Research Article

Forging a Legacy through Intergenerational Learning in Family Businesses: A Bibliometric Exploration

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Abstract.
Intergenerational learning plays a crucial role in family businesses, facilitating knowledge transfer and business skills across generations. This study conducted a bibliometric analysis of intergenerational learning research trends in the family business context from 2013 to 2023. The analysis utilized the VOSviewer application to map the research landscape and identify key themes. In the past 10 years, research on intergenerational learning in family businesses has been comparatively rare, with only 116 publications, or 10 per year on average. The highest number of citations occurred in 2013, 2015, and 2017, with China leading in Asian studies. Social sciences, medicine, and psychology were the prominent disciplines in this field. The analysis revealed clusters of key terms such as child, father, intergenerational, parent, research, digital divide, older adult, perspective, family, intergenerational transmission, language, role, and violence. The study also identified less-explored areas within intergenerational learning, including older adults, children, and the digital divide. Indonesia's focus on family education and cultural heritage transmission could advance research in this field. Overall, this study contributes to the comprehension of forging a legacy through intergenerational learning in the context of family businesses and establishes a foundation for future research directions.

Keywords: bibliometric, family business, intergenerational learning, legacy

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1. INTRODUCTION

Intergenerational learning is crucial in family enterprises, involving social contacts across generations to transfer knowledge and business skills. This facilitates the next generation's legacy growth and succession, addressing succession challenges and creating resilient families in business through collaborative learning programs.[1–3]. Intergenerational learning within families involves the exchange of beliefs, practices, and behavior models between generations[4–6]. An integrative parenting framework, informed by family systems theory and intersectionality, addresses five key themes and their interrelationships[7]. This theory develops practical skills and mastery of technology in

business activities, catering to the learning needs of each generation [4, 8, 9]. Mastery of technology in developing micro and small businesses is crucial, with older generations having experience in production and younger generations skilled in technology development and marketing. [8–10].

There have been many studies on the bibliometric analysis of informal learning, such as learning in museums[11], e-learning[12], workplace learning[13], and early childhood[14]. However, no bibliometric analysis has examined research trends in forging legacy of intergenerational learning within the family business context from 2013-2023, the analysis focuses on two main questions: (a) How has research developed in intergenerational learning within the family business context? (b) What trends and directions emerge from visualization using VOSviewer.

2. METHODOLOGY/ MATERIALS

The data of this research article gets from scopus indexed journals. The research data was collected using Publish or Perish's reference manager application. This research applies the process carried out by Al Husaini (2022) through four stages that are: data collection of published articles using the Publish or Perish application; Bibliometric data processing of reports using Microsoft excel applications; Computational mapping analysis of bibliometric publication article data by applying VOS viewer application, and analysis of results from computational mapping analysis[15, 16]. The search for article data was selected using the keywords "Intergenerational Learning, Family, " based on the title of the publication. Research article data is selected based on the year published from 2013 to 2023. All data were obtained in October, 14th 2023. Articles selected according to the research analysis criteria are exported in ris and *.csv. types. VOS viewer visualizes the network, density, and overlay term. Therefore obtained, 116 items and less relevant keywords were eliminated.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

3.1. Research development in intergenerational learning in the family business context

Based on the results of searching data through the publish or perish manager reference application from the scopus database, 116 articles were obtained that met the research criteria. The data obtained is article metadata which contains the author's name, title,

year, journal name, publisher, number of article link citations, and related URLs. The number of citations from all articles used in analyzing this study was 1221. The number of citations per year is 1221,1. The number of citations per article is 10,81. All pieces have an average h-index of 20, and the g-index is 31. Table 1 shows the 15 articles with the highest number of citations in scopus database and google scholar rank.

TABLE 1: Top ten Cites of intergenerational learning family publication data.

| GS Rank	Cites	Authors	Title	Year	Source
	116	B. Yu	Issues in bilingualism and heritage language maintenance: Perspectives of minority-language mothers of children with autism spectrum disorders	2013	American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology
	101	J. Marsh	Young children's initiation into family literacy practices in the digital age	2017	Journal of Early Childhood Research
	79	L. Eriksson	A Cycle of Violence? Examining Family-of-Origin Violence, Attitudes, and Intimate Partner Violence Perpetration	2015	Journal of Interpersonal Violence
	55	S. Williams	As the climate changes: Intergenerational action-based learning in relation to flood education	2017	Journal of Environmental Education
	53	M.A.L. Van Tilburg	Psychosocial mechanisms for the transmission of somatic symptoms from parents to children	2015	World Journal of Gastroenterology
	44	J. Dou	The succession process in Chinese family firms: A guanxi perspective	2013	Asia Pacific Journal of Management
	43	G.M. Mu	Coming into an inheritance: family support and Chinese Heritage Language learning	2015	International Journal of Bilingual Education and Bilingualism
	43	E. Aktar	Parental social anxiety disorder prospectively predicts toddlers' fear/avoidance in a social referencing paradigm	2014	Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry and Allied Disciplines
	40	K. Williams	The Development of Prosocial Behaviour in Early Childhood: Contributions of Early Parenting and Self-Regulation	2017	International Journal of Early Childhood
	35	Y. Sevinç	Language maintenance and shift under pressure: Three generations of the Turkish immigrant community in the Netherlands	2016	International Journal of the Sociology of Language

Source: scopus database Desember 2023

Table 1 above shows that the highest citation score was 116 in 2013, and it ranked 10th with a citation score of 35 in 2016. From the highest citation, intergenerational learning issue, related to language, psychology, health and childhood. Rate of citation per years based on the data shown in Figure 1, it can be seen that in the range from 2013 to 2023, there were 116 related articles. From 2013 to 2023, there were 8, 4, 10, 5, 13, 11, 10, 10, 10, 16, 17, and 12 publications per year, respectively. The peak citations were in 2015 (310), 2017 (232), and 2013 (226).
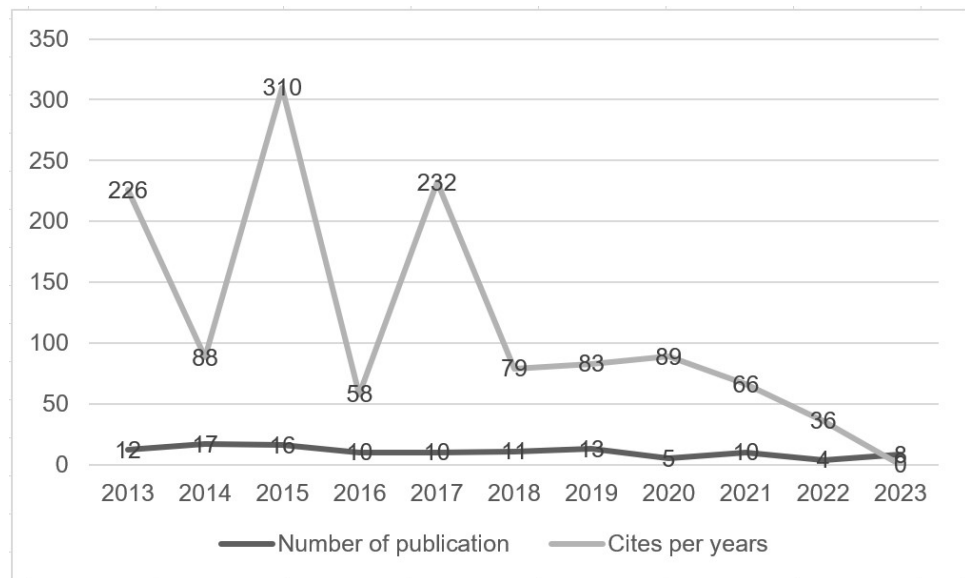
Figure 1: Number of publications and citations of articles per year in intergenerational learning research in the context of family business.

These publication numbers indicate that research on intergenerational learning in the family context is relatively scarce, averaging 10 articles per year. There are the top ten countries and subject area that have published the most articles in Figure 2, as follows:
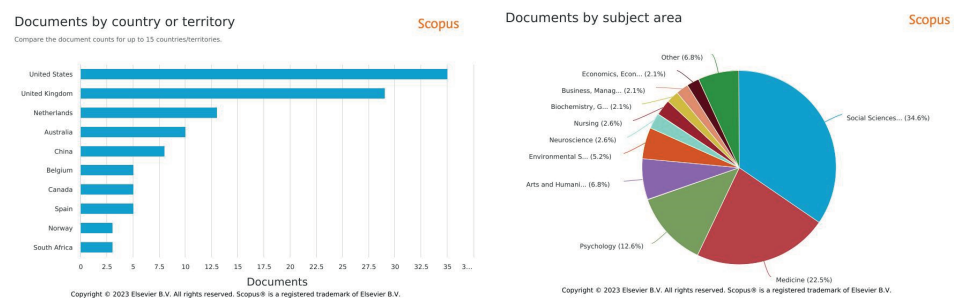

Figure 2: Document by Territory and Subject area on Intergenerational Learning in the Family business Context.

Figure 2 shows 33 countries have conducted research on intergenerational learning in the family context, with the United States having the highest number of publications. China leads Asian studies, with other developing nations underrepresented. Ten out of 160 authors published two related articles. The study reveals that social sciences, followed by medicine and psychology, have the highest representation in the field of Intergenerational Learning in the Family Context.

3.2. Research development in intergenerational learning in the family business context

Visualization of intergenerational learning in the Family Context using VOS viewer the computational mapping of articles was conducted using the VOSviewer application, yielding the following results: Cluster 1 encompasses 5 key terms: child, father, intergenerational, parent, and research; Cluster 2 is associated with 4 key terms: digital divide, intergenerational learning, older adult, and perspective; Cluster 3 comprises 3 key terms: family, intergenerational transmission, and language; Cluster 4 is related to 2 key terms: role and violence.

The VOSviewer application was used to visualize the interconnections between key terms, with clusters based on child, father, intergenerational, parent, research, digital divide, older adult, perspective, family, intergenerational transmission, language, and role and violence (see Figure 3). The research consists of 14 items distributed across four clusters, interconnected through 26 links, resulting in a total link strength of 33.
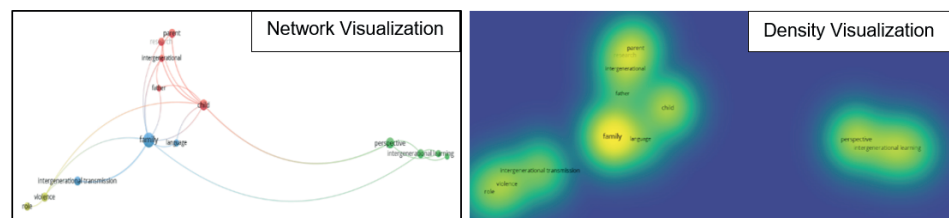
Figure 3: Network and density visualization on intergenerational learning in the family context.

Figure 3 displays a network visualization of intergenerational learning within family contexts, with four clusters representing research themes like intergenerational, parent, child, and father. Research on older adults and intergenerational learning is less prominent. Density visualization shows frequency and prominence of terms.[15, 16]. For a more detailed examination of these relationships, further insights can be gleaned from Figure 4.

Based on Figure 4, the research on intergenerational learning, particularly in the family context, is relatively new and requires further investigation. The field has seen a surge in popularity since 2021, with terms like "family" and "intergenerational learning" being prominent and extensively studied. However, terms like "older adult[17, 18]," "child [19–22]," and "digital divide[23–25] " are gaining popularity but have not been extensively explored. This suggests an opportunity for further research and investigation into these less-studied aspects of the subject. The research findings suggest that
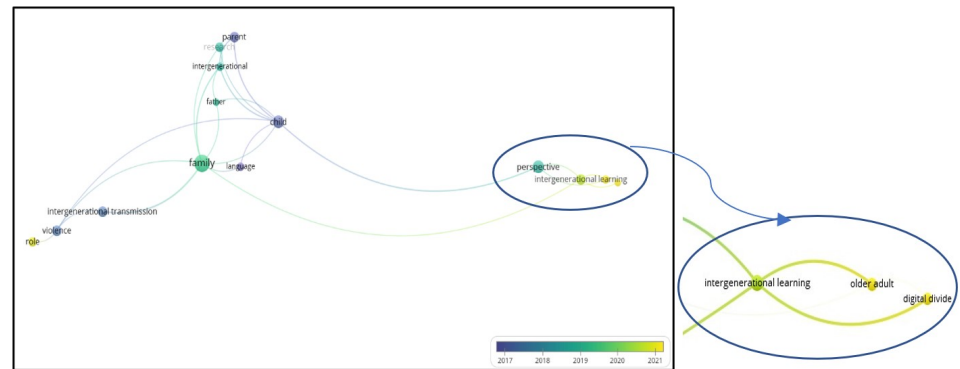
Figure 4: Overlay visualization on intergenerational learning in the family context.

the field remains underdeveloped, offering numerous opportunities for theoretical and practical discussions and establishing connections with other related fields.

Indonesia, as an Asian developing country with a unique focus on family education in cultural heritage transmission and efforts to advance research in this field, can play a significant role. Building upon the recommendations made in previous studies, future research in Indonesia should explore the perspectives, motivations, and roles of successors, in addition to examining governance and control frameworks. Furthermore, a comparison of the effectiveness of different awareness types in intergenerational knowledge transfer within family SMEs should be conducted [26, 27]. Both of the Indonesian studies mentioned above primarily delve into knowledge transfer for business succession, emphasizing economic and business aspects. However, there is a gap in research that specifically addresses informal family education, including the roles, parenting patterns, and family communication patterns that contribute to the resilience of children in entrepreneurship[6, 28–30] .This gap aligns with the need to explore how different awareness types impact intergenerational knowledge transfer more than two generation. Chen (2023) Chen (2023) suggests nine core principles of intergenerational learning in family businesses, emphasizing love as a guiding concept. The curriculum should emphasize lifelong learning, independence, and understanding life stages' influences. Strategies like role-playing exercises, enhanced communication, and chronological timelines can help understand temperamental differences. Business Process Re-engineering (BPR) can resolve conflicts and harmonize generational perspectives, enhancing enterprise success[31].

4. CONCLUSION

Intergenerational learning in the family context is a rare field with an average citation of 10 articles per year. The highest citations occurred in 2015, 2017, and 2013, with China leading Asian studies. Social sciences, followed by medicine and psychology, have the highest representation in this field, with 33 countries conducting research on this topic.

Research is needed to explore less explored or cryptic terms in the field of intergenerational learning, allowing for discussions on theory, practical applications, and potential intersections with other fields. While terms like "Family" and "Intergenerational learning" have gained popularity, there is a significant gap in studying terms like "older adult," "child," and "digital divide," requiring at least three generations' research. Indonesia, a developing Asian nation with a unique focus on family education for cultural heritage transmission, has the potential to contribute to research in this area. Future research should examine successor perspectives, governance frameworks, and the effectiveness of different types of awareness in knowledge transfer across generations within family-owned small and medium enterprises (SMEs). This could inform policies and strategies to enhance the success of family SMEs.

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