

**THE ROLE OF PARENTS IN IMPROVING SPIRITUAL INTELLIGENCE
EARLY CHILDHOOD 5-6 YEARS OLD IN RA NURUL HUDA HAMLET
OROPLOSO SUMBERGLAGAH VILLAGE KEC. REMBANG KAB. PASURUAN**

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to find out how the roles and steps of parents in improving children's spiritual intelligence and what factors are supporting in increasing children's spiritual intelligence. This study uses the qualitative method. The results of this study indicate that in an effort to improve children's spiritual intelligence, parents are the main role. Both his role as an educator, as a role model, as a motivator and as a giver of love. Because in the process there are many obstacles and factors that affect children's spiritual intelligence.

Keywords : spiritual intelligence, child, early age

Abstrak

Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui bagaimana peran dan langkah orang tua dalam meningkatkan kecerdasan spiritual anak serta faktor apa saja yang menjadi pendukung dalam meningkatkan kecerdasan spiritual anak. Metode penelitian dalam artikel ini, penulis menggunakan metode kualitatif. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa dalam upaya meningkatkan kecerdasan spiritual anak, maka orang tua lah yang menjadi peran utama. Baik perannya sebagai pendidik, sebagai tauladan, sebagai pemberi motivasi dan sebagai pemberi kasih sayang. Karena dalam prosesnya banyak hambatan dan faktor-faktor yang mempengaruhi kecerdasan spiritual anak.

Kata Kunci : kecerdasan spiritual, anak, usia dini

INTRODUCTION

Man as the most perfect creature, given a gift by God with the existence of reason and intelligence so that man has the advantages of other creatures and can carry out his obligations as a kholifah on the face of the earth. In reality, humans have a variety of intelligences, but there are three intelligences that are very dominant among other intelligences. Namely intellectual intelligence (IQ), emotional intelligence (EQ),

and Spiritual intelligence (SQ) (Wink, Dillon, & Prettyman, 2007, pp. 321–335). Intellectual intelligence is a minimum requirement in the competency process, especially in the field of science. But in achieving success, emotional intelligence and spiritual intelligence take precedence. These three intelligences have become human fitness since birth only in their different development. Some are developing very rapidly there are also those that develop moderately or even slowly, in accordance with the ability of each individual and the existence of supporting factors, both internal and external. So that each individual has the same opportunity to develop these intelligences well in accordance with the abilities of each individual.

Speaking of intelligence, surely every parent has the same desire to make their child an intelligent person. Because an intelligent child is more qualified than other children and a qualified child is the desire of every mother. But in fact there is still a mistaken assumption about the barometer of quality children. It has even been embedded in society in general that a child will be said to be qualified if the child has good exact value, and vice versa. So not a few parents who feel anxious if their children are not good at mathematics, physics, or other lessons. Whereas in fact intelligence is not only intellectual intelligence, but there are many other intelligences that can still be used as opportunities for parents to develop it. For example, such as spiritual intelligence and emotional intelligence.

From ancient times to the present, people with high IQ are so admired. But after a long time it became a justification of one's success, slowly but clearly that not everyone with a high IQ can achieve success. An intellectually intelligent person is not necessarily he also has spiritual intelligence. As for a spiritually intelligent person, he will find an eternal success until the end of his life. Therefore, children's spiritual intelligence must be honed and trained early because early age is a golden age for children, namely from the age of 0 to 6 years. It is at this age that all aspects of intelligence development grow and develop tremendously. It is during this time that brain cells develop by making connections between cells (Rakhmawati, 2015, pp. 40–57). This period will not repeat itself, so it is desirable for parents to make good use of this 0-6 year phase for the sake of the child's future because it is in the hands of parents that the child's future is in.

Educating spiritual intelligence is not as easy as educating IQ. Because spiritual

intelligence must go through practice and habituation and extensive experience for the person who educates it. Goleman (1996) said that intellectual intelligence accounts for only about 20 percent of the factors that lead to accentuation in a person's life, while 80 percent of factors are decided by other types of intelligence, such as emotional intelligence and spiritual intelligence (Hanafi, 2010, pp. 29–40). So that the child who has trained his spiritual intelligence will be wiser to his friends and have a higher sense of compassion (Vaughan, F., n.d., pp. 16–33). This will become a habit and eventually the child will have spiritual maturity until his old age.

In improving the child's spiritual intelligence, the proficiency of parents in educating children is very influential, because parents who have intelligence in parenting, will be able to create something less meaningful for some others into something that means a lot to the child. For example, with music, parents can instill spiritual values in children (Amini, 2015, pp. 9–20). Such as listening to Islamic songs, humming religion, or introducing the attributes of Allah to children through music. Even this needs to be accustomed when the child is still in the mother's womb. Because by listening to music, the child's brain can develop rapidly (Scott-Kassner, 2018, pp. 19–25). And as a parent must be able to determine a good way to reach children through music. So that music can be played comfortably to the child.

In addition to using music, children's spiritual intelligence can also be improved through the environment (Schein, 2014, pp. 78–101). The environment has a very important role in the spiritual development of children. The environment can help to foster optimal well-being and social bonding. Because when children are introduced to nature such as plants, animals, the atmosphere in the mountains, the atmosphere at sea will raise some questions in the child. So that the curiosity of children is great. While this spiritual intelligence is formed by the presence of high curiosity.

From the description above can be taken a conclusion that in improving the spiritual intelligence of early childhood there are many ways that can be done by parents. This is where the role of parents is needed. So parents must know their role as the first caregiver for children. The hypothesis in this article is that parents who can understand their role as the first caregiver for children can facilitate the process of achieving the child's maximum spiritual intelligence. Therefore, in this article the author intends to explain about what are the roles of parents and what steps should be taken by parents in an effort to improve the spiritual intelligence of early childhood.

SPIRITUAL INTELLIGENCE

By the end of the 20th century, a third intelligence was discovered that was popularised by married couple Danah Zohar and Ian Marshall. They both interpret spiritual intelligence as intelligence in solving life's problems, so that a person is able to read the meaning implied in an existing problem and in the end the person has the belief that one's actions or way of life are more meaningful than the other (Zohar & Marshal, 2004, p.120–121). Spiritual intelligence is different from religiosity. Religiosity is a religious behavior and a belief in religious values that can be seen not only his obedience in carrying out worship ritually, but also by the beliefs, experiences, and knowledge of the religion he embraced (Djamaluddin Ancok & Soroso, 2005, p. 26). Whereas according to Wilcox spiritual intelligence is a belief in divine power and is a way of life in feeling love and trust in God. Spiritual intelligence is a source of motivation that has almighty power, and is the foundation needed to function intelligence quotient (IQ) and emotional intelligence (EI) effectively even spiritual intelligence (SQ) is the highest intelligence of man. In Islam it has been explained that every individual born is in a fitroh state. Children are born with high spiritual intelligence (Eifiah, 2014, p. 95–103). However, family and environmental factors can cause them to lose their spiritual potential. So for educators both teachers and parents are expected to be able to develop children's spiritual intelligence, especially at the age of 0 to 6 years, because this phase is the determinant for the next phase. Practicing the child's spiritual intelligence should begin as early as possible before

entering adolescence. Because when the age of the child is approximately under 9 years old, the brain is rapidly developing to make room for things that are emotional (Pasiak, 2007, p.15). Goden age is the most appropriate time to improve children's intelligence, especially spiritual intelligence. Maria Montesori states that childhood is a sensitive period characterized by a state in which children have the sensitivity to develop, so education must immediately provide useful direction or stimulation for children (Saripudin, 2017, p.13).

Factors Affecting a Child's Spiritual Intelligence

There are several factors that can affect a child's intelligence, but according to Irwanto there are two most important factors that affect intelligence, namely innate factors and environmental factors (Irwanto, 1991, p.168). Innate factors in intelligence can be influenced by the quality of parental intelligence as well as conditions when fetal formation in the womb, nutrition during growth, and intellectual stimulation that provide experience resources (Experiential Resources) for children such as education, exercises and skills provided by parents. Thus it can be said that the child's personal development is the result of a combination of interactions between heredity and social environmental factors. Similarly, the development of a child's spiritual intelligence can also be influenced by various factors. But in various studies can be concluded there are several important factors that are very influential in the development of children, namely: the Family Environment and the community environment. The family environment is the environment in which the child develops and adapts. So that what the child gets in the family, will shape his person. Therefore, it is very different between children raised in harmonious families and children born in families that are less or not harmonious.

According to Stinnet & Defrain, the characteristics of harmonious families are as follows: (Balson, 1993, p. 39). Having a good religious life in the family, having a high sense of community between family members, having good communication between family members, being open and intimate between family members, respecting each other among family members, each family member has a strong attachment as a group, if problems occur in the family can

be resolved effectively and constructively. While the family that is not harmonious according to Rutter is characterized as follows: the existence of death between one parent, secondly. Parents experience divorce, the relationship between the two parents is not harmonious and there are often conflicts, there are often tensions in the household, parents are busy and rarely at home. Families who pay attention to the development of children's personality from an early age will equip children with moral intelligence, so that children will have a sense of empathy, mutual respect, there is a high sense of justice and tolerance towards others (Notosrijoedono, 2015, pp. 132–146).

Practicing a child's spiritual intelligence requires tenacity from parents, especially a mother. Because it must be accustomed since it is still a toddler even since the child is still in the womb. Therefore, harmony in the family strongly supports the process of fostering spiritual intelligence. How can it be possible to train children well, if in a family there are still frequent disputes, conflicts or lack of communication between families. Precisely what the child will get is only noise and stiffness that will have an impact on the child's psychology (psyche). So, it will be seen a far difference between the child who is cared for in a harmonious family and the child is fostered in a family that is less or not harmonious.

Another factor that greatly affects the improvement of children's spiritual intelligence is the community environment (Puspitasari, Dwi Hastuti, & Herawati, 2015, pp. 1–14). For example, there is a child who often makes friends with children who like to disturb their friends. This is definitely a bad environment for children. Because gradually the act will permeate the child's soul and it is likely that the child will imitate these negative things because the child's learning process from his environment is to imitate what he has seen. For this reason, parents are expected to choose a place to live in a community environment that is clean from actions that violate moral and spiritual values. And even if this is not possible then parents should as often as possible control the child's actions and give good advice or direction for the child. So that the child is not easily affected by the surrounding environment.

The Role of Parents in Improving Children's Spiritual Intelligence

In an effort to understand the mental and foster the child's physical life, social development, emotional and spiritual intelligence, parents are required to have knowledge about it. This is related to the parenting patterns towards children. Because parenting patterns are one of the factors that have a significant influence on the growth and development of children's spiritual intelligence (Javdan Moosa & Ali, 2011, pp. 24–27). So this is where parents have an important role and are very influential on the spiritual intelligence of children. Because since the child is born who is first known is both parents as caregivers and the first educator for children (Darajat, 1996, p.30–33). According to Suharsono, parents have a responsibility and duty to provide education to develop basic human potentials possessed by children. Because the potential possessed by children cannot develop optimally when parents do not pay optimal attention, so as to develop the potential possessed by children, especially intellectual intelligence, emotional intelligence and social intelligence initially in the hands of parents (Suharsono, 2002, p. 101). So this is where the role of parents is needed, either as a good role model, as a child educator, as a motivational giver, or as an advocate.

Parents as role models, have a very important role for children that must be able to set a good example for their children, both from actions and words. Because in essence every child has a plain and clear heart. So that they will imitate what is in the surrounding environment. Good things or bad things. Therefore, the first environment that plays an important role in maintaining the existence of children is the family environment (Fitria, 2016, pp. 99–115). When the heart is clean and clear, if the child is accustomed to good things, it will grow into a good person. And vice versa if children are accustomed to bad deeds then they will grow up to be children of bad personality. So the example of parents is very important in the formation of the child's personality. Because transparency is a very effective method for children as well as the example done by the Prophet for his companions. Likewise with the child's spiritual intelligence, if from an early age the child has been accustomed to be grateful for God's favor for example, then gratitude will always be embedded in the child until the child grows up.

Parents as educators, in this case parents are one of the parties responsible for the development of children's education. Parents in carrying out their role as educators, need to constantly guide, motivate and facilitate children for the achievement of a good child's education. Parents are certain authority holders in family institutions in which they serve as caregivers, mentors and educators for children. However, not all parents can understand this. Sometimes there are parents who feel they have lost their responsibility by sending children to a certain institution. In fact, educating children is an obligation that must be done by every parent. Parents should pay attention to their children's education in addition to the attention and guidance of teachers in school. Her nature as a parent is not only to give birth and raise children but to guide and direct her children so that they can understand the meaning of life with all its problems. Education for early childhood is a very important stage of education, because it is in this early life span that the foundation of a human life is built. Therefore, efforts are needed from parents to facilitate children in their growth and development in the form of activities containing education (Anis Fauzi & Subihat, 2016, p. 23–37). For example, educating children to always care for the weak, getting used to sharing with others, etc. It is based that every human being before God is the same. So that the child can know his nature as a creature of God who has the same position before Him. Parents as motivators, giving motivation in improving children's spiritual intelligence is very closely related to future optimism in each individual. According to some experts, people who achieve success in adulthood, not necessarily by achieving success, but in general they already have provisions in their childhood. For example, since childhood she has had spiritual traits, such as courage, optimism, constructive actions, even vigilance in the face of danger and difficulties (Amelia, Veny Elita, & DewiYulia, 2015, pp. 971–979). All of them are the hard work of parents who have managed to instill these traits in children since childhood. Therefore, parents as motivational givers should always provide views that lead to the future of the child so that children are motivated to do things that have spiritual values. Likewise, in improving the child's spiritual intelligence, the motivation of parents is needed because without motivation from parents, the child's spiritual intelligence will not develop properly due to the lack of maximum support from parents. In improving the child's spiritual intelligence,

parents can motivate him by giving gifts or taking him for a walk, or even just by giving him an award in the form of a sincere kiss or hug for the child if the child can do things that contain spiritual values such as children can already pray, read prayers before and after activities, etc.

Parents as givers of affection, in a fitri child requires affection from parents. The tendency towards affection is an instinct (Puspitasari et al., 2015, pp. 208–218). A child who is raised with the affection of both parents, will have the nature of affection for others. As Dorothy Law Nolte once said, "If a child is raised with reproach, he learns to curse. If the child is raised with hostility, he learns by fighting. If the child is raised with scorn, he learns inferiority. If the child is raised with contempt, he learns to regret himself. If the child is raised with tolerance, he learns to hold back. If the child is raised with encouragement, he learns to be confident. If the child is raised with praise, he learns to appreciate. If the child is raised with the best treatment, he learns justice. If the child is raised with a sense of security, he learns to put trust. If the child is raised with dukuingan, he learns to enjoy himself. If the child is raised with affection and friendship, he learns to find love in life" (Djamarah, 2004, p. 25). Therefore, the child's need for parental affection is the same as other material physical needs. For example, every child needs food when he is hungry, children need to drink when thirsty, and need protection when cold or hot. So the spiritual intelligence instilled in children with the care of affection will be much more effective than instilled with the rules that bind to the process of fostering spiritual awareness of children. Although at certain times these rules are also needed for children. So that the provision of affection from parents can have a tremendous influence on the formation of children's personality as adults.

Steps in Improving a Child's Spiritual Intelligence

The first is to stimulate the child's spiritual intelligence. Stimulation of spiritual intelligence in early childhood can be done in various ways, so that parents can adjust or choose a way that suits the characteristics of the child. As parents should understand that children in their learning still use the approach of learning while playing (Holis, 2016, pp. 23–37). So that in knowing, feeling, and doing values, children still need fun

ways. Because in learning the value of children still use their imagination (Hidayah, n.d., pp. 85–108). Among the methods that parents can use in instilling spiritual values for children include by telling stories, role-playing or by listening to Islamic music.

Because these three methods are suitable methods used to stimulate spiritual intelligence and are easily understood and understood by children (Nuryanto, 2017, p. 23–37).

The provision of stimulus can be accustomed since the baby is still in the womb. For example since it is still in the child's mother is often heard chanting the holy verses of the Qur'an. This can affect the baby's brain after birth. Because by the time the baby was born, his brain was about 350 grams, and by the time the baby was eighteen months old his brain's physical condition had reached 50 percent of the physical size of an adult. By the age of six, the physical brain reaches about 90 percent of the size of an adult's brain. And also keep in mind that 50 percent of human learning ability develops in the first four years (Aisyah, Fitriyani, & Suparni, 2017, pp. 616–621). Therefore habituation carried out by parents when the baby is in the womb will always be recorded on the baby's brain if it is maintained until the toddler period. Stimulating (stimulating) children can also be done by teaching children Islamic songs about the name of god, prophet, book, and religion. Although the child does not understand what he is singing, but sometimes these songs are usually sung when he plays and eventually they will understand by themselves.

The second is to develop the spiritual intelligence of the child. According to Imas Kurniasih, it is recommended to parents and teachers to be able to develop children's spiritual intelligence with the following tips (Kurniasih, 2010, p. 44–47): we as educators (parents / teachers) should be spiritual examples for children, accustoming children to know the purpose of an activity, accustoming children to study scripture together and explaining its meaning in relation to daily life, accustoming children to listen to stories of great stories of spiritual figures, accustoming children to engage in ritual activities. Accustoming children to engage in religious ritual activities, accustoming children to listen to poems or songs that are spiritual and inspirational, invite children to enjoy the beauty of nature, invite children to places of people who suffer so that he is trained to have

a high empathy attitude, including children in social activities. With these tricks, the child will feel a new experience in his life. So that the child does not feel saturated in navigating this mortal life.

The third evaluates the spiritual intelligence that exists in the child. The next stage after the child already knows various kinds of actions or words that contain spiritual values, then as a parent can know the level of spiritual intelligence of the child by evaluating. This can be done by paying attention to the child's behavior in everyday life. If the child can apply it well to the surrounding environment, then parents can give appreciation to the success that has been done by the child. However, if a parent finds a child doing something that violates moral and spiritual values, then parents can advise him or give him the right example of it. Thus the child will be well directed without annoyance in the child. So that the child will feel the kindness that has been given by parents because having a good parent and understanding the child's feelings is the hope of every child, but not all children can have it. Therefore, the spiritual intelligence of parents also has a significant influence on the spiritual intelligence of children. (Muhyidin, 2007, p. 37–38).

METHODS

The writing of this article uses a qualitative approach by applying library research methods. The object of research in this study is the elderly. In addition, there are also articles taken from journals. As for answering problems, the analysis technique used is the content analysis technique. In this study, researchers sought to explain why a child's spiritual intelligence should be improved and how parents play a role in it. The goal is to give an idea that to achieve spiritual intelligence is not an easy thing, but must be started as early as possible even when the child is still in the womb. In educating children's spiritual intelligence, it is also very necessary for sacrifice and sincerity from parents as a supporting factor for the creation of children who have high spirituality.

RESULTS DAN DISCUSION

Spiritual intelligence is a belief in divine power and is the way of human life in order to be able to feel love and trust in God (Wilcox, 2012, p. 331). With high

spirituality, a person will not feel disappointment when and wherever he is. Because of the high sense of love and trust in God that what has befallen him is the qodrat of the Divine. So that no matter how bad the situation has been experienced, it is not a barrier to keep expecting his pleasure. So that spiritual intelligence is the culmination of all intelligence that exists in humans. As for the effort in improving spiritual intelligence, children require habituation and intenuation from the authorities. In this case the family is the first institution for children in an effort to increase high spiritual intelligence. Therefore, to educate the spiritual intelligence of children is needed there is a harmonious relationship in the family, because family harmony is one of the keys for parents to improve the child's spiritual intelligence because in a harmonious family this is good communication between the child and the family is established. So that parents can maximize their duties comfortably for example by getting used to children to pray in congregations with all family members, introducing concepts of divinity by inviting prayer before and after doing activities and so on. So slowly the child can be given the understanding that everything we do is solely the help of the Kholik. So that slowly children can have the concept of divinity, even if only at the basic level / beginner.

Parents as the first caregiver for the child have some very meaningful roles for the growth and development of the child. The first is that parents act as role models as the Prophet explained that transparency means more than speech. Parents must have a strong commitment to what has been said to their children. So that the speech is in accordance with the application of parents in the form of behavior in their daily lives. Both parents are the first educators for children who have full responsibility to provide a good education in an effort to improve the child's spiritual intelligence. For example, providing education about divinity, about the difference between good and bad things and punishments for the perpetrators and so on even though they are still at the basic level. The three parents as motivational givers who play a role in always motivating children to always do things that can make themselves loved by God. The fourth acts as an affectionate giver for children so that in educating and nurturing children do not feel afraid and will always be open to parents. So that makes himself a child who has an honest nature to everyone. Because it is accustomed and embedded in the family about the meaning of honesty. After

parents know their role as the first caregiver for children, there are several steps that can be done to improve the child's spiritual intelligence, starting from stimulating, developing and evaluating the spiritual intelligence possessed by the child. These three steps should be started as early as possible before the child enters adulthood. Because educating children in this golden age is much more meaningful than educating children after adulthood, and must be started first in the family environment because the family is seen as an institution (institution) that can meet the needs of children (Yusuf, 2011, p. 37).

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Based on the explanation above, it can be concluded that in an effort to improve early childhood intelligence, parents have a very important role, namely parents as tauladan, parents as educators and parents as motivational givers, and parents as givers of affection for children. As for the steps to improve the child's spiritual intelligence there are 4, namely: stimulating the child's spiritual intelligence, developing and evaluating the spiritual intelligence that has been possessed by the child. But as a parent must also pay attention to things that can affect the child's spiritual intelligence both in the family and in the surrounding community (play environment) so that the child's spiritual intelligence can be trained perfectly. In this study, the author really hopes to readers, especially for parents, that children's spiritual intelligence is trained and developed early because early age (0-6 years) is a golden age phase that can determine the next phases. The author also hopes that parents prioritize children's spiritual intelligence over other intelligences. Because spiritual intelligence is the key to a person's success both in the world and in the future. So that if these two hopes can be fulfilled, then the future of the nation will be guaranteed because the future of the nation is in the hands of youth. And if Indonesian youth have a high supply of spiritual intelligence, then this nation will become *baladun toyyibatun warobbunghafur*.

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