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# Parenting Parents Toward The Twins in Tambakromo Pati

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# Abstract

The existence of twins is an exceptional phenomenon because there are two or more individuals who have similarities. In parenting and caring for twins, parents of twins will give them same treatment; feed, clothes, bed and others. If this happend continuously, it will have a negative impact, (e.g lack of confidence, lack of self/ dependence, lack of the self-understanding) both twins in the future. This condition also happen parents of twins in the Tambakromo Pati. This study aimed to describe and determine the pattern of parenting that is applied to the twins in Tambakromo, Pati. This study used qualitative research methods. Researcher collected data using observation, interviews, and documentation. Validity of data measured using triangulation techniques, methods and timing. Data analysis was carried out interactively and continuously until the data is saturated by the step of data collection, data reduction, data presentation and conclusion. The results of this research are applied to the sixth twins's parents in Tambakromo, Pati. It uses democratic and authoritarian parenting. Parents applying nurture democratic twins in most aspects of the parenting; eating, drinking, dressing, deliver goods and toys, play, learn, bowel and bladder, achievement, child behavior, parental attitudes, and togetherness of the parents toward their twins. While the authoritarian parenting styles applied in some aspects of the parenting; bathing, sleeping, studying, and the attitude of parents who always get their children always together in daily activities.

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## INTRODUCTION

Child as a gift from God that is mandated to be treated, guided and educated will become human resources in the future to continue the nation in realizing the ideals of the nation. Law No. 23, 2002 states that the category of child is a person under 18 (eighteen) years, including children who are still in the womb. Parents are the first and main educator in the family. Parents are the first educator, because the children get first education from them, and they are the main because education from them become a foundation to growth and subsequent child's life.

There are two kinds of birth are known by the public, they are single births and multiple birth, which are twins, triplets and so on. Parents often think twin, who are identical and non identical born as the same individual. It usually because the parents always equate treatment in all respects to the twins, from the same name, the same clothes, the same game, the same food, to incorporate them into the same school. The treatment that gives the parents will affects the process of self-identification among twins. It effects the twins identify among themselves and become very dependent on each other. The twins can get the difficulties in developing their personal identity, and they will become interdependent, so it can affects the behavior of each child.

According to Lestari (2012: 37), parenting is a responsibility of parents, so unfortunate that today there are parents who take on the role of parents without awareness of parenting. It can occurs in twins. There are several things that need to be considered by parents in parenting the twins. They are among others: parents should give special time with one child separately, punishment or reward for any errors or achievements to each other in particular (not together), do not equate the standard of expectation to children if they have different abilities, and encourage each of them to seek close friends beside his/her twin. Parenting is very important for older people, because they play a role in children's development (Choiriyah, 2014).

The fact, there are a lot of parents always give all the needs of the children by things that are same to children, and less attention to the needs of each child as different individual. It was also occurs in twins in the Tambakromo, Pati. When children enter preschool, they become accustomed to the same things, from the same clothes (but the color is different), food and drinks, cutlery and drink bottle, toys as well as all the school

equipments were also same. Such treatment makes twins become conditioned or formed all the same, even though the parents give the childern the freedom to determine and choose the things that are desired and preferred by them, the twins more often ask for things that are equally desirable. Based on the description above researchers interested in doing research entitled "Parenting Parents toward the Twins in Tambakromo Pati".

## **Twins**

According to KBBI (2012), twin mean have the same face or appearance, and are born together from the same mother. Furthermore, according to Mulyadi (1996: 15) twins are two or more children were born together in a labor. It means that the twins are two people who were born in a single egg fertilized by the sperm and then splitting into two to be twins in the womb. The twins are the only individuals who have experience with his brother before the birth (in utero) and understand each other than any two people (Hurlock, 2013: 59). According Dariyo (2007: 92) there are two types of twins, they are identical twins or identical twins.

a. Not identical twins, the twins that occur because of the process of fertilization of two sperm cells to the two egg in the uterus which happened when sexual intercourse between a married couple (Dariyo, 2007: 92). According to Hurlock (2013: 59), not identical twin is not the truth, but they are the result of pregnancies that occur together, because there is no extreme similarity between the two children and individuals who are not identical twins like ordinary siblings.

b. Identical twins, occur because of the existence of an egg during the process of fertilization occurs in the division zygote (the newly fertilized single cell) that developed into two embryo (fetus) (Dariyo, 2007: 92). According to Mulyadi (1996: 17), identical twins are in early pregnancy at the beginning of pregnancy only child usual, one egg is fertilized by a sperm and become a zygote (single cell that newly fertilized), then by a cause that has not unknown, the egg cell divides into two zygotes (fertilized new single cell) are identical and will soon born into a pair of identical twins.

## **Parenting Parents**

In KBBI (2012), parenting means (process, method, act nurturing) parenting. Nurturing means keeping (to care for and educate) young children, guiding (assist, train, and so on) in order to stand on its own, lead (heads, hold) the institutional entities. Meanwhile, according to Kagan

(in Lestar, 2012: 36) performs the task of *parenting* (parenting) means running a series of decisions about the child's socialization.

Parenting process will include about interaction between children, parents and the environment; adjustment of the necessities of life and temperament of children with their parents; fulfillment of responsibilities for raising and meet the needs of the child; process support or deny the existence of children and parents; and the process of reducing the risk and protection of the individual and social environment (Latiana, 2010: 26). According Baumrind (Santrock, 2007: 167), there are three patterns of parenting, among others:

Authoritarian parenting style, which parents restrict and punish, and urged children to follow their referrals. In addition parents are also always trying to create, control, evaluate the child's behavior and actions to conform to the standard rules that made the parents.

Democratic parenting style, encourage children to be independent, but still apply to limit and control their actions. This nurturing parents show pleasure and support in response to the construction of children's behavior, they also expect that the child's behavior is mature, self-contained, and according to age.

c. Permissive parenting style, parents are very involved with the children, but not too demanding and controlling them. Parents also let the children do what they want. The impact is children never learn to control their own behavior and always hoped to get his wish.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

This study used qualitative research methods. A qualitative approach, according to Boghdan and Taylor (Moleong, 2007: 4) is a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of verbal or written from people and observed behavior. The contents of the report will take the form of data, to add a description of what happens when the research report in the form of manuscripts written interviews, field notes, photographs, and other documents. Implementation of research was conducted in the Tambakromo, Pati. Data collection methods that used were interviews, observation, and documentation.

The main data sources in qualitative data are words and actions, the rest are additional data such as documents and other (Lofland in Moleong, 2007: 157). Primary data is data which obtained directly from main informants and supporters, such as parents, teachers and the community.

Secondary data is the data which obtained from the documentation that can be used as a feasibility study. The validity of the data that used in this research is triangulation of sources, methods, and time. Data analysis was conducted in an interactive, data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion verification (Miles and Huberman, 2009: 20).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The parenting which applied by someone or a parents can't be separated from people's expectations to the role that definitely run by children in adult life later (Lestari, 2012: 39). Parenting which applied to single born children and the twins may be different, this is because the parents who have twins children must be able to divide their time and attention to the children. Meanwhile, to the single born children, all the time and attention will be focused on one child. The needs that required to twins are different, parents must give that similar children's daily needs and accordance to the needs and wishes of each child.

The results from this research is states that the six parents who have twins in Tambakromo Pati, apply a democratic and authoritarian parenting on their twins. Here are some aspects of care were applied by parents in democratic parenting to twins, they are the activities of eating and drinking, parents provide food and drinks at the twins as they the children wish, and give freedom to the twins choose their own food and drink that they want. This is because the twins appetite are different.

If parents give foods and beverages in the same on both the child, it is because both twins requesting. If parents provide food or beverages that do not fit the wishes of both the child, then the child does not want to eat it, the food is only used as a toy. It happened although parents give twins the freedom to choose the food they want. The feeding of children, parents should also pay attention to a balanced nutrient content that contained in food, and food should also be appropriate given the stages of age or the age of the child. This could have implications for the development and growth of children in the next age. According to Latiana (2010: 91) the provision of good food will form good eating habits for children anyway. Dressing activities, parents give freedom to the twins to choose the clothes they want, because the child has different tastes and desires, but the children always choose her clothing and asked the same model of parents. That differ usually only in color only, while the

model and its shape are always the same.

The child usually to choose their own clothes freely, while children in leisure activities at home, leisure and play daily activities. Meanwhile, the parents give them that same clothes in certain activities, like in school activities, and party. Parents also give an opportunity to twins wear his own clothes. With a record if the clothes model is easy to use, the twins could wear it alone, and to train the twins learn independently or not depends on the parents. This is appropriate with the opinion of Mulyadi (1966: 78) that the child's ability to make choices and decisions in its sole discretion is very important in independence to twins. It is included in the activities dressed twins, in determining his own clothes.

On learning activities, parents give freedom to choose and determine the twins study time, and guide or provide guidance in twins, if the child has difficulty in doing the task. This is to make that the children can focus on learning, and children do not become depressed while studying, and that children do not easily discouraged when experiencing difficulties in learning. If parents force and determine the time to learn a second child, the child will become depressed and did not want to learn, even children lazy to learn. It is the duty of parents to guide children while experiencing difficulties in learning. Parents sometimes also let children do not learn. The reason is because parents do not want to force the child, if the mood of (mood) the child is not good, during holidays and when children are tired after playing. If a child is forced to learn the two children would be angry, lazy, and not in the spirit of learning. This is appropriate with Latiana, (2010: 86), parental involvement in children's learning process is needed primarily to monitor the progress and learning, as well as the impact to the child.

In the normal bowel and bladder, parents never told their twins for bowel and bladder by himself, because the twins have not been able to cleanse themselves after defecating and the twins are still too young. Parents also assist and supervise their two children when bowel and bladder, by reason of the twins has not been able to cleanse themselves thoroughly after bowel, the twins are too young to unsupervise, parents are afraid and worried if something happened to the children. In addition to supervise and helping the twins, parents of twins also teaches procedures for the bowel and bladder and proper way to clean it thoroughly, so the children learn to be independent and not dependent on the parents.

Bowel and bladder activity is an activity

to teach toilet training in children. In the course of the bowel and bladder, it is including the care of a healthy life, which teach children about self hygiene and health of themselves independently. This is according to Hidayat (in Noviadi, 2014), activities of toilet training in early childhood is an attempt to train children to be able to control the bowel and bladder do independently, and introduce children on her own anatomy and function.

While in providing equipments and toys, parents sometimes buy the same equipments and toys to both of them, and sometimes give the child the freedom to choose equipments and toys they want. Because of the wish of twins are different, if parents buy toys or similar items on the children, it is because the child asked for it. Only the color is different, while the shape or the same style. In order to distinguish goods and toys are not swepped by twins, parents give sign initials on the goods and toys, and sometimes children can distinguish their own goods or toys each other.

Give the child the freedom to choose goods and toys they want is to train children express their wishes, if goods and toys are beneficial for both children. If both twins are allowed to choose for themselves, sometimes they ask for useless goods and toys and it is dangerous for children. According to Mazhi (2013) gave the twins a similar toy or clothes to both children can weaken individuality to twins when the child enters adulthood, and it is advisable for parents to distinguish any item which given to twins.

In the course of play, parents do not prohibit the twins playing outside the house, because the activities outside the house are good for motor and cognitive development of children, as entertainment that children do not get bored in the house, and if the play is still around the home environment allow parents. Twins usually play after coming home from school. Parents choose the child in the mix and play activities freely, but with certain restrictions. By choosing their own play activities, the twins became friends, easy to socialize with other people, and be able to express themselves respectively.

Parents worry if forbid children to play outdoors, children's difficulties in socializing with other people, no friends, become shy and lacking confidence. The activities for twins, plays an important role for the development of the child. By playing, twins can explore themselves each other and can establish interaction or socialization with other friends. This is appropriate to the opinion of Triharso (2013: 10) that the activities of children's playground will make them understand the relationship between himself and his

social environment, children learn to associate or socialize and understand the rules or ordinances in the association or play.

In terms of achievements /academic, parents always give credit to the kids when they get good grades. With a reward or praise on both the child, it can spurs twins to excel, and motivate children to be more in the spirit of learning. Parents also encourage interest and achievements in each of their twins, because the second child has an interest and achievement vary. The twins are different individuals, although physically are the same, they still have the capability of different, and so are their accomplishments will be different too. This is also appropriate to the opinion of Endra (2014), the involvement of a parent to a child's academic achievement, have a great impact for children. Parents need to see the process in every child's achievement, because in every child there is a potential that should be respected and there is a weakness that must be accepted by the parents.

Parents sometimes scold and punish the children if they make a mistake and argue or fight exceeds reasonable limits, in the behavior of children. Both of them are separated enough, but not scold them young immediately, given enough advice so as not to repeat them. Because the twins are still too small, so simply provide advice and examples of correct behavior in both children. While giving punishment to the child would not solve the problem, even adding a new problem, and do not want the children to hate each other or hold a grudge. Parents give children the opportunity to give an explanation when the twins make a mistake.

This is to prevent misunderstandings between mother and child, and according to parents everything which do by children is not necessarily a mistake, if the twins are given a chance to explain. Early childhood or pre-school age also have not understood the real meaning of right and wrong, so parents should provide guidance or understanding on both children about good behavior and bad or right and wrong.

It also appropriate to Lestari (2012: 63), that discipline is one form of parental attempts to control the child, the parent is usually done so that children can obey the rules, and reduce behaviors that deviate or are at risk. Last, the attitude of the parents of twins, parents encourage the twins to express feelings and opinions. This is to train the twins dare to speak or express their opinions, and to avoid misunderstandings between parents and twins. Parents are also not to be indifferent to the twins, because the child is a surrogate of

God that must be given attention and affection in order to be good, and it is the duty of parents to give attention and affection to them, whether single born children or twins born childern.

Parents also always care to the daily needs of the twins, because it is the duty and responsibility of parents to meet all the needs of her children. These needs include: food and drink, shelter, clothing, school, attention and affection, toys, and other goods. These needs include the need to eat and drink, shelter, clothing, school, attention and affection, toys, and other goods. It is also appropriate that disclosed by Yusuf (2009: 38) that psychologically the role of parents in the family, namely as a flavoring safe for children and other family members, the source of fulfillment (both physical and psychological) for children, and as a source of affection and acceptance of family members, especially to children.

Togetherness parents with children, parents have time with the twins at home and accompany her twins while playing and learning, it is that children do not feel lonely or bored at home, and the twins still get affection from both parents. In addition to maintain communication to the child if the child has difficulty in order to quickly help. Togetherness parent with the child to make child-parent relationship more closely and foster a sense of love affection within the family. The relationship is an important factor in the development of children's self or personality.

According to Sanee (2003: 29) together or the family atmosphere can be created through an emotional connection between parent and child that goes in harmony, because these relationships may provide a stimulus for children to develop themselves, to make children feel safe in their environment. While some aspects of authoritarian parenting are applied sixth parents against their twins, that is in the activities of sleep, parents tell twins to sleep in the same bed. If the child is sleeping in the same bed and bedroom bed parents will be easier to keep an eye to the twins during sleep and safer. Because of the twins are still young, and three of the six parents who have twins, they were told the twins to sleep with their parents.

The twins also could be along and closer to each other between their twin brothers. Surveillance in twins is very necessary in any activity of twins, including when a child is sleeping and if the child is still young. It is very important for children to avoid the things that are not desirable. The twins who give different beds and separate the two children are highly recommended, it is to form the character of each child, and prevent

children from dependence on the nature of his twin brother. Sleeping alone can provide positive benefits to both children. Such benefits include train children to learn how to have their own autonomy, children can learn to be independent (in charge of the goods themselves), children feel more confident and carry themselves well when socialization (Anonymous, 2015).

Bathing, parents encouraged the twins to bathe together, by take a bath together with parents, it's easier in overseeing the twins while bathing. It is also because the children can't bathe himself, more efficient time, so the child is not too late to go to school in the morning. Parents never allow their children to bath themselves and not watching him, this is because the twins still have not been able to bathe themselves thoroughly, and still need the help of parents. If the twins are not supervised twins will be more tinkering, even quarrel or fight.

Bathing is nurturing healthy living activities, it refrains from disease and germs. Supervise the children when take a bath is very necessary, it is avoid the things that are not desirable. It is not train children to be independent, to let children twins shared bathroom. Supposedly parents do not have to send children to bathe together, but much better they are given time to take turns in the bath. Furthermore, for learning or do chores, parents keep learns even though there was no assignment, it is that twins do not lazy to learn, children are also not a lot of playing around, and so they can quickly absorb learns in school.

Parents also never let their children do not do the work, for reasons that are not lazy twins in the study and do their schoolwork each, and both twins could learn to be responsible in their respective duties. Learning activities are very good for children's intelligence, but parents need to know the child's condition before they learned. Parents should not force a child to learn and do the work, if the child in a poor condition. Parents should be told, but not impose them, so that children do not become depressed and by the condition of the child they, can't even absorb the optimal learning.

While the attitude of parents who want the twins are similar, that parents treat their twins are always the same in every daily activity, arguing that children are not jealous of each other. If parents provide different treatment on children, twins often teasing, fighting or arguing. The attitude of parents to twins should not have to always be excessive, which always get used to treat and twins were always together in any activity, it can be detrimental to one of the twins. Because one child usually becomes a shadow of the other,

she will be less independent and confident. This is appropriate to the opinion of Hurlock (2003: 33), the twins will have difficulty to develope a personal identity. Because his twins enjoys twinning relationship tight and they are happy for the attention which receive as a result of their similar appearance.

With the expected parenting twins understand the things that they must comply with some regulations made by the parents, but still with certain restrictions. So the child will not feel burdened to comply with these regulations. Children will be more closely and openly with parents, because the parents will not always apply the penalties when children break the rules. Making the twins being personally have a strong self-confidence, has a positive self concept, dare to take a decision as he wishes each, accept differences, independent, and able to socialize well.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research and discussion presented above it can be concluded that the six parents who have twins in the Tambakromo Pati, implementing a democratic and authoritarian parenting to twins. Parents are applying nurture democratic twins in most aspects of the parenting, those are in the activities of eating and drinking, dressing, bowel and bladder, play, providing goods and toys, learning, achievement of the two children, the behavior of the child, the attitude of parents towards the child and parent together with the child. While the authoritarian parenting styles applied in some aspects of the parenting, which includes: bathing, sleeping, studying or working on a task, and the attitude of parents to get children alike twins.

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