



THE ROLE OF THE FAMILY ENVIRONMENT IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT AT AL IZZAH KINDEGARTEN, PURI DISTRICT, MOJOKERTO REGENCY

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ABSTRACT	Keywords
The kindergarten years represent the "golden period" of early childhood, during which children experience rapid growth and development. Child development provides a critical foundation for future health and the quality of human resources. The family serves as the primary environment for a child's growth and development and plays a pivotal role in shaping the child's character. Families are primarily responsible for meeting children's basic needs, including developmental stimulation, care, and affection, all of which directly influence their physical, cognitive, language, social, and emotional development. However, many families still lack a comprehensive understanding of their role in providing optimal developmental stimulation, which may result in developmental delays that remain undetected during the early stages. This issue is particularly important in the context of community midwifery and maternal and child health services. This study aimed to analyze the relationship between the family environment and child development at Al Izzah Kindergarten, Mojokerto. A quantitative correlational research design was employed. The intended outputs of this study include an ISBN-registered book and a research article published in a SINTA-indexed journal. The findings showed that the majority of children experienced a positive family environment. Furthermore, the results of the Pre-Screening Questionnaire for Child Development (KPSP) indicated that almost all children demonstrated age-appropriate development. Data were analyzed using Fisher's Exact test. The statistical analysis revealed a significant relationship between the family environment and child development ($p = 0.001$, $p < 0.05$). The study concludes that the family environment plays a significant role in supporting child development at Al Izzah Kindergarten, Mojokerto. Therefore, families should provide age-appropriate developmental stimulation to promote optimal child development.	Roles, Family Environmen t, Developmen t, Children

INTRODUCTION

Early childhood development is a critical phase in the human life cycle, as it is characterized by rapid growth and development in the physical, cognitive, language, socio-emotional, and moral domains. Kindergarten (TK) children are in the *golden age* of development, a period that requires optimal stimulation to ensure that their developmental potential can be fully achieved (Haryanti, Rejeki, & Badi'ah, 2024).

The family environment is the first and primary environment experienced by children. Families serve as children's earliest educators by providing care, affection, moral values, and developmental stimulation through daily interactions. Parenting practices, the quality of communication, the emotional climate within the family, and support for children's learning activities all play significant roles in children's growth and development during the kindergarten years. The *golden age* is a crucial period that greatly influences children's future development. As children grow older, simultaneous changes occur across all developmental domains, making growth and development fundamental aspects of a child's life (Haryanti & Tejaningrum, 2020).

Growth and developmental problems during the toddler years remain one of the most critical public health challenges, as this period represents the *golden period* for brain and physical development. According to sectoral data from Satu Data Palapa of Mojokerto Regency, integrated upstream-to-downstream health interventions have successfully reduced the stunting prevalence to 15.3%. Although the stunting prevalence curve demonstrates a positive downward trend, the region continues to face a substantial burden of acute malnutrition, as reflected in children's body weight status. A total of 427 toddlers were classified as severely underweight, while 1,494 toddlers were categorized as underweight.

In Puri District, 22 toddlers have been identified as the group most vulnerable to delays in cognitive, motor, and language development due to chronic nutritional

deficiencies. Inadequate intake of both macronutrients and micronutrients directly contributes to impaired linear growth and neurocognitive development. This condition constitutes the primary pathophysiological mechanism, or root cause, underlying the increased risk of multidimensional functional developmental delays in children.

The family environment plays a dominant role in determining the quality of children's development. Therefore, it is important to conduct research examining the role of the family environment in the development of kindergarten children in order to obtain a clear understanding of the family's contribution to supporting optimal child growth and development.

Based on the background presented above, the researchers are interested in conducting further research entitled "The Role of the Family Environment in the Development of Children at Al Izzah Kindergarten, Mojokerto."

METHODS

This study employed a quantitative research approach using a correlational research design. Quantitative data were

No.	Role of the Family Environment	Child Development				Total	
		Appropriate		Questionable			
		F	%	F	%	F	%
1	Good	7	70,8	3	2,7	8	73,1
2	Fair	2	23,6	3	2,7	2	26,9
	Total	1	94,0	6	5,4	1	10,0

analyzed using statistical techniques, specifically the Pearson Product-Moment correlation. The study population consisted of all kindergarten children and their parents or guardians at Al Izzah Kindergarten, Mojokerto, during the 2025–2026 academic year, totaling 110 participants.

The independent variable in this study was the role of the family environment, while the dependent variable was child development, including gross motor, fine motor, language, and socio-emotional development.

RESULTS

1. Respondent Characteristics

The results showed that the majority of respondents were 19–35 years old (67 respondents; 61%). Most mothers had completed senior high school education (57 respondents; 52%). The questionnaires were predominantly completed by mothers (98 respondents; 89%). Regarding occupation, the majority of respondents were housewives (59 respondents; 54%).

2. Analysis of the Relationship Between the Role of the Family Environment and Child Development at Al Izzah Kindergarten, Mojokerto

Source: SPSS data analysis results

The statistical analysis using Fisher's Exact Test yielded a p-value of 0.001 ($p < 0.05$), indicating a statistically significant relationship between the role of the family environment and child development at Al Izzah Kindergarten, Mojokerto.

DISCUSSION

The findings of this study highlight the importance of the active involvement of parents, healthcare professionals, and educators in stimulating children's development according to their developmental stage. The preschool years represent a critical period for brain development, during which appropriate stimulation has a substantial influence on cognitive, motor, language, and socio-emotional development. A lack of consistent stimulation may hinder children's developmental potential from being fully achieved. Therefore, the active role of the family environment is a key determinant of children's overall developmental outcomes.

The findings indicate a significant relationship between the role of the family environment and child development at Al Izzah Kindergarten, Mojokerto. Statistical analysis using Fisher's Exact Test yielded a p-value of 0.001 ($p < 0.05$), indicating a statistically significant association between the role of the family environment and the development of children at Al Izzah Kindergarten, Mojokerto.

CONCLUSION

1. The majority of children who experienced a supportive family environment demonstrated age-appropriate developmental outcomes. A total of 104 children had development appropriate for their age, while 6 children exhibited questionable developmental outcomes.
2. A statistically significant relationship was found between the role of the family environment and child development at Al Izzah Kindergarten, Mojokerto. Therefore, the alternative hypothesis (H_a) was accepted.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 For Respondents (Parents): Enhance parents' understanding of the importance of the family environment in supporting children's development.
- 2 For Healthcare Professionals: Provide counseling and education to families regarding the role of the family environment to facilitate the early detection of developmental delays.
- 3 For Early Childhood Education Institutions (Kindergartens): Use these findings as a basis for evaluating and designing balanced learning activities that comprehensively support children's overall development.

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