The Role of Parents in Guiding Children in the Implementation of Online Learning During the Covid-19 Pandemic at Vocational School

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Abstract
During the Covid-19 pandemic, learning is carried out online. This makes the duties and roles of parents grow extra because they have to be teachers as well as parents for their children. This study aims to describe the role of parents in guiding children in the implementation of online learning during the Covid-19 pandemic. This type of research is qualitative with a descriptive study method. The data collection was carried out through a process of observation, interviews, and documentation. Furthermore, the data were analyzed through reduction techniques, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. The data will be declared valid in this study, after going through a triangulation test. The results of this study indicate that the role of parents at home for their children in the implementation of online learning during the Covid-19 pandemic includes the role of educators, motivators (providing learning motivation for children), learning facilitators for children, and mentors for various children's needs in the educational process. Likewise, there are supporting and inhibiting factors for the role of parents, namely supporting factors including the availability of internet packages, adequate learning facilities, and learning supervision. While the inhibiting factors include busy time to earn a living, difficulty managing children's study time, children's playing activities outside the home. 

Keywords: Covid-19 Pandemic, Online Learning, the Role of Parents.


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INTRODUCTION

Education is urgent for every human being. This is based on various changes and developments that move rapidly along with technological sophistication, of course, necessitating the realization of high-quality education (Assingkilly & Rangkuti, 2020; Suciartini, 2017: 12-22). The role of education in this context is seen as very important in increasing the ability and competitiveness of a nation. This is because the key to the success and progress of a nation lies in the quality of education that can form superior human resources (Fatawi, 2015: 267-280).

Education as a process of forming superior human resources contains guidance and direction to students in the form of positive changes. In this context, the change in question is in the form of a continuous maturation process to mentally mature children into adulthood (Bali & Hajriyah, 2020: 42-62). In line with this, Makhmudah (2018: 269-286) states that the role of the family (especially parents) is very important as the foundation of education for children, followed by the formal education environment and society.

Likewise, education which is usually carried out face-to-face in the classroom must be replaced with an online learning system since the Covid-19 pandemic status was established (Rosyidiana, 2021: 1709-1716). Almost all countries in the world have been affected by the spread of the virus outbreak, including Indonesia. Based on this phenomenon, the country had set a lockdown status to stop the spread of this very dangerous virus. As a result, various aspects of life have become unstable, one of which is the field of education, where many schools close and carry out learning from home (online) (Fitriya, et.al., 2021: 182-188).

As of March 11 (the initial period for determining the status of a pandemic), the government issued a policy in the form of a Circular (SE) of the Ministry of Education and Culture Number 4 of 2020 as a basic reference for determining learning from home rules for students (schools/colleges) and working from home (work from home) for teachers/lecturers. In more detail, Basa & Hudaidah (2021: 943-950) outline the essence of the policy, namely (1) online learning provides meaningful experiences for students without being burdened with curriculum demands for grade promotion or graduation, (2) learning is focused on developing participants' soft skills. students, (3) online learning requires lecturers/teachers to be creative and innovative in various ways, and (4) appreciation of student learning products in the form of qualitative assessment aspects, not only numerical values (quantitative).

The establishment of an online learning policy has a significant impact on schools, students, and the community, including the Yapim Siak Hulu Private Vocational School. Where the school is categorized as a school located in an area with red zone status. This is further strengthened by the establishment of a large-scale social restriction (PSBB) policy in accordance with PP No. 21 of 2020. In addition, the Governor of Riau's Circular Letter No. 800/Disdik/1.3/2020/5041 concerning Education Service Delivery in the Framework of Prevention of Covid-19 Transmission is added.

According to Santika (2020: 127-137), online learning carried out in the era of the Covid-19 pandemic has an impact on the process of providing education. In more detail, Inten (2017) describes the impact in two broad lines, namely the first the impact felt by the parents of the students, and the second the long-term impact on people's lives. As for what is meant by the impact on parents in this context, namely changes in the habits of parents as educators while meeting the economic needs of the family, as well as the weakness of parents in guiding children to study at home. Meanwhile, the long-term impact is intended to discuss concerns about gaps and inequalities in society due to the limited process of providing education.

Referring to the opinion above, the role of parents is very central in guiding children to learn in the era of the Covid-19 pandemic. In this regard, WHO has released various guidelines, tips, and tricks for parents in accompanying children to study in the Covid-19 pandemic era in the form of parenting procedures to be more positive and constructive for children during activities at home. This shows how parents must “re-learn” parenting in situations and mass emergencies like this.
Indeed, research relevant to this theme has been widely studied. These include discussing aspects of the effectiveness of online learning (Susanti, et.al., 2020: 126), parental readiness (Rizki, 2021; Sholikhah, 2021: 925-940; Lase, et.al., 2020: 85-98), challenges and solutions in online learning (Al Hakim, 2021), the role of parents in supporting children to learn online (Perantika, 2021: 101), strengthening the role of parents for children in online learning (Hadi, et.al., 2021), parental constraints during online learning (Mufaziah & Fauziah, 2020: 1045-1051; Zahra, et.al., 2021: 83-97), parental perceptions of online learning (Nurjannah, 2022: 1231-1240), and strategies parents in developing children's talents and creativity in the era of the Covid-19 pandemic (Huda & Munastiwi, 2020: 80-87).

Observing the literature review above, it can be interpreted that in general research on the role of parents in online learning was discussed by previous researchers around online learning policies, children's mentality in online learning, and the implications of online learning. Thus, other relevant studies are needed that can add to the scientific treasures as an effort to anticipate similar problems (problems) in the field of education in the future.

Based on the description above, it is understood that there is a gap in the study as a gap analysis on the theme of the role of parents from previous relevant research, namely from the aspect of the focus of guidance provided by parents to children during the Covid-19 pandemic. On this basis, the author focuses on studying this matter, which is summarized in the title, "The Role of Parents in Guiding Children in the Implementation of Online Learning During the Covid-19 Pandemic at the Yapim Siak Hulu Private Vocational School".

METHOD

This research is descriptive research with a qualitative approach. Qualitative descriptive research is used to examine the condition of natural objects (Assingkily, 2021). By using a qualitative approach, the purpose of this research is to find out and analyze how well the role of parents in guiding their children to carry out online learning in the Covid-19 atmosphere at the Yapim Siak Hulu Private Vocational School. This study consists of one variable, namely the role of parents in guiding their children to carry out online learning in a Covid-19 atmosphere at the Yapim Siak Hulu Private Vocational School, conceptually, the role of parents is a set of behaviors that are expected to be possessed by someone who is domiciled in society.

The subjects of this study amounted to 5 people who will be used as research information. The usefulness of this research information is to find out data and information about the role of parents in guiding their children to carry out online learning in a Covid-19 atmosphere at the Yapim Siak Hulu Private Vocational School. The determination of the research subject was based on the consideration that the informant could provide the data and information needed in the research.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Based on the discussion of the results of the research, the data analysis carried out found several findings in the field. The findings in the field regarding the role of parents are as follows:

The Role of Parents in Guiding Children in the Implementation of Online Learning

Based on findings in the field, the learning process at the Yapim Siak Hulu Private Vocational School has been carrying out online learning at home for almost a year. In the implementation of children's learning at home, parents have an important role in guiding their children. The role of parents is very necessary for realizing the success of their children's education (Pranata, et.al., 2021). In the Covid-19 pandemic, parents can act as teachers for their children, while teachers generally refer to professional educators with the main task of educating, teaching, guiding, directing, training, assessing, and evaluating students (Hikam, 2020: 194-203). The purpose of parents acting as teachers is an activity carried out by a person to assist others who are experiencing difficulties, so that person can cope on their own with full awareness.
The role of parents in guiding their children to carry out online learning also shows that children are raised with good things by instilling character education such as teaching discipline, independence, responsibility, and respect for older people (Achmad, 2020: 169-182). The role of parents is in the form of providing support, advice, and motivation to children. In interviews that have been conducted, they found a form of support given by parents by appreciating the learning achievements of children by giving gifts or by congratulating them.

The obligations or responsibilities of parents towards their children are not only limited to material things but also spiritual things such as education and religion (Purwasih, 2021: 281-289). The task of parents or the role of parents as educators of their children is to lay the foundation for education and outlook on life. The nature and character of children are partly taken from their parents and other family members.

Parental Communication in Guiding Children Implementing Online Learning

1. Role as Educator

The family is the first educator for children because it is from them that children begin to receive their first education. Parents, namely fathers and mothers, have an important and very influential role in the education of their children (Setiawan, 2021). Based on the results of data analysis, it was found that parents were able to provide answers when their children asked them questions and parents who gave new knowledge to their children. Parents participate in adding insight and knowledge during online learning, this is done to help do the tasks given by the teacher and find out how to teach children at home.

In this online learning, sometimes there are various problems faced by children such as subject matter that has not been completed by the teacher, then the teacher replaces it with another task, then the task is not understood by parents, this becomes a complaint about parents (Sutarjo & Kristiawan, 2021: 5078-5086). Many parents consider that learning at home can strengthen their relationship with their children, as well as their children, are considered to be able to do learning at home very well, so many parents who think creatively try various ways so that their children do not get bored while studying at home. Parents add insight and knowledge during distance learning. This is done by parents to help do the assignments given by the teacher and find information about how to teach children at home.

2. Role as A Pusher (Motivator)

Based on the results of the interview, it is explained that giving encouragement or motivation from parents to their children is an effort to create seriousness in learning. Children will succeed if parents always guide children in learning, or when children learn on their own, parents do not forget to monitor them. If the learning atmosphere at home has been created well, the children will be happy to learn. Giving motivation by parents is an effort to improve children's learning as well as a form of concern for children or a form of parental love and responsibility.

Based on the findings above, in online learning, parents provide encouragement or motivation to their children. Giving gifts to children is a form of parental concern, by giving gifts to children, allows children to be more enthusiastic about learning and children follow further learning well.

3. Role as Facilitator

Based on data presentation and data analysis, it was found that the role of parents as facilitators when online learning was carried out well. Parents reveal that they always try to meet the learning needs of their children. The learning needs in question are such as providing mobile phones, laptops, internet facilities, textbooks, and stationery. Therefore, the role of parents is very important in terms of facilitating children with smartphones that are connected to the internet network during this Covid-19 pandemic.

4. Role as an Advisor
Based on the presentation and analysis of the data, it was found that parents carried out tutoring at home. Parents always remind children to be responsible for themselves, by having to understand the material and do the tasks given by the teacher. Every parent also has their pattern and way of guiding their children. These patterns and methods are a description of the attitudes and behavior of parents and children in interacting and communicating during tutoring activities. The things that parents give in guiding children are giving attention, rules, discipline, rewards, and punishments, asking questions, and knowing children's activities (Rohita, 2020: 315-326). Then in carrying out child learning guidance at home, parents supervise children. In this supervision, the attitude of parents is to behave decisively and trigger their children to be more independent in doing everything including in terms of learning activities.

**Barriers to Parents in Guiding Children during Online Learning**

In the implementation of children's learning, sometimes the role of parents cannot run properly as it should. The following are the findings that hinder the role of parents at the Yapim Siak Hulu Private Vocational School in carrying out children's online learning during the Covid-19 pandemic as follows:

1. **Child's Condition**
   The majority of their children are very difficult to manage their time well, therefore parents need to invite and teach their children to be able to use their time well, such as making plans, setting priorities, being active productively, then parents need to supervise children's learning activities at home, whether the child has used his study time well or not. Parents can help their children develop a study schedule (Jannah & Umam, 2021: 95-115).

   Based on the observations made by the researchers, it is true that children who are starting to grow up often do activities outside the home such as gathering with their playmates or doing other activities. With such conditions, children also escape the supervision of their parents so some children experience a decrease in learning abilities that are less coupled with reduced learning time at school causing children to be less able to understand lessons.

2. **Parent's Condition**
   The obstacle that usually occurs when guiding children is that parents cannot explain in full or in detail about material that the child does not understand, due to the lack of limited knowledge. Next, if the internet quota runs out, parents can't buy it right away, so it's too late to see the assignments given by the teacher (Surani & Tabrani, 2021: 155-161).

   In the implementation of children's learning at home, parents play an important role. The role of parents is very important in realizing the success of their children's education. However, there are still many parents who are not aware of their role in supporting their children's education and leave it entirely to the school. As teachers for their children, parents must be able to guide their children while studying. Guiding children while studying is a form of parental attention to children (Astuti & Arif, 2021: 202-207).

   Initially, the spread of the coronavirus had a major impact on the world's economy, which began to sluggish, but now the impact is being felt by the world of education as well. The policies taken by many countries, including Indonesia, by canceling all educational activities, have forced the government and related institutions to present alternative educational processes for students and students who cannot carry out the educational process at educational institutions. With the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, teaching and learning activities that were originally carried out in schools are now learning at home online. Online learning
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is carried out according to the abilities of each school (Pujilestari, 2020: 49-56). Online learning can use digital technology such as google classroom, study house, zoom, video conferencing, telephone or live chat, and others. But what must be done is to give assignments through monitoring mentoring by teachers through WhatsApp groups so that students learn. Then the teachers also work from home in coordination with parents, either through video calls or photos of children's learning activities at home to ensure there is an interaction between teachers and parents.

The definition of parents referred to in this discussion is someone who has given birth and has responsibility for children, both their children and children obtained through adoption. days, parents due to adoption have the same responsibilities as actual parents, in various matters concerning all indicators of life both physically and mentally, parents, in this case, are husband and wife, are the main figures in the family, no one is more the main thing for their children apart from their parents, especially for eastern customs, parents are the main symbol of honor, so parents for children are the foundation of everything.

According to Winkel in Nurhasanah & Sobandi (2016: 128-135), interest is a tendency that is somewhat settled in an object to feel interested in a particular field or thing or feel happy working in that field. Interest is a feeling or tendency that exists within the individual to choose according to what is desired and liked. Interest is born because of several elements such as stimulants or motives, moods or feelings, attention, nature or individual physical conditions, and environmental conditions. Interest and attention to the lesson are needed by children so that children can understand the material provided and children can participate in learning activities well. The following is the child's statement regarding interest and attention to lessons during the Covid-19 pandemic at Yapim Siak Hulu Vocational School, Kampar Regency.

In carrying out children's learning at home, after observing the researchers, parents played a very important role. The role of parents is very important in realizing the success of their children's education. However, there are still many parents who are not aware of their role in supporting their children's education and leave it entirely to the school. As teachers for their children, parents must be able to guide their children while studying. Guiding children when learning is one form of parental attention to children. This is what can increase children's learning motivation.

In the implementation of online learning at the Yapim Siak Hulu Private Vocational School, Parents have a very important role in guiding their children. The role of parents in guiding children in distance learning is to provide learning facilities, provide motivation, supervise children's learning activities, and help overcome learning difficulties.

First, providing learning facilities. Parents have provided learning facilities, such as mobile phones, internet quota, textbooks, and stationery. With learning facilities provided by parents, the learning process can run smoothly so that children can well receive learning from the teacher. According to Assingkily & Hardiyati (2019: 19-31), facilities are everything that makes it easier for children. Learning facilities that support the learning process will run as expected. Furthermore, according to Nurmayanti (2021) providing the learning facilities in question is providing a place to study, stationery, textbooks, cellphones, internet quotas, and so on.

Second, provide encouragement. In online learning, motivation is very influential on the learning process of students. Because in distance learning children feel bored and bored in learning, so giving motivation can increase their mood in learning. Learning is a lifelong process anywhere and anytime, either in the school environment or in the community, but learning takes intention and support so that the results of learning can be understood and remembered. The drive and intention can grow with the motivation which can be from the person himself or others.

According to Anggraeni (2020), learning motivation is an important factor in learning because it can encourage, move, and direct students. According to Fadillah (2016), parents have a role in supporting the success of their children, especially in terms of their children's motivation to learn. The motivation given by
parents is not only in words but also in other forms. In addition to motivating in the form of words, parents also give children motivation in the form of rewards or prizes.

Third, guide in learning. The next role of parents in guiding children in online learning is to supervise children in learning, a form of supervision that parents can provide is by taking the time to guide children. No matter how busy parents are with their various activities, they should still take the time to communicate and provide guidance in various matters, especially in distance learning (Valeza, 2017: 37). With parents who take the time to guide children, children can follow learning as they should. The form of parental supervision is parents who supervise children in using cellphones because if children are not accompanied in using cellphones, children will open other applications on cellphones which can cause children not to follow learning properly.

Fourth, being an educator helps to overcome learning difficulties. In addition to supervising, parents also play a role to help overcome learning difficulties. To help overcome learning difficulties, of course, parents must increase their knowledge and insight to assist children in doing the tasks given by the teacher and parents must also ask about children's learning difficulties, so that parents can help solve these difficulties. According to Hwie in Prasetyo & Trisyanti (2018: 22-27), parents need to recognize or know learning difficulties. Because by knowing these difficulties parents can solve them. If parents do not recognize the difficulties faced by children in learning, the child's learning process will be hampered. To increase the knowledge and insight of parents looking for information through Google, YouTube, and so on. With the information obtained by parents from various sources, parents can help overcome learning difficulties in children and can provide knowledge to children.

CONCLUSION

Based on the description above, it can be concluded that the role of parents at home for their children in the implementation of online learning during the Covid-19 pandemic includes the role of educators, motivators (providing learning motivation for children), learning facilitators for children, and mentors for various children's needs in the educational process. Likewise, there are supporting and inhibiting factors for the role of parents, namely supporting factors including the availability of internet packages, adequate learning facilities, and learning supervision. While the inhibiting factors include busy time to earn a living, difficulty managing children's study time, and children's playing activities outside the home.

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3543 The Role of Parents in Guiding Children in the Implementation of Online Learning During the Covid-19 Pandemic at Vocational School – Wilson, Daeng Ayub Natuna, Rifky Haikal
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