

## Research article

# Factors Associated With Mother's Knowledge About Verbal Abuse Against Children in West Java, Indonesia

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**Abstract.**

According to a 2020 World Health Organization report, nearly 300 million children aged 2-4 years experience corporal and/or psychological punishment at the hands of families. In 2018, the Indonesian Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection found that 62% of girls and boys in Indonesia had experienced violence in their lives, and 41% of 15-year-olds had experienced bullying, both physical and psychological. Given the epidemiological data, interventions are needed to minimize the number of cases of violence against children, including verbal violence. The purpose of this study was to determine the level of maternal knowledge about verbal abuse in preschool-aged children (3-6 years) and the characteristics affecting this in Kuningan Regency in 2021. Total sampling was used to recruit 75 mothers. Data were collected through a questionnaire, and univariate and bivariate analyses were conducted. The results indicated that 28 mothers (37.3%) had sufficient knowledge, 52 (69.3%) were aged 20-35 years, 53 (70.7%) had multipara parity, 29 (28.7%) had an intermediate education, and 66 (88%) were of low economic status. Age and education were found to have a significant relationship with knowledge about verbal abuse ( $p = 0.01$  for both); however, parity and economic status did not have a significant influence. Based on this research, health workers, especially midwives, should improve parenting counseling in brides-to-be so that their knowledge increases so as to build closeness between mother and children.

**Keywords:** level of knowledge, verbal abuse, mother

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## 1. Introduction

The family is the first home for children to get personality coaching and character building. A child is someone who is not yet 18 years old, including a child who is still in the womb. Law No. 23 of 2002 on Child Protection explains that children are the next generation of the nation's struggle and guarantees the presence of the nation and state in the future. Preschool-age children are defined as children aged 3 years to 6 years. At this time the child becomes egocentric, all adult attention should be on him. Parents in fostering discipline towards children many ways are done, there are parents educating children with violence there are also parents educating with affection. Children need discipline, but discipline is not always obtained by violence. Verbal abuse is violence

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in the form of yelling, resisting, insulting, humiliating, cursing and scaring children by using inappropriate words. Verbal abuse can occur when children ask for attention, cry, do not want to be silent and children rebel so as to make parents unconsciously verbal abuse the child [1]. According to psychologists in the US stated that the family environment is still a major contributing factor to violence against children [1].

Based on the results of research conducted by [2] with the title Parental Knowledge of Verbal Violence in Preschoolers in Aceh stated that the majority of parents have less knowledge about verbal violence as many as 18 respondents (51.4%), about the definition of verbal violence as many as 22 respondents (62.9%), about the impact of verbal violence as many as 19 respondents (54.3%), the majority of parents have less knowledge about forms of verbal violence. As many as 20 respondents (57.1%), about the causes of verbal violence as many as 18 respondents (51.4%), so it can be concluded that the lack of parental knowledge can be behind violence against children [2].

The Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection (PPPA) 2018 found that as many as 62% of girls and boys experienced violence in their lives, as many as 41% of 15-year-olds in Indonesia experienced bullying both physical and psychological. The Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (PPPA) study concluded that 3 out of five girls and half of all boys experience emotional abuse. Indonesian children experience various forms of violence in environments where their lives are supposed to be safe and trustable. New data reveals that Indonesian children are exposed to both psychological aggression and corporal punishment at the hands of families [3].

The West Java Provincial Government new data from monitoring the Indonesian Child Protection Commission (KPAI) states that the occurrence of violence against children based on the environment, as much as 91% occurs in the family environment. While in Kuningan Regency based on data report of the Integrated Service Center for Women and Children Empowerment (P2TP2A) Kemuning Kuningan Regency west Java in 2020 regarding the recapitulation of the number of cases of violence in children reported in Kuningan Regency there were 33 cases in children aged over 7 years and 1 case in preschool-age children. Each of these cases consists of physical violence as many as 3 cases, psychological violence as many as 2 cases, sexual violence there is 1 case at preschool age and as many as 17 cases at the age of over 7 years, neglect as many as 4 cases, and others as many as 7 cases [4].

## 2. Methods

The research method used in this study is analytic survey design. The research variable consists of free variables namely the characteristics of the mother's age, parity, education level and economic status, while the bound variable is the mother's knowledge of verbal abuse. The population in this study was all mothers who had children in school (3-6 years) in Cageur Village as many as 75 respondents. Sampling technique uses total sampling where the entire population automatically becomes a sample of 75 respondents. Data analysis uses univariate and bivariate analysis with questionnaire instruments.

## 3. Results

TABLE 1: Frequency Distribution of Respondent Characteristic.

Variable	Frequency	Persentase (%)
<b>Age</b> < 20 year 20 – 35 year > 35 year	13 39 23	17,3 52,0 30,7
<b>Parity</b> Primipara Multipara Grande Multipara	21 53 1	28,0 70,7 1,3
<b>Education</b> Basis Intermediate Tall	18 29 28	24 38,7 37,3
<b>Economic Status</b> High income Low income	9 66	12,0 88,0
<b>Knowledge</b> Less Enough Good	25 28 22	33,3 37,3 29,3

TABLE 2: Factors That Influence Knowledge About Verbal Abuse In Mothers Who Have Preschool-Age Children.

Variable	Knowledge						Pvalue
	Less		Enough		Good		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	
<b>Age</b> < 20 year 20 – 35 year > 35 year	13 6 11	100 15,4 47,8	0 20 9	0 51,3 39,1	0 13 3	0 33,3 13	0,01
<b>Parity</b> Primipara Multipara Grande Multipara	4 20 1	19 37,7 100	7 21 0	33,3 39,6 0	10 12 0	47,6 22,6 0	0,138
<b>Education</b> Basis Intermediate Tall	13 6 6	72,2 20,7 21,4	4 15 9	22,2 51,7 32,1	1 8 13	5,6 27,6 46,4	0,01
<b>Economic</b> High income Low income	3 22	33,3 33,3	3 25	33,3 37,9	3 19	33,3 28,8	0,951

## 4. Discussion

### 4.1. Age

Based on the results of the study in table 1.1 showed that of the 75 mothers who had preschool children mostly mothers aged 20-35 years as many as 52 mothers (69.3%), while mothers with >35 years as many as 23 mothers (30.7%), and mothers with <20 years were not found. According age is able to influence a person's knowledge, as he gets older it will increase the knowledge obtained<sup>5</sup>. Researchers assume that the number of mothers aged 20-35 years indicates that the mother has a level of ability and maturity in thinking and parenting. And age variable have p value = 0,01, it's mean that have relationship with knowledge about verbal abuse [5].

### 4.2. Parity

The results of the study in table 1.2 showed that mothers with multipara parity were more than primipara, while primipara parity was more than grandemultipara parity. It can be concluded that most of the mother's parity is in the multipara group, which is as many as 53 mothers or (70.7%). Researchers assume the sheer number of preschoolers with multipara parity indicates that the mother has an ideal child, with most of the children being just two. The number of mothers with multipara parity compared to grandemultipara, indicates that the mother knows and realizes that if you have more than four children will harm the health of the mother. Some factors that affect the number of children that mothers have are due to the adequacy of the mother's economy and the mother's ability to care for children.

### 4.3. Education

Looking at the results of the study in table 1.3 showed that mothers with more secondary education levels compared to elementary education levels, there are more basic education levels than higher education levels. It can be concluded that most of the level of maternal education is in the secondary education group of 51 mothers or (68%) this is due to the fact that the mother's ability to achieve education only up to the level of secondary education, and there is no willingness to achieve education to a higher level and still narrow mother in thinking. And education variable have p value = 0,01, it's mean that have relationship with knowledge about verbal abuse.

#### 4.4. Economic Status

Table shows that mothers have lower incomes than mothers with high-income incomes. It can be concluded that most mothers have low income economic status of 66 mothers or (88.0%). In fact, it is based on the work of fathers and mothers where livelihoods in Cageur Village as farmers, the majority of the community relies on their living needs from these jobs whose income does not reach the number of UMK.

#### 4.5. Level of Knowledge

The results of this study generally showed that the level of maternal knowledge about verbal abuse in preschoolers (3-6 years) based on characteristics in Cageur Village Darma District of Kuningan Regency in table 1.5 showed mothers who had preschoolers with a sufficient level of knowledge as many as 28 mothers (37.3%). A lot compared to mothers who have a good level of knowledge. It can be concluded that most of the knowledge of mothers is in the knowledge group of quite 28 mothers or (37.3%), respondents who have a level of knowledge is less, namely as many as 25 mothers (33.3%) and respondents who have a good level of knowledge, namely as many as 22 mothers (29.3%). Researchers assume that a mother may realize what she is doing is wrong, but a mother also sometimes does not fully know what to do to reprimand well or teach children, usually a mother does not really understand the needs of child development. For example, when the child has not been able to do the right thing, then the mother will scold his child and even berate him, it is based on the mother's lack of knowledge.

### 5. Conclusions

Based on the results of research conducted on 75 respondents about the picture of maternal knowledge about verbal abuse in school children (3-6 years) based on characteristics in Cageur Village Darma District of Kuningan regency in 2021, the majority of mothers have low income economic status as many as 66 respondents (88.0%), the majority of mothers have a level of knowledge about verbal abuse in the category of enough, namely as many as 28 respondents (37.3%), An overview of the level of maternal knowledge about verbal abuse based on characteristics, namely mothers with intermediate education have enough knowledge as many as 15 respondents (48.3%).

As for some suggestions based on the results of research from the authors for preschooler mothers (3-6 years) who have good knowledge of verbal abuse is expected to maintain a good quality of communication with the child, and for preschooler mothers who have less knowledge about verbal abuse to increase knowledge about verbal abuse in children, conduct good quality communication with children, In order to minimize the number of cases of verbal abuse against children. For Cageur Village, it is expected that the results of this study can be used as a reference for motivation and input for Cageur Village, Darma District, Kuningan Regency to improve the quality of family empowerment programs to be better, by providing counseling to prospective parents so that the creation of a prosperous and harmonious family. As well as to develop further research related to the picture of the level of maternal knowledge about verbal abuse in preschoolers 3-6 years to be better, and for researchers it is expected that the results of this study can be used as a reference and guideline for the basis of further research with different and scientifically acceptable methods.

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