



THE INFLUENCE OF FAMILY COMMUNICATION PATTERNS ON ADULT CHARACTER FORMATION: A BIBLIOMETRIC STUDY

PENGARUH POLA KOMUNIKASI KELUARGA TERHADAP PEMBENTUKAN KARAKTER ORANG DEWASA: SEBUAH STUDI BIBLIOMETRIK

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Abstract

Family communication plays a fundamental role in shaping an individual's character, particularly in adulthood. This study examines the influence of family communication patterns on adult character formation through a bibliometric analysis. Utilizing a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) and bibliometric approach, this research explores key trends, theoretical frameworks, and scholarly discussions related to family communication and character development. The study highlights the significance of open, trust-based, and emotionally supportive communication in fostering essential adult traits such as responsibility, integrity, empathy, and adaptability. Findings suggest that families with high conversation orientation cultivate individuals with stronger social skills and problem-solving abilities, whereas rigid conformity-oriented communication may hinder independent decision-making. Additionally, digital communication emerges as a growing factor influencing family dynamics. By mapping research trends and analyzing citation patterns, this study provides valuable insights into the long-term impact of family communication on adulthood and offers recommendations for future research.

Keywords : family communication patterns, adult character formation, bibliometric study, systematic literature review, symbolic interactionism

Abstrak

Komunikasi dalam keluarga memainkan peran fundamental dalam membentuk karakter individu, terutama saat dewasa. Penelitian ini mengkaji pengaruh pola komunikasi keluarga terhadap pembentukan karakter orang dewasa melalui analisis bibliometrik. Dengan menggunakan metode Systematic Literature Review (SLR) dan pendekatan bibliometrik, penelitian ini mengeksplorasi tren utama, kerangka teori, serta diskusi ilmiah terkait komunikasi keluarga dan pengembangan karakter. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa komunikasi keluarga yang terbuka, berbasis kepercayaan, dan didukung secara emosional



berkontribusi dalam membentuk karakter dewasa yang bertanggung jawab, berintegritas, empatik, dan adaptif. Temuan juga menunjukkan bahwa keluarga dengan orientasi percakapan yang tinggi cenderung membentuk individu dengan keterampilan sosial dan kemampuan pemecahan masalah yang lebih baik, sedangkan pola komunikasi yang terlalu menekankan keseragaman dapat menghambat pengambilan keputusan secara mandiri. Selain itu, komunikasi digital muncul sebagai faktor yang semakin berpengaruh dalam dinamika keluarga. Dengan memetakan tren penelitian dan menganalisis pola sitasi, studi ini memberikan wawasan berharga tentang dampak jangka panjang komunikasi keluarga pada kehidupan dewasa serta menawarkan rekomendasi untuk penelitian di masa depan.

Kata Kunci : pola komunikasi keluarga, pembentukan karakter dewasa, studi bibliometrik, tinjauan pustaka sistematis, interaksionisme simbolik

1. INTRODUCTION

Family communication serves as the primary foundation for shaping an individual's character. The family is the first environment where individuals learn about norms, values, and social behaviors that they carry into adulthood. Communication patterns within the family play a significant role in shaping how individuals perceive themselves and their surroundings. Family interactions encompass not only verbal communication but also non-verbal cues, emotional expressions, affection, and support (Mulyana, 2005). The formation of adult character is not an instant process but rather a long journey beginning in childhood, with family communication patterns as one of the key influencing factors. Deddy Mulyana (2005) states that effective family communication based on openness, trust, and emotional support plays a crucial role in character development. Conversely, negative communication patterns, such as authoritarian communication or lack of positive interaction, can hinder the development of a healthy character. Good family communication fosters self-confidence, social skills, and the ability to face future challenges (Soeprapto, 2018).

Research by Rozana & Tambunan (2019) on 36 parents of kindergarten students at As Sholihah in Jagakarsa found that parental communication contributes 31.1% to personality development. Two key aspects influence character formation: an individual's innate traits and daily experiences, including knowledge, personal experiences, and received advice. Thus, parents play a crucial role in shaping children's character by providing positive communication and role models. Adult character traits, such as responsibility, integrity, empathy, and adaptability, are heavily influenced by family environments. Soeprapto (2018) suggests that open and supportive communication patterns enable individuals to develop social skills and self-confidence essential for professional and social interactions. Conversely, communication filled with conflict or a lack of emotional involvement can negatively impact character development, leading to maladaptive behaviors in social and professional settings. Additionally, Zulkarnain et al. (2023) emphasize that effective parenting plays a vital role in shaping children's morality and character, significantly influencing their adaptability and sense of responsibility in adulthood.

This study is essential because most prior research has focused on family communication during childhood or adolescence, while its impact on adult character development remains underexplored. Wahyuni & Minawati (2018) argue that parental upbringing greatly affects children's character development, ultimately shaping how they adapt and take responsibility in work and social environments. The young adult phase is a crucial stage for forming intimate



relationships and achieving healthy independence. During this period, the influence of childhood family communication patterns becomes evident in an individual's character and adaptability in the professional and social world.

Based on Erikson's (1950) classification of adulthood, which divides it into two phases Emerging Adulthood (18–25 years) and Early Adulthood (25–40/45 years) this study focuses on individuals aged 20 to 40 years. This age range is a critical transition period where individuals develop self-identity, take on responsibilities in personal and professional life, and face more complex social challenges.

Problem Identification, Family communication is fundamental to character formation. The communication patterns established within the family not only influence childhood development but also significantly impact character formation in adulthood, especially for individuals who have entered the workforce. As Mulyana (2005) explains, effective family communication based on openness, trust, and emotional support is crucial for shaping a healthy character. In contrast, communication patterns that lack support, such as authoritarian or minimal positive interaction, can hinder adaptive character development.

This study identifies family communication patterns as the independent variable and adult character formation as the dependent variable. Adult character in this study includes aspects such as responsibility, integrity, empathy, and adaptability. While previous studies have shown that childhood family communication significantly impacts character development (Rozana & Tambunan, 2019), research on its effects into adulthood, particularly in professional and social contexts, remains limited.

Therefore, this study aims to measure the extent to which family communication patterns influence adult character formation, specifically among individuals aged 20 to 40. This research seeks to fill the existing research gap and provide insights into the importance of family communication patterns in shaping character traits essential for professional and social adaptability. Research Objectives, This study aims to measure the impact of childhood family communication patterns on adult character development, focusing on responsibility, integrity, empathy, and adaptability in social and professional contexts.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This study employs a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) with a Bibliometric approach to examine the influence of family communication patterns on adult character formation. The SLR method is used to systematically identify, evaluate, and synthesize existing literature on the subject, ensuring that the research findings are based on a comprehensive analysis of previous studies. The bibliometric approach helps map trends and relationships between key concepts in the field, allowing researchers to visualize the evolution of knowledge regarding family communication and its impact on character development. By analyzing citation networks, keyword co-occurrences, and author contributions, this method provides a structured understanding of the prevailing academic discourse.

The research process begins with the selection of relevant keywords such as "family communication," "character formation," "symbolic interaction," and "social adaptation." These keywords are used to search academic databases, including Scopus, Web of Science, and Google Scholar, to collect peer reviewed journal articles and conference proceedings. The inclusion criteria focus on studies published in the last two decades, ensuring relevance to contemporary discussions on family communication and character formation. After gathering a substantial body of literature, the next step involves content analysis, in which the selected



articles are categorized based on theoretical frameworks, methodologies, and key findings. This process ensures that the research presents a well-rounded and evidence-based perspective on the role of family communication patterns in shaping adult character traits such as responsibility, integrity, empathy, and adaptability.

Additionally, bibliometric tools such as VOSviewer and Biblioshiny are utilized to analyze citation patterns and create visual representations of thematic clusters within the literature. This approach allows the study to identify influential research contributions and highlight gaps in the existing body of knowledge. The integration of bibliometric analysis with qualitative content analysis enhances the study's robustness, offering a multi-dimensional perspective on how family communication patterns influence adult character formation. By employing both quantitative and qualitative techniques, the research ensures a holistic examination of the topic, paving the way for future empirical studies on the subject. SLR systematically identifies, evaluates, and analyzes relevant literature to provide reliable conclusions. The bibliometric approach analyzes research trends, citation mapping, and key terms within relevant publications.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Family Communication Patterns Theory (FCP Theory), Developed by Koerner & Fitzpatrick (2006), this theory explains how family communication influences personality development and communication abilities. The FCP Theory is based on two orientations:

1. Conversation Orientation: The degree to which families encourage open discussion, where members freely share thoughts, feelings, and ideas.
2. Conformity Orientation: The extent to which families emphasize uniformity in values, beliefs, and attitudes.

Symbolic Interactionism Theory Smith & Bugni (2006) explain how family communication influences identity formation and social roles. Key variables include:

1. Identity and Social Roles
2. Identity Verification
3. Salience of Identity
4. Emotion and Character Development
5. Commitment to Family Values
6. Social Environment Influence

Systematic literature analysis highlights recurring themes in studies on family communication, symbolic interaction, and adult character formation. Key findings include the significant role of effective family communication in developing responsible and socially adaptable individuals. The analysis also emphasizes the importance of longitudinal studies in understanding how family communication patterns shape long-term character development. One of the key findings from the literature review is that families with high levels of conversation orientation tend to produce individuals with stronger emotional intelligence and better problem solving skills. Research indicates that individuals who grew up in households where open dialogue was encouraged are more likely to demonstrate adaptability in professional and social environments. They develop a sense of confidence in expressing their opinions, resolving conflicts constructively, and understanding diverse perspectives, which are essential skills in adulthood.



to text-based communication has implications for emotional expression, as nuances in tone and body language are often lost in digital exchanges.

Another important aspect discussed in the literature is the correlation between early family communication experiences and conflict resolution strategies in adulthood. Individuals who grew up in environments where disagreements were managed through respectful discussions tend to employ collaborative approaches in their professional and personal lives. In contrast, those exposed to hostile or avoidant communication styles at home may struggle with managing workplace conflicts effectively, leading to potential issues in career advancement and relationship stability.

Furthermore, several studies emphasize the significance of parental modeling in shaping an individual's ethical framework. Children who observe honest, transparent, and respectful communication between their parents are more likely to internalize these values and apply them in their interactions as adults. This underscores the long term impact of family communication patterns on moral development and integrity in professional and social contexts.

The findings collectively suggest that fostering a balanced family communication pattern where open dialogue is encouraged while maintaining respect for family values can significantly contribute to the formation of well rounded, adaptable, and socially competent adults. Future research could further explore the intersection of evolving communication technologies and their influence on family dynamics to better understand the changing landscape of family communication in the digital age. In studies on family communication, symbolic interaction, and adult character formation. Key findings include the significant role of effective family communication in developing responsible and socially adaptable individuals. The analysis also emphasizes the importance of longitudinal studies in understanding how family communication patterns shape long term character development. To better illustrate the findings, figures and visualizations such as bibliometric network diagrams and conceptual models can be inserted in this section. Graphs and charts depicting the relationship between family communication patterns and adult character traits will provide a clearer representation of the study's results.

4. CONCLUSION

This study confirms that family communication patterns significantly influence adult character formation. Effective communication marked by openness, trust, and emotional support contributes to positive character development. Bibliometric analysis highlights critical terms such as "quality," "conversation," "father," "functional family," and "effective," indicating that quality communication, open discussion, and strong parental roles positively impact character formation.

The findings suggest that conversation-oriented families cultivate individuals who are more confident, socially adaptable, and capable of managing conflicts in both personal and professional settings. These individuals tend to develop a greater sense of responsibility, integrity, and empathy, which are essential traits in workplace environments and broader social interactions. Conversely, families with high conformity orientation may produce individuals who struggle with self expression, decision making, and adaptability in dynamic social environments.

Additionally, the long-term impact of family communication extends beyond childhood and adolescence, influencing career choices, leadership skills, and even relationship dynamics in adulthood. Adults who experienced positive family communication patterns during their



formative years tend to demonstrate higher levels of emotional intelligence, ethical decision-making, and resilience when faced with challenges. On the other hand, those exposed to ineffective communication strategies may face difficulties in conflict resolution, emotional regulation, and professional growth.

The integration of bibliometric analysis within this study also reveals significant research trends and theoretical frameworks that highlight the importance of understanding family communication patterns in shaping adult character. By analyzing existing studies, this research provides a structured approach to understanding how communication dynamics within the family influence identity formation and long-term behavioral outcomes. These findings underscore the need for further empirical studies that incorporate diverse cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds to gain a more comprehensive understanding of these interactions.

In conclusion, fostering a balanced family communication pattern that encourages open dialogue while maintaining respect for family values is essential in shaping well-rounded individuals. Future research could further explore the impact of digital communication on family interactions, as technological advancements continue to reshape how families engage with one another. Additionally, educational programs and parental training initiatives should emphasize the importance of effective communication strategies to ensure that future generations develop the necessary skills to navigate social and professional challenges successfully.

By improving communication quality within families, societies can cultivate individuals who are not only emotionally and socially competent but also resilient and adaptable in an ever evolving world. The role of family as the primary agent of socialization remains a crucial factor in building strong, ethical, and responsible individuals who contribute positively to their communities and professional environments.. Effective communication marked by openness, trust, and emotional support contributes to positive character development. Bibliometric analysis highlights critical terms such as "quality," "conversation," "father," "functional family," and "effective," indicating that quality communication, open discussion, and strong parental roles positively impact character formation.

The study underscores the importance of Conversation Orientation in Family Communication Patterns Theory. Families that encourage open dialogue foster self confidence, social skills, and resilience, while negative communication patterns hinder healthy character development. Overall, this research highlights the necessity of improving family communication quality, encouraging parental involvement, and creating a supportive family environment to nurture positive character development in individuals.

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