

Communication Problem and Conflicts in Parent Child Relationship

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Abstracts

Aim of the present research review paper was to study communication problem and conflict in parent child relationship. For the present purpose 20 research papers which are closely related to present research topic were selected. On the basis of research review it can be conclude that healthy communication is very important to improve parent child relationship, positive communication has positive outcome which help to develop mental health and personality of children but negative communication create many psychological and social problem among children as well as parents.

Background

Family communication is defined as the act of making information, ideas, thoughts and feelings known among members of a family unit (Smith et al., 2009). The process of family growth has a lot to do with the ability of all the family members to communicate with one another. Clark and Shields (1997) stated that communication is fundamental in interpersonal relationships between family members and it serves as the main key to understand the relation that developed within family. Many studies have shown that communication is a facilitator of family functioning (Smith et al., 2009). According to Mastura and Hamzah (2007), communication in family is a two way communication (giving and taking) verbally or nonverbal where a functional family will accept and try to comprehend the message delivered whether vague or clear between others, while a dysfunctional family rarely accept the message properly, in fact it is being ignored. Smith et al. (2009) stated that, a family that has positive family communication will be better able to alter their cohesion and flexibility to meet developmental and situational demands that arise, whereas family system with poor communication tends to have lower functioning in regards to cohesion and flexibility. Time for family communication is the most common problem faced by family today. Almost every parent is a working parent, who spends long working hours at the workplace for the sake of providing for the family. Meanwhile, the children routine life is lined up with strenuous academic activities, thus making it harder for parents and children to catch up with each other.

Related studies

communication problem between parents and children as one of the factors that make children to feel lonely and depressed (Hartos and Power, 2000) and lead them to be involved in social misconducts and since enhanced communication between parents and children has been identified as one of the important factors that could prevent children from involved in social problems (Clark and Shields, 1997); thus, more effort should be taken to improve parents-children communication. Thus, a plan should be laid out on how to educate the parents on the importance of family communication. Among the suggestions are organizing parents-children activities at school and at home, conduct talks on parent-children communication and encourage parents to spend more time with their children by doing activities together.(Kamaruddin, N., et al,(2012).) the parenting style, parental attitude and behavior, adolescent's perception, and negative emotion and cognition are responsible for creating an unhealthy relationship between parents and adolescents.

The characteristic of this study indicates that different countries experience conflict between parents and adolescents in many ways, with similar consequences. Finally, parent-adolescent disputes are affected by parenting style and the perception, emotion, and cognitive awareness of teenagers. (Tanni, K. T., et al, (2021).)

Child aggression was predicted by higher marital hostility, more co-parental undermining behavior, and ineffective discipline in both cultures. Greater family compromise and marital empathy predicted lower aggression among Israeli toddlers, whereas more resolution by consent predicted lower aggression among Palestinians. Considering the cultural basis of conflict resolution within close relationships may expand understanding on the roots of aggression. (Feldman, R., Masalha, S., & Derdikman-Eiron, R. (2010). the positive aspects of the parent-child relationship during the pandemic were stated to be spending time together, sharing, doing activities, and communication, while the negative aspects were reported as social isolation, domestic conflicts, and mobile phone addiction. Changes in the mother-child relationship during the pandemic were revealed to be related to knowing each other, spending time together, conflicts, and obeying rules, while in terms of the father-child relationship, changes were seen in communication, doing activities and sense of responsibility. While participants evaluated domestic relationships positively with regard to being together, being supportive and positive communication, they regarded them negatively in terms of conflicts, communication problems and boredom. Lastly, participants stated that educational activities, playing games, watching educational videos and preparing food were the activities on which the most time was spent. (Öngören, S. 2021).

Academic and disciplinary issues of conflict were found to be the sources of conflict between parents and adolescents. The sex and age difference over domains of conflict were found to be not significant though, the male participants observed as conflict makers than females except in autonomy issue. Similarly, age range 14-16 was found to be more conflict makers over domains of conflict than 17-19 years old participants except in autonomy issue. There is no relationship between academic issue of conflict and educational level of father. The relationship of disciplinary, autonomy and conversational style issues of conflict with parental educational level (father and mother) was found to be weak. (Shibeshi, H. Z. 2015). Increased inter-parental conflict is strongly related to decreased emotional warmth and increased negative communication in parents, and to increased peer problems and decreased prosocial behavior in children. The results also suggest that the association between inter-parental conflict and children social well-being is mediated by the parenting behavior of mothers and fathers, indicating that increased inter-parental conflict leads to less warm parenting and more negative communication in parents, which ultimately reduces children's social well-being. (Hess, S. 2021).

More constructive comments by mothers and children increased the likelihood of reaching a resolution versus a standoff, but only children's constructive comments differentiated between a compromise and a win loss resolution favoring mothers. Dads with more emotionally responsive mothers who made fewer oppositional comments were also more likely to reach a compromise versus a win loss resolution. A significant interaction with child sex revealed that, for boys, the use of more child oppositional comments was associated with a higher likelihood of reaching a standoff versus a compromise. Girls' oppositional comments did not predict resolution type. These results are discussed in terms of the children's developmental level and parents' socialization goals. (Nelson, J. A., et al, 2014). significant predictive relationship between parent-child conflicts and interactive problems in children. Parent-child communication conflicts emerged as significant predictors of interactive problems (socio-emotional disabilities, aggression and depressive symptoms) in children. The results can provide practical implications for health physicians and parents to get insight of these issues in children with depression. (Naz, F., Batool, I., & Mushtaq, M. 2016).

The study clearly highlights the importance of communication between parents and children, this having a significant role in developing a qualitative interaction between them. Communication is very important in the parent-child interaction, especially if the parents want to find a better way to transmit to their children the important life values by which they could guide the present and especially the future. (Runcan, P. L., et al, 2012).

Branje, S. (2018). Suggest that conflict interactions between parents and adolescents are adaptive for relational development when these interactions are characterized by the ability to switch flexibly between ranges of emotions. Bireda, A. D., & Pillay, J. (2018) found that female participants perceived the nature of communication

with both parents as more open than boys did. We also found significant associations was found between children's perception of communication with both parents and their subjective well-being. Findings of this study point to the importance of open parent-child communication to adolescent's well-being. Moore, K. A., Kinghorn, A. J., & Bandy, T. (2011) these results confirm findings from previous studies that, when parent relationship quality is high, their families and children have better outcomes. While having a child who is flourishing can contribute to the quality of a parent's relationship, considerable research indicates that relationship quality can also predict children's development. Happy parental relationships are quite consistently related to better outcomes for children and families across all types of subgroups. That is, this association holds not only for economically or educationally privileged families and children, but also holds across varied economic, racial, ethnic, and family structure subgroups. Parents' relationship quality is very consistently and positively associated with a range of child and family outcomes, including: child behavior problems (externalizing), child social competence, and child school engagement, child internalizing (depression), parent-child communication, and parental feelings of aggravation.

Discussion

It is very important for parents to be able to communicate openly and effectively with their children. Open, effective communication benefits not only the children, but every member of the family. Relationships between parents and their children are greatly improved when there is effective communication taking place. In general, if communication between parents and their children is good, then their relationships are good as well. Negative communication patterns have long been associated with a variety of child and family problems including divorce, domestic violence, child abuse, child psychopathology (Gottman, 1993; et al. 1992) Negative communication behaviors include excessive verbal or nonverbal expressions of disagreement (Dailey, 2008), such as disapproval, anger, disgust, resentment, and blame. Many research shows that communication is very important part in parent child relationship. According Smith et al. (2009) stated that, a family that has positive family communication will be better able to alter their cohesion and flexibility to meet developmental and situational demands that arise, whereas family system with poor communication tends to have lower functioning in regards to cohesion and flexibility. same research finding found in research of Smith et al. (2009) stated that, a family that has positive family communication will be better able to alter their cohesion and flexibility to meet developmental and situational demands that arise, whereas family system with poor communication tends to have lower functioning in regards to cohesion and flexibility. significant predictive relationship between parent-child conflicts and interactive problems in children. The results can provide practical implications for health physicians and parents to get insight of these issues in children with depression. (Naz, F., Batool, I., & Mushtaq, M. 2016).

Conclusion

In the present review research many research papers related to communication problem and conflicts in parent child relationship were studied. on the basis of research review it can be conclude that healthy communication is very important to improve parent child relationship, positive communication has positive outcome which help to develop mental health and personality of children but negative communication create many psychological and social problem in children as well as parents.

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