



The Influence of the Role of Stay at Home Fathers on the Democratic Character of Children Aged 5-6 Years in Purbalingga District

Dinda Teni Ajiningtyas✉, Yuli Kurniawati Sugiyo Pranoto

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Universitas Negeri Semarang, Semarang, Indonesia

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Abstract

Stay at home fathers are family men who have more time at home than mothers, this has led to a shift in roles with the emergence of stay at home fathers who are responsible for home affairs, caring for children, shaping children's behavior and character, one of which is democratic character. Democratic character is very important because it is the initial foundation for the child's personality in the future. The purpose of this study was to determine the effect of the role of stay at home fathers on the democratic character of children aged 5-6 years in Purbalingga District. This study used a quantitative approach with simple linear regression analysis conducted at Bustanul Athfal Aisyiyah throughout Purbalingga Subdistrict involving 100 respondents selected using purposive sampling method by determining the number of samples by Isaac and Michael. The collection technique used a questionnaire distributed to fathers through the institution. The results of simple linear regression analysis obtained a significance value of $0.00 < 0.05$, it shows that the role of stay at home fathers has a positive effect on the democratic character of children aged 5-6 years in Purbalingga District. In the R Square value obtained 0.170, it means that the influence of the role of stay at home fathers on the democratic character of children aged 5-6 years in Purbalingga District is 17%, while 83% of the democratic character of children aged 5-6 years in Purbalingga District is influenced by factors other than stay at home fathers.

How to cite

INTRODUCTION

Early childhood according to the Nations Association For The Education Of Young Children (NAEYC) and according to several experts in general early childhood or early childhood is a child from birth to 8 years old, at this time is a period that is in the stage of growth and development both physically and mentally. According to Silahuddin (2017), children are valuable assets for parents and the country, therefore every growth and development must be given optimally. Because every child has a good recording power, what is seen and exemplified by people nearby will be remembered well and if done will be able to become a character in the child. With that, children need examples in character building that can form a good personality for their future life. The basis of character education in children should be formed from an early age, because at this age it is proven to determine the ability to develop children's potential. This agrees with Rustini that at an early age it is easier to shape children's character (Andhika et al., 2021).

The Depdiknas language center (in Rustini, 2016) defines character as innate, heart, soul, personality, character, behavior, personality, nature, character, temperament, character. Presidential Regulation (Perpres) No. 87 of 2017 concerning Strengthening Character Education (PPK) article 3, the application of Pancasila values in the life of the nation and state which raises 18 character values such as religious, honest, tolerance, discipline, hard work, creative, independent, democratic, curiosity, enthusiasm, patriotism, nationalism, respect, communicative, upholding peace, literacy culture, care for the environment, social care, and responsibility. One of the important behaviors to be instilled since childhood is democratic character. Democratic character in the democratic character padepokan textbook series, which is a way of thinking, behaving, and acting in equality and obligations between themselves and others. According to Freud (in Rohmah, 2018) if there is a failure in instilling a good personality at an early age, it will be problematic in adulthood.

Doni argues (in Samrin, 2016) that character or personality is a characteristic or characteristic that comes from a person that comes from formations received from the environment, for example in the family since childhood and also innate from birth. Lestari (2017) also argues that the family is the first environment for children in obtaining education because the family is the child's closest environment so that the child's life

is mostly spent with the family, so all children's activities based on behavior and language cannot be separated from the role of parents. Maifani (2016) also concluded that 80% of basic human potential is formed in the family environment and not starting from school, such as personal abilities, attitudes, morals, and character depending on the parents. The role of parents in influencing children's character is no longer charged to mothers alone, Nafisah & Pranoto (2016) also argue that fathers are one of the systems that play an important role in childcare. In the family, fathers usually act as the head of the household and breadwinner, but the recent phenomenon in the family has shifted roles.

Cotter and Peppin (in Viona, 2021) argue that the role of parents has shifted. Society considers men as breadwinners and the backbone of the family, but now it is reversed. Working women and men are changing their conservative views and starting to think about going into the domestic sphere and leaving their offices. This has led to the emergence of stay-at-home dads who are responsible for household chores, taking care of children at home, or stay-at-home dads who still have more flexible jobs such as entrepreneurs, painters, writers, influencers, and other jobs that can be done at home while accompanying children at the park. U.S Cencus Berau (in Della et al., 2018) defines a stay-at-home dad as a father who works, either *full time*, part time, or has his own business and spends more time with his children than with his wife who is with his children.

Working according to the Central Bureau of Statistics is an economic activity carried out by a person with the intention of obtaining or obtaining work or profit with working hours of at least 1 hour (uninterrupted). Meanwhile, flexible work according to John in the work scheme is being able to work by determining working hours flexibly, where workers can set working hours according to their circumstances (Nuriskia & Nugroho, 2022). Fathers who have children, fathers who work flexibly can determine and adjust to the situation, so working fathers have more time to take care of children than mothers who work *full time*.

Hart argues (in Parmanti & Purnamasari, 2015) that the involvement of stay at home fathers in caregiving is; (1) *Economic provider* (as an economic provider), (2) *Friend and playmate* (as a friend and playmate), (3) *Caregiver* (as caring for children), (4) *Teacher and role* (as a teacher and role model for children), (5) *Monitor and disciplinary* (marking and providing disciplinary behavior) (6) *Protector* (as a pro-

tector), (7) *Advocate (accompanying)*, (8) *Resource (as a source or providing opportunities)*.

Based on the phenomenon in Purbalingga district, there are many fake eyelash and fake hair factories that employ the majority of women compared to men. Nilakusmawati & Susilawati (2012) argue that women's involvement in work is to increase income, avoid boredom or boredom in filling spare time, develop themselves, and have special interests or expertise or skills possessed by women. Purbalingga district is a district that absorbs 37% of the total workers in Purbalingga Regency (Husnawati, 2020). This is supported by information from the book published by the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) of Purbalingga district in 2021 figures, the population of Purbalingga district is 57,364 people, 5673 women in which there are mothers who have children and work as employees of fake eyelash and fake hair factories, 5914 men have not or do not work and 8400 men work flexibly such as traders, farmers or plantations, breeders, casual daily laborers, laborers, artists, entrepreneurs (Hidayat, 2021).

Mothers who have children aged 5-6 years are assigned to fathers who do not work or work flexibly because according to the mother, children aged 5-6 years can be left to work and can be cared for by the father. With this, the family has shifted and fathers who take care of children and take care of housework are not new, some of the terms used are *stay at home father*, because in Suharmanto & Santoso (2020) *stay at home father* is a family man who has a dominant role in domestic stay at home affairs and children at home and the largest income of the family comes from his partner.

Based on this phenomenon, it can affect one of the characters, namely democratic character in children. Democratic character really needs to be instilled in early childhood, because according to Krobo (2021) democratic character is the initial foundation for his personality in the future. Judging from the stage of development, democratic characters can be given to children aged 5-6 years, namely kindergarten age.

Observations and internships conducted by researchers in several institutions out of a total of 14 Aisyiyah Bustanul Athfal institutions in Purbalingga District, examples of democratic character of children aged 5-6 years such as tolerance, responsibility, deliberation and chest in each child are different. From the results of unstructured interviews with teachers in each institution, he said that there are children who have not been able to play with other friends, have not been able to tidy up toys in place after

use, are less able to accept input from others and still cry when their toys are borrowed by others, but not many children also understand tolerance such as playing with other friends of different races or ethnicities, being able to tidy up their toys properly, being able to discuss and lend their toys to other friends. With this, good care is needed from the person closest to the child so that there is no failure in parenting and the formation of democratic character for children. Based on the description above, because this phenomenon has rarely been studied, the researcher is interested in conducting research with the title "The Effect of the Role of Stay at Home Fathers on the Democratic Character of 5-6 Year Old Children in Purbalingga District".

RESEARCH METHODS

The approach used in this research is quantitative research. According to Sugiyono (2018), quantitative research methods are research based on *positivistic* or concrete data, research data in the form of numbers that are measured using statistics as a calculation test tool and related to the problem under study to produce a conclusion, used to research on certain populations or samples. This type of research method is using the survey method.

The population taken from this study were all fathers who had children aged 5-6 years in 14 Bustanul Athfal Aisyiyah institutions in Purbalingga District, totaling

355 respondents. Sampling using *purposive sampling*, the criteria include: 1) Respondents are fathers who have children aged 5 or 6 years who attend school in Purbalingga District, 2) Fathers who work either *full time*, part time, or have their own business done at home and have more time at home than mothers, 3) Working mothers or wives.

The number of samples that met these criteria was 140 respondents. Due to time constraints, the Isaac and Michael sampling table was used, and the number of respondents was 100. The collection technique used was a questionnaire distributed to 100 respondents and data using unstructured interviews with one of the teachers in each of the Bustanul Athfal Aisyiyah institutions in Purbalingga District.

The variables used in this study are; (1) The dependent variable in this study is democratic character. Democratic character is showing how to think and behave with respect for others, being tolerant and open, assessing their rights and obligations as equal to others, having the principle of

deliberation for consensus, and obeying the rules (Faridhni, 2018). Democratic character attitudes are tolerance, deliberation, chest, and responsibility (Hudayah & Haryanto, 2021), (2) The independent variable in this study is the role of the stay at home father. The U.S. Census Bureau defines a father or stay at home father as a father who works, either *full-time*, *part-time*, or has his own business and spends more time with his children when compared to his wife who is with his child (Dellia. Pandia, Weny Savitri S, 2018). In addition, the father's role in parenting is in the form of *economic provider*, *friend & playmate*, *caregiver*, *teacher and role*, *monitor and disciplinary*, *protector*, *advocate*, and *resource* (Parmanti & Purnamasari, 2015), (3) Control variables are variables that are made constant or controlled so that the influence of the dependent variable is not influenced by external factors that are not studied and are comparative in nature. The control variables used in this study are the age of the child, the father's job, and the time the father spends with the child.

This instrument consists of *favorable* and *unfavorable statements* with alternative answers using a Likert scale, namely for positive statements with a score of 4 always, 3 often, 2 sometimes, and 1 never, while negative statements are the opposite of positive statements. This research instrument was tested using data validity techniques with validity calculations using the *product moment* formula and reliability tests using the *Cronbach alpha* formula and obtained a stay at home father's role value of 0.921 and a democratic character of 0.927.

The classical assumption test used is the normality test using the *Kolmogorov-Smirnov* test and the linear regression test. This study uses simple linear regression analysis techniques to measure the effect of the role of stay at home fathers on the democratic character of children aged 5-6 years in Purbalingga District. To strengthen and differentiate the results of the study using control variables using *two-way ANOVA* difference test analysis.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Respondent Characteristics

This section explains the results of the research conducted related to the influence of the role of stay at home fathers on the democratic character of children aged 5-6 years in Purbalingga District.

Table 1. Age of Respondent's Child

Age	Total	Percentage (%)
5 years	34	34
6 years	66	66
Total	100	100%

(Data source: research data, 2023)

It can be obtained that out of 100 respondents, stay at home fathers who have children aged 5 years are 34 children with a percentage of 34% and fathers who have children aged 6 years are 66 children with a percentage of 66%.

Table 2. Table of Respondents' occupation

Job	Total	Percentage (%)
Merchant	32	32%
Daily Laborer	26	26%
Entrepreneurship	32	32%
Farmers	5	5%
Not Working	5	5%
Total	100	100%

(Data source: research data, 2023)

From a total of 100 respondents, stay at home fathers can be grouped into stay at home fathers who work flexibly and stay at home fathers who do not work. The number of stay at home fathers who work flexibly is 95%, the most common occupations are as traders and entrepreneurs, totaling 32 people each. Other stay at home fathers work as day laborers as many as 26 people, farmers as many as 5 people and stay at home fathers who do not work as many as 5% or 5 people.

Table 3. Table of Time Fathers Spend with Children

Time fathers spend with their children in a day	Total	Percentage (%)
< 8 jam	0	0
>8 Jam	85	85%
24 Jam	15	15%
Total	100	100%

(Data source: research data, 2023)

The time spent by stay at home fathers with children in a day has three times, namely <8 hours, >8 hours and 24 hours. Of the 100

respondents, there were no respondents who had < 8 hours a day. The most common choice is 85 respondents who have > 8 hours a day with their children and other stay at home fathers there are 15 respondents who have 24 hours spent by fathers with their children.

Data Analysis

The results of the categorization of the stay at home father role score owned by the subject can be seen in the following table:

Table 4. Categorization of the Stay at Home Father Role Scale

Category	Guidelines	Score	Total	Percentage (%)
Low	$X < M - 1SD$	$X < 68$	1	1%
Medium	$x - 1SD \leq x \leq +1SD$	$68 \leq x < 102$	48	48%
High	$M + 1SD \leq x$	$102 \leq$	51	51%
Total			100	100%

(Data source: research data, 2023)

Based on the results of the categorization of the role of stay at home fathers, it shows that subjects who are in the low category are 1% (1 subject), the medium category is 48% (48 subjects) and the high category is 51% (51 subjects), so it can be concluded that in this study most of the subjects of the role of stay at home fathers play a high role.

Table 5. Categorization of Democratic Character Scale

Category	Guidelines	Score	Total	Percentage (%)
Less Good	$X < M - 1SD$	$X < 72$	4	4%
Good Enough	$x - 1SD \leq x \leq +1SD$	$72 \leq x < 108$	96	96%
Both	$M + 1SD \leq x$	$108 \leq$	0	0%
Total			100	100%

(Data source: research data, 2023)

Based on the results of the categorization of democratic character, it shows that subjects who are in the poor category are 4% (4 subjects), the good enough category is 96% (96 subjects) and the good category is 0% (0 subjects), so it can be concluded that in this study most subjects have a fairly good democratic character.

Table 6. Linearity Test Results

Linearity	Sig.	Alpha	Ket
Democratic Character*			
The role of stay at home father	0,737	0,05	linear

(data source: primary data processed using SPSS in 2022)

It is known that the results of the linearity test have a significance value of $0.737 > 0.05$, it can be concluded that there is a linear relationship between the role of stay at home fathers and democratic character.

Table 7. Simple Linear Regression Test

Coefficients ^a					
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients	Standardized Coefficients		t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error		
(Constant)	53.044		7.180	7.388	.000
The role of stay at home father	.319		.071	.412	.000

a. Dependent Variable: Karakter Demokratis

(data source: primary data processed using SPSS in 2022)

In this table, the significance value is $0.00 < 0.05$, which indicates that H_0 is rejected and H_a is accepted, so it can be said that the role of stay at home fathers affects the democratic character of children aged 5-6 years in Purbalingga District. So that the regression equation value is obtained, namely $Y = 53.044 + 0.319X$.

Table 8. Output SPSS (Model Summary)

Model Summary ^b				
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.412 ^a	.170	.161	8.000

a. Predictors: (Constant), peranayah

b. Dependent Variable: karakterdemokratis

(data source: primary data processed using SPSS in 2022)

Based on this table, the R Square value is 0.170. This value means that the influence of the role of stay at home fathers on the democratic character of children aged 5-6 years in Purba-

lingga District is 17% and 83% of the democratic character of children aged 5-6 years in Purbalingga District is influenced by other factors besides stay at home fathers.

Additional Data Analysis Two Way ANOVA Test

The results of the *Two Way* ANOVA test are used to determine the difference in control variables in the independent variable on the dependent variable which is processed using the SPSS statistics 2020 program. The basis for decision making in this test is if the significance value < 0.05 , then there is a difference and if the significance value > 0.05 , then there is no difference. The following are the results of the *two-way* ANOVA test based on the control variable:

Table 9. Two Way ANOVA Test Results Control Variable

No	Control Variable	Sig.
1.	Child's Age (5 dan 6 years old)	0,067
2.	Father's occupation (traders, entrepreneurs, farmers, daily labourers, and not working)	0,184
3.	Time fathers spend with their children in one day (< 8 hours, > 8 hours, dan 24 hours)	0,096

(data source: primary data processed using SPSS in 2022)

Based on the table above, it is known that the control variables of child age, father's job and time spent with children have a significance value > 0.05 so it can be concluded that in the role of stay at home fathers on the democratic character of children aged 5-6 years in Purbalingga District seen from the child's age, occupation and time spent with children there is no difference.

DISCUSSION

The variable role of stay at home fathers with a total of 100 respondents and a total of 34 statement items, obtained low categorization on a score < 68 as much as 1% (1 subject), a medium category with a score of $68 \leq x < 102$ as much as 48% (48 subjects) and a high category as much as 51% (51 subjects). It can be concluded that the variable role of stay at home fathers in this study shows that most stay at home fathers play a high role. This is in line with the results of research by Purwindarini et al (2014) that the father's role in parenting is classified as high with a percentage

of 73.2%. In the democratic character variable, it was obtained that the categorization was not good at a score < 72 as much as 4% (4 subjects), the categorization was quite good with a score of $72 \leq x < 108$ as much as 96% (96 subjects) and good categorization with a score of $108 \leq x$ as much as 0% (0 respondents). It can be concluded that the democratic character variable in this study most of the subjects have a fairly good democratic character. This is in line with the results of the democratic character questionnaire in Krobo's research (2021), that children's democratic character has a good category.

In the results of simple linear regression, it was obtained that the categorization was not good at a score < 72 as much as 4% (4 subjects), the categorization was quite good with a score of $72 \leq x < 108$ as much as 96% (96 subjects) and good categorization with a score of $108 \leq x$ as much as 0% (0 respondents). It can be concluded that the democratic character variable in this study most of the subjects have a fairly good democratic character. This is in line with the results of the democratic character questionnaire in Krobo's research (2021), that the democratic character of early childhood has a good category. While in the *model summary* table the R Square value is 0.170. This value means that the influence of the role of stay at home fathers on the democratic character of children aged 5-6 years in Purbalingga District is 17%, while 83% of the democratic character of children aged 5-6 years in Purbalingga District is influenced by factors other than stay at home fathers. The results of this study are in line with the opinion of Rohmah (2018), that there are two factors that influence the character of early childhood, namely internal factors such as instincts, habits, will and inner voice. While external factors such as education and environment.

To strengthen the results of the study, the authors added additional analysis using control variables, the purpose of control variables is used to conduct comparative research. This serves to determine whether or not there is a difference in the influence of the role of stay at home fathers on democratic character in terms of the age of the child, namely at the age of 5 and 6 years, the father's occupation such as fathers who do not work and fathers who work flexibly (farmers, traders, laborers, and fathers who have their own businesses conducted at home) and the time spent by fathers with children such as < 8 hours per day, > 8 hours per day and 24 hours. The difference test used was *Two Way* ANOVA which was tested using the SPSS statistics 20 application.

The control variable of child age is divided

into 2, namely 5 years old and 6 years old. After conducting the *Two Way ANOVA* test, the significance value is $0.067 > 0.05$, so it can be concluded that the role of stay at home fathers on democratic character in children aged 5 and 6 years is no difference. This is as found in the findings of Kilicgun (2016), that in childcare, there is no difference in the role of the father perceived by children aged 4-6 years in physical contact with the father.

In the control variable of father's occupation, stay at home fathers are divided into working fathers (traders, laborers, entrepreneurs, and farmers) and those who do not work. After being tested using the *Two Way ANOVA* test, it was found that the significance value was $0.184 > 0.05$, so it can be concluded that the role of stay at home fathers on the character of children aged 5-6 years seen from the father's work there is no difference. This means that stay at home fathers who work either *full time*, part time, have their own business or do not work equally provide a role in the formation of democratic character in children aged 5-6 years in Purbalingga District. This agrees with the results of Mariska's research (2007), that there is no problem in the situation of working wives and fathers who are at home either who have flexible jobs or do not work but still carry out their role in taking care of the house, caring for and educating children in the provision and formation of children's character. In the control variable, the time spent by the father with the child in one day is divided into 3, namely the time range < 8 hours, > 8 hours, and 24 hours. After being tested using the *Two Way ANOVA* test, the results obtained a significance value of $0.096 > 0.05$, so it can be concluded that the role of stay at home fathers on the democratic character of children aged 5-6 years seen from the time spent by fathers with children has no difference. This means that the time the father has with the child both in the period > 8 hours and 24 hours both provide a role in character building because the stay at home father is the closest person to the child. In line with Yunita (2019) that the people closest to children, especially fathers, are elements of shaping children's character, one of which is democratic character. And 80% of basic human potential is formed in the family environment and those closest to it (Maifani, 2016).

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the results of research on the role of stay at home fathers on the democratic character of children aged 5-6 years in Purbalingga

District, the following conclusions can be drawn:

Data analysis using simple linear regression techniques that have been carried out in this study can be concluded that a significance value of $0.00 < 0.05$ is obtained, so H_0 is rejected and H_a is accepted, so it can be said that the role of stay at home fathers (X) has a positive effect on the democratic character (Y) of children aged 5-6 years in Purbalingga District. In the R Square value obtained 0.170, it means that the influence of the role of stay at home fathers on the democratic character of children aged 5-6 years in Purbalingga District is 17%, while 83% of the democratic character of children aged 5-6 years in Purbalingga District is influenced by factors other than stay at home fathers.

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