is one of the solutions to motivating children to continue to be active in learning, for example, if the child ranks first in class, parents give gifts in the form of new bicycles, then of course the child will think that if he wants a bicycle, he must first rank.

Give gifts or reward Giving to children is not always an expensive item. Even small things can be gifts such as favorite food, taking children for a walk, even giving hugs, kisses, high fives in the style of parents and children, and a proud compliment to children can increase energy. positive for children and the relationship between parents and children will be close. Giving gifts is a form of appreciation for a child's efforts to achieve achievement.

Sometimes giving gifts does not always have a positive impact on children. Children can become dependent due to the habit of giving gifts from parents, therefore parents must be able to instill that what we want will not always come true. Giving gifts should not become a habit for children, gifts can be given occasionally so that they don't become a burden. for parents if the child becomes dependent.

This theme was stated by informants 1, 2 & 4 as excerpts from the below:

... oow it's enticing too like later if you win, you'll be given this prize and that's it... (1). ... Usually, his father likes to give gifts when he wants to learn, so he's excited to learn again...it's like taking him for a walk so he's happy like that, but not every day, okay, every grade is good, so every semester like that, ha, take him out for a walk, if he wins the class, he can ask for something like that, for example, he asks for a rabbit, so we buy it. So, he's even more excited... (2). ... Usually, I lure him with pocket money so he wants to study sometimes he doesn't listen to what I say because he is lazy to study... (4)

Ninth, parents' economic influence, economic factors also include parents' efforts to increase children's learning interests such as being able to meet all educational needs and children's needs in terms of consumption. This theme was stated by informant as excerpts

from the below:

... the economy, as we give such tutoring is an economic factor, nothing is free nowadays, everything is paid for... Why is the economic factor because indeed children must be given nutritious food before going to school children must eat first at least eat rice with salt or a glass of milk so that children are more enthusiastic about learning if the child does not eat at school then the child does not focus on learning he will not be able to grasp the material provided by the teacher, so the child's diet must be regulated and regular like that so that the child grows and develops into a smart and intelligent child in the thought of course... (3).

Research related to the issue of parents' efforts to grow and increase children's learning interest has been extensively researched and studied by previous researchers in different contexts, for example the influence of parental attention and student learning interest on social science learning achievement (Nisa, 2015); the role of parents in increasing student learning motivation (Hero & Sni, 2018); the influence of level of education, parents' attention, and students' learning interest on indonesian language learning achievement of health vocational school students in tangerang city (Pratiwi, 2017); collaboration between parents and teachers in increasing student learning motivation (Rofiatun & Eli, 2020); the role of parents in implementing learning at home during the covid 19 pandemic (Cahyati & Kusumah, 2020); the role of parents in increasing the development of children's interest in learning (Afni & Jumahir, 2020); the role of parents in motivating children to take part in elearning (online) learning (Lismayanti et al., 2021); or efforts to increase interest in learning during a pandemic through online English training (Nurchaerani et al., 2021).

From the issues that the authors exemplify, it proves that the importance of the role, efforts and efforts of parents in increasing children's learning interest is very interesting for further discussion. The authors of the analysis from previous articles discussed more about how to increase children's learning motivation and had not been found specifically that discussed parents' efforts to increase children's interest in learning at home. Therefore, with motivation from various parties, the authors are encouraged to study the topics that the authors have mentioned above.

Based on the research that the authors have done regarding parents' efforts to increase children's interest in learning. Clearly found nine important themes of how parents' efforts in increasing children's learning interest. The nine findings that the author obtained will be discussed based on theory, expert opinion, and the results of previous research that discusses this problem in more or less the same context and issues.

First is that parents know the development of children's learning. In the field of family education is the most important madrasa because all knowledge and intellectual intelligence of children is obtained first of all from parents and family members, therefore parents need to improve and enhance their knowledge so that children can become better than the condition their parents (Luciana, 2015). Parents also serve as mentors when children are studying at home because when children are studying, they definitely need to be guided by their parents. Mentoring can be interpreted as a parent's effort or ability to guide and teach children in-depth honestly and unconditionally. From these mentoring activities, parents must know how their child is developing in learning in terms of intellectual knowledge and children's talents (Cahyani et al., 2021).

Second is that parents can control their children's learning time. For elementary schoolage children, the study time is still regulated by their parents. As discussed in the research results in this article, parents usually manage study time efficiently according to conditions at home, there are children who like to study at home or parents provide time to guide their children to study and in the morning until noon is school time. as well as play. The longest duration for a child to study is 3 hours if it is more than that the child will easily get bored,

therefore parents must be able to arrange their child's study schedule flexibly. Even though it's only 2 hours a day, if you regularly guide your child to study every day, you can improve your child's learning achievement (Bangun, 2012).

Third is to limit the use of gadgets. Today's technology is very influential in changing children's behavior from elementary school age to teenage years. The use of gadgets has positive and negative impacts on users, so this is where the active role of parents is in sorting out these impacts on children. Restricting is different from prohibiting using gadgets, the author's intention here is to control the use of gadgets for children, children should not be allowed to play with gadgets all day long because it will have a negative impact on children. Vice versa, don't prohibit children from playing with gadgets so that children are not technology blind and can be left behind by the times. In this case, parents can use this method so that the use of gadgets for children is more efficient, such as (1) accompanying children, (2) making time agreements in using gadgets, (3) making agreements in opening features that will be opened, (4)) good modeling from parents, (5) maparents can put gadgets well, and (7) invite children to learn together. As parents, they should guide and monitor and provide a good understanding of children to be more selective in using gadgets (Hidayatuladkia et al., 2021; Lubis et al., 2020; Miranti & Putri, 2021; Prabowo et al., 2020).

Fourth is parents can complement children's learning facilities. Forms of giving parents physical participation given to their children include providing learning facilities and providing study aids at home. Learning facilities play a role in facilitating and expediting children's learning activities. Various learning facilities such as study places, writing equipment, learning media, and other facilities. Learning facilities make it easier for children to learn and understand lessons or assignments given by teachers (Bangun, 2012; Susanti & Wahyudin, 2017; Yugiswara et al., 2019).

Fifth is to guide children to study at home. Learning is not only at school but also at home to practice the lessons given by the teacher while studying at school. In cultivating children's interest in learning at home, parents need to be patient in guiding children to learn. There are several attempts by parents to guide their children in learning, including parents can provide encouragement and support to their children in carrying out learning and directing children according to their talents and interests (Agusriani & Fauziddin, 2021; Fitriani, 2022; Suryani et al., 2022; Widiyawati, 2021).

Sixth is to give gifts to children. Giving gifts to children intends to appreciation for children's efforts in learning, in giving these gifts will be able to increase children's self-confidence, and show parental affection for children, and when children receive gifts it can mean that there is effort there must be results other than that giving rewards will increase attitudes child discipline (Amini & Mariyati, 2021).

Seventh is a child following tutoring. Specifically related to formal education, namely education carried out in school institutions, the concern of parents for children's education greatly influences children's learning achievement. Because after all, children still need their parents' help in learning, even though they have attended school education. But education at school only lasts about 6 hours starting at 08.00 in the morning until 13.00 hours per day, with various subject matters, the concern of parents is to participate in continuing tutoring outside of school, either directly or indirectly, participate affect children's learning success (Umar, 2015; Widiyawati, 2021).

Eighth is a comfortable learning environment. The learning atmosphere can be fun for children if parents can present and use the right humor or learn while joking. Parents can create learning conditions with an atmosphere of interaction that can invite and oppose children to be creative actively, learning that is conducive and fun means that the material learned from the teacher can be easily accepted by children, and when children repeat

lessons with parents in a comfortable atmosphere so that children can interested in learning the material given by the teacher. In this case, teaching children must be gentle and patient and parents don't get angry easily (Arianti, 2019).

Ninth is the economic influence of parents. The financial ability of parents is the ability of parents or students' families to meet the needs of their children so that the learning process can run well and obtain optimal learning outcomes. The economic ability of parents to meet. Their children's needs will create comfortable conditions for students in learning because they fulfill the needs needed in the student learning process. Children who are learning must have their basic needs met and also the intensity of support for learning facilities and infrastructure such as textbooks and learning places (Susanti & Wahyudin, 2017; Wiri et al., 2014).

CONCLUSION

This research has succeeded in uncovering nine parents' efforts to increase children's interest in learning. The nine efforts of parents are parents know the child's learning development, equip learning facilities, guide children to study at home, control study time, limit the use of gadgets, a comfortable learning environment, children to follow tutoring, give rewards to children, and parents' economic influence. Parents are the first teacher who doubles as a mother or father. In addition to their main duties as housewives or fathers who are tasked with earning a living, they also teach a lot of various knowledge that may not be obtained at school. Therefore, as a child, you should continue to be devoted to your parents and always remember the magnitude of the services your parents have for their children. This research can be used as a reference or the latest issues from different aspects of the problem for further research.

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