



Adolescent Characters in The Matrilineal Family in Indonesia

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Abstract

This study aims to describe the character of adolescents in matrilineal care in Minangkabau which is described in seven aspects, namely, religious, disciplined and responsible, independent, creative, respectful and polite, cooperative, and communicative. The population in this study were mothers who have adolescent children, live in Padang city, and have brothers (mamak). The present study used a survey method. A multistage random sampling technique was used for sampling. A sample of 296 respondents was asked to answer a questionnaire. The questionnaire was tested and validated by experts. A descriptive statistical analysis was performed using SPSS. The results showed that the character of respect and manners obtained the highest index score, while the character of cooperation obtained the lowest index score. To improve the character of cooperation, it is necessary to increase the involvement of adolescents in completing a job with their friends and solve their friends' problems.

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INTRODUCTION

Quality adolescents are well behaved and of good character. Manifested in the form of actions and behavior that are right for himself and others in everyday life (Lickona, 2012). But being a quality teenager is not easy. Apart from internal factors, they are also greatly influenced by the surrounding environment. This can be seen from various incidents involving adolescents, such as robbery, murder, and drug trafficking. Even adolescents are also victims of crimes that affect physical and mental health, such as insecurity and low self-esteem (Toolis & Hammack, 2015; McLean, 2015; Jensen, 2015).

Therefore, it is very important to prepare adolescents who have a strong character. One way of doing this can be done through guidance and direction from parents in the family. Adolescent characters often get less attention (Hutcheon, 1999; Widodo et al., 2020), even though the family has the responsibility to shape and build character in children (Küçük et al., 2012).

In Minangkabau tradition, which has a matrilineal system, it is the responsibility of the parents and the *mamak* (the mother's brother) to care for a child (Natsir, 2013; Sebastian, 2016). They are all involved in shaping the character of a better adolescent. This matrilineal care is very different from the care that is known in general where care is only the responsibility of the nuclear family or parents consisting of mother and father.

There were some of the latest studies that discuss the character of adolescents and family care. Padilla & Walker (2007) conducted a study about the active role of children in understanding the internalization of values is very important. Furthermore, Lerner (2020) studied about five profiles in adolescents, namely honest, humble, and persevering, with future orientation and life goals. Meanwhile, Yan-Li (2020) conducted a study on the relationship between family environments, parental care, the readiness of parents, and adolescent problems.

Based on the previous research, the present study tried to investigate the character of the adolescent in the context of matrilineal care. The research has not been discussed by other researchers. Therefore, this research is very important to instill character in children through local culture-based parenting.

This study aims to describe the character of adolescents in matrilineal care in Minangkabau which is described in seven aspects of character, namely religious, honest, disciplined and responsible, independent, confident, creative,

unyielding, respectful and polite, caring, cooperation, tolerance, and communicative.

METHODS

Research is a process of steps used to collect and analyze information to increase our understanding of a topic or issue (Creswell, 2017). In the present study, the researcher used a survey method. The population in this study were mothers who have adolescent children, live in Padang city, and have brothers (*mamak*). A multistage random sampling technique was used for sampling. A sample of 420 respondents was determined based on the Cohen Manion and Morrison tables with a confidence level of 95% with an alpha of 0.05. The questionnaire was tested and validated by experts before being distributed to respondents. Furthermore, the questionnaire was distributed to 420 respondents via Google form, but only 318 respondents returned the questionnaire. Only 296 respondents who fit the criteria, while 22 respondents did not fit the criteria of the research. A descriptive statistical analysis was performed using SPSS.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Statistics from respondents were described based on the four categories of age groups, education, and the number of brothers (*mamak*). For each group can be seen in the following table:

Table 1. Distribution of Respondents by Age

Age	Total	Percentage
15 - 20 years	4	1.4 %
21 - 40 years	24	8,1 %
41 - 60 years	264	89,2 %
< 60 years	4	1,4 %
Total	296	100 %

Based on Table 1, it can be seen that the majority of respondents were 41-60 years with a total of 264 respondents or equal to (89.2%), 8.1 % of the respondents in category 21-40 years old with a total of 24 respondents. Meanwhile, few respondents (1.4%) with age 15-20 years old and over 60 years.

The distribution of respondents based on education is grouped into seven categories of education types. The majority level of education is high school with a total of 96 respondents (32.4%). The S1 education level is 90 respondents (30.4%). Junior high school education level as

many as 37 respondents (12.5%). The level of S2 education was 31 respondents (10.5%). Elementary education level is 24 people (8.1 %.) While the least number of respondents is S3 education level, namely 4 respondents (1.0%).

The distribution of respondents based on the number of brothers (*mamak*) is grouped into four categories. Based on the finding, 36.8 % who have two *mamak*, 24.0% who have three *mamak*, 20.3% only have one *mamak*, 7.8% have four *mamak*, 7.1 % have five *mamak*, 2.7% have 6 *mamak*, and 0.7% have 7 and 8 *mamak*.

Based on Table 2, it can be seen that the item fasting in the month of Ramadan obtained the highest index score (98%), then saying greetings when entering and leaving the house is 91%, praying five times a day as much as 89%, being able to read the Qur'an 87%, performing prayers on-time 73% and the smallest index score was carrying out circumcision fasting other than the month of Ramadan with the index score of 63%. Thus, it can be interpreted that the religious cha-

racter of the adolescent is in the very high category with an index score of 83%.

Table 3 shows that the character of discipline in doing tasks from parents until it is complete obtains the highest index with an index score of 84%, tidying up items that have been used is 79%, not stopping when work is not finished is 79%, getting up early at dawn call to prayer and sleeping before 11 pm gets an index score of 77%. Thus, it can be interpreted that the discipline character of adolescents is in the high category with an index score of 79%.

Based on Table 4, it is found that the highest independent character of adolescents is learning with their own awareness with an index score of 82%, doing everything themselves without depending on other people obtained an index score of 75%. Meanwhile, those who claim to wake up and wash their clothes by themselves are in the high category in which each item obtained an index score of 74%. It can be interpreted that independent adolescents are in the high category

Table 2. Calculation of the frequency of scores of Religious Characters.

Dimensi Religius	Frekwensi Skor (%)										Index score	Category
	1		2		3		4		5			
	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%		
Carrying out the five daily prayers					42	13.9	75	25.4	179	60.7	89%	Very High
Performing prayers on time			4	1.4	130	43.9	124	41.9	38	12.8	73%	High
Can read Al Quran					48	16.2	95	32.1	153	51.7	87%	Very High
Fasting in the month of Ramadan					7	2.4	18	6.1	271	91.6	98%	Very High
Performing circumcision fasting other than the month of Ramadan			41	13.9	185	62.5	62	20.5	8	2.7	63%	High
Say hello when entering and leaving the house					29	9.8	78	26.4	189	63.9	91%	Very High
Total											83%	Very High

Table 3. The calculation of the frequency of the Discipline character score.

Dimensions of Discipline	Score Frequency (%)										Index score	Category
	1		2		3		4		5			
	f	%	f	%	f	%	F	%	F	%		
Sleep before 11 pm			4	1.4	110	37.2	107	36.1	75	25.3	77%	High
Wake up at dawn call to prayer			5	1.7	104	35.1	120	40.5	67	22.6	77%	High
Tidying up used items					94	31.8	122	41.2	80	27.0	79%	High
Doing tasks from parents to completion			2	0.7	43	14.5	146	49.3	105	35.5	84%	Very high
Will not delay work			2	0.7	81	27.4	137	46.3	76	25.7	79%	High
Total											79%	High

with an index score of 76%.

As seen in Table 5, the results of the creative character about wanting to ask when they don't know something are obtained an index value of 90%, respondents who say they can find solutions to solve problems get an index score of 80%, those who claim to have alternatives to solve the problem get an index score of 75%, while those who said they could do something other people didn't think about received an index score of 69%. This means that the creative character of adolescents is in the high category with a total index value of 78%.

Based on Table 6, the results of the character of respect and courtesy of adolescents who say greetings when entering and leaving the house get an index score of 91%, respondents who say they are polite to everyone have an index score of 91%, and those who claim to ask permission before using something have an index score of 89%. In addition, respondents who said they spoke good words had an index score of 89%, for participants that said their first greeting when they met other people, they obtained an index score of 88%. It can be concluded that the dimensions

of respect and courtesy of adolescents are in the very high category with a total index value of 89%.

Based on Table 7, the results of the collaboration character for items completing a job with their friends have an index score of 74%, while the items involved in solving problems that befell their friends get an index score of 72%. It can be concluded that the dimensions of cooperation that are owned by adolescents are in the high category with a total index value of 73%.

Based on Table 8, the results of the communicative character of adolescents about the willingness to accompany their friends who come to visit with a good index score of 90%, those who say they like chatting with other friends have an index score of 86%, and those who want to work with their siblings at home have an index score 81%. It can be concluded that the communicative character possessed by adolescents is in the very high category with a total index value of 86%.

Based on Table 9, it can be seen that the dimension respect and courtesy got the highest score with index score of 89%, and the lowest is

Table 4. Independent character score frequency calculation.

Dimensions of Independent	Score Frequency (%)										Index score	Category
	1		2		3		4		5			
	f	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%		
Doing everything by yourself, without depending on other people.			7	2.4	110	37.2	132	44.6	47	15.9	75%	High
Wake up alone			13	4.	120	40.5	113	38.2	50	16.9	74%	High
Washing his own clothes			25	8.4	106	35.8	92	36.1	73	24.7	74%	High
Learn with your own mind			9	3.0	66	22.3	111	37.5	110	37.2	82%	Very high
Total											76%	High

Table 5. The calculation of the frequency score for creative characters.

Dimensions of Creative	Score Frequency (%)										Index score	Category
	1		2		3		4		5			
	f	%	f	%	F	%	f	%	F	%		
Trying to find a solution to solve the problem			5	1.7	71	24.0	139	47.0	81	27.4	80%	Very high
Have alternative ideas to solve the problem			5	1.7	105	35.5	145	49.0	41	13.9	75%	High
Ask when you don't know something					24	8.1	104	35.1	168	56.8	90%	Very high
Can do things that other people don't think about			12	4.1	167	56.4	96	32.4	21	7.1	69%	High
Total											78%	High

Table 6. The calculation of the frequency of the character score of respect and courtesy

Dimensions of respect and courtesy	Score Frequency (%)										Index score	Category
	1		2		3		4		5			
	f	%	f	%	f	%	F	%	F	%		
Giving greetings first when meeting other people			1	0.3	26	8.8	124	41.9	145	49.0	88%	Very high
Speak in kind words			2	0.7	19	6.4	115	38.9	160	54.1	89%	Very high
Ask permission before using something					30	10.1	109	36.8	157	53.0	89%	Very high
Say hello when entering and leaving the house					24	8.1	86	29.1	186	62.8	91%	Very high
Be polite to everyone			2	0.7	11	3.7	110	37.2	173	58.4	91%	Very high
Total											89%	Very high

Table 7. Calculation of the frequency of the Cooperation character score

Cooperation Dimensions	Score Frequency (%)										Index score	Category
	1		2		3		4		5			
	f	%	f	%	f	%	F	%	F	%		
Accustomed to completing a job with his friends			4	1.4	128	43.2	116	39.2	48	16.2	74%	High
Get involved in solving the problems that befell his friends			5	1.7	132	44.6	132	44.6	27	9.1	72%	High
Total											73%	High

Table 8. Calculation of the frequency of the communicative character score.

Communicative Dimension	Score Frequency (%)										Index score	Category
	1		2		3		4		5			
	f	%	f	%	f	%	F	%	F	%		
My son is willing to cooperate with his siblings at home			5	1.7	61	20.6	139	47.0	91	30.7	81%	Very high
My child likes to talk with other friends					35	11.8	143	48.3	118	39.9	86%	Very high
If a friend comes, my child will accompany the friend well			2	0.7	19	6.4	97	32.8	178	60.1	90%	Very high
Total											86%	Very high

cooperation with index score of 73%. It can be concluded that the character of adolescent in matrilineal care is categorized very high with index score of 81 %.

Based on the research findings, it is known that the highest index score for the religious dimension in adolescents is fasting in the month of Ramadan. Because indeed as the majority of people who are Muslim, fasting is one of the obligations that children have been educated on from an early age. So that when they enter their teens, they are used to doing it. Supervision and guidance are not only carried out by parents, but

also carried out by *mamak* who the brothers of the mother are (Natsir, & Hufad, 2019). The values contained in the Ramadan fast will shape the character of adolescents for the better. (Anggraini et al, 2019).

However, circumcision fasting outside of the month of Ramadan is not practiced as is fasting in Ramadan. The index score of adolescents carrying out circumcision fasting is the lowest compared to others. This means that adolescents are diligent in carrying out fasting in the month of Ramadan but still find it hard to carry out circumcision fasting outside of Ramadan. Based on

Table 9. Total index score for adolescent characters

Dimensions	Mean	Score Index	Category
Religious	4.17	83%	Very high
Discipline	3.96	79%	High
Independent	15.22	76%	High
Creative	15.66	78%	High
Respect and courtesy	22.37	89%	Very high
Cooperation	7.31	73%	High
Communicative	12.87	86%	Very high
Total		81%	Very high

the index score obtained, the religious dimension of adolescent is in the very high category.

In the character of the discipline of adolescents, it found that the item who do the tasks from their parents to completion have the higher score. It means that adolescents are very disciplined in helping their parents. A disciplined attitude must be instilled in children (Tompkins, & Villaruel, 2020), because it will affect the child's ability to develop behavior (Tompkins, et al., 2017; Foulkes & Blakemore, 2018). Meanwhile, the lowest respondents stated that they wake up at dawn call to prayer and sleep before 11 pm but are still in the high category. Thus, it can be interpreted that adolescents have a high character of discipline.

Adolescents need an independent character in living this life. Learn to be independent without having to rely on the help of others (Melvina, & Suherdi, 2019; Zia & Shamsi, 2020). Education and parenting will have an influence on adolescent independence (Latifah et al., 2019; Suryadi & Zulaikha, 2017). The finding of the results of the independent character stated by the highest respondents was learning with their own awareness. Meanwhile, the least respondents stated that they wake up by themselves and wash their own clothes, but it is still in the high category. It can be interpreted that teenagers have a high independent character.

Creative thinking and behavior are needed in education, even education is part of creativity (Susanti et al., 2020). Adolescents need to have various strategies to be involved in change for the better (Goessling, & Wager, 2020; Goessling & Dewhurst, 2020). Creativity is needed in various fields, such as education and economic improvement (Verdini, 2020). The findings of the study obtained that the respondent's response about the creative character of adolescents with the highest was to ask when they did not know something, and the least was the respondent who said they could do something that was not thought of by others. Based on the index score results, it is known

that the creative character of adolescents is in the high category.

One of the basic moral values that humans must have is the character of respect and courtesy (Lickona, 2009). Respect and courtesy are manners in everyday life as a reflection of personality and noble character (Farhatilwardah et al., 2019). The results of the research findings show that the dimensions of respect and courtesy in saying greetings when entering and leaving the house and saying politely to everyone are higher than giving greetings first when meeting other people. Thus, the character of respect and courtesy for youth is in the very high category.

One of the characters that must be possessed in facing life in the future is the ability to work together (Suryadi, 2019). A person's ability to cooperate with others is very important. There are almost no problems that can be solved by yourself, because a person's thinking is limited and requires a variety of ideas from people with different experiences, so problem solving becomes easier by learning from many people (Rahmawaty et al., 2011; Trisanti, et al., 2018).

The research findings show that the character of cooperation between adolescents who are accustomed to completing work with their friends is higher than those who are involved in solving problems that befall their friends. Thus, it can be interpreted that the dimensions of cooperation that are owned by adolescents are in the high category.

The ability to communicate is one of the requirements that adolescents must have in their lives. Especially in undergoing a process of technological development that continues to change and they must be able to take advantage of it (Skillington, 2020; Sanders & Fredericks, 2020; Stelzer, 2020). As a social being, of course, really need interaction and communicate with other people. Based on the findings of research on the communicative character of adolescents, it is known that adolescents who are willing to

accompany their friends well when they come to visit are in the very high category as well as those who are willing to cooperate with their siblings. So that the communicative character inherent in adolescents who have a very high index score of communicative characters.

Based on the total index score, it is known that the highest adolescent character variable is the index score of respect and courtesy and the lowest is cooperation. However, the results of the index score for each variable are still in the high category. Based on the total index score for adolescent characters, it can be interpreted that the character of adolescents in matrilineal care is in the very high category. To further strengthen the character of youth, the character of cooperation needs to be further improved in order to get maximum results.

CONCLUSION

The development of adolescent character in a matrilineal family is the responsibility of the parents and the mother (mother's brother). Based on the research findings, 8 adolescent characters, namely religious, honest, disciplined, independent, confident, creative, never giving up, respect and courtesy, caring, cooperation, tolerance, and communication develop well in Minangkabau adolescents. The highest character is the character of respect and courtesy, and the character of cooperation is in the lowest position but is still in the high category. To get maximum results, the character of cooperation needs to be improved.

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