

## Conference Paper

# Family Matters: Understanding the Relationship Between Family Background, Parenting Style, and Youth Political Behavior

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### Abstract.

This study aimed to understand the relationship between family background and parenting style on youth political participation. By using quantitative methods, this research involved adolescents as the research sample. The sampling technique used is purposive sampling. Data collection was done using measuring tools such as the background scale family, parenting style scale, and political participation scale. Data were obtained and analyzed using multiple regression test with the help of SPSS 22.0 software for Windows. The results showed that there is a relationship between family background and parenting style on youth political participation. Furthermore, the relationship between parenting style and youth political participation are being discussed.

**Keywords:** family background, parenting style, political behavior

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Political behavior is an attitude that originates from the individual and correlates with the prevailing political system, for example: general election - Pemilu (Plano et al., 1985). Regarding the general elections in Indonesia, as a form of implementing people's sovereignty, this country encourages all citizens who meet the requirement to cast their vote. However, there is a discrepancy with the implementation of the existing elections, because there are still voters who do not use their right to vote properly. This statement is based on the presentation of the number of young voters, which tends to be low, around 50.2% in 2014, where students are individuals with the lowest participation rate. In Indonesia, as a democratic country, the country gives an important value to the participation of its citizens as a form of citizens' concern and care for the country

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(1). One of the factors that may influence individual political behavior comes from the socio-political environment: the family (2).

The family has a role as the primary and most important institution that influences individual development (3–6). The family has an important role in shaping the political character of individuals since they were young, so that when individuals start to grow up, individuals will already have a mature and careful mindset to be able to make decisions and participate directly in the political sphere. This is reinforced by the statement from the socialization process that occurs in the family is always unidirectional: the experience of the family has an important influence on the political secondary structure (7).

Family background is the origin of family formation, which is based on several aspects of life. One of them is socio-economic status. Socio-economic status is an individual's position based on economic elements. Such as elements of income, income, education, social, and religion. The family is the first and most important agent, because this is where a person begins to learn and get to know politics. In the family, there will be parenting patterns for their children, including in terms of political education (8).

Researchers have increasingly advocated for the importance of childhood as a period of political development (9–11). The level of political socialization can be influenced by how a person's individual background is (12). In addition, the parenting style used is also essential to a person's political behavior (Atrika, 2016). Parenting style also plays an important role in the transmission of political values (Murray & Mulvaney, 2012). The most widely used framework in developmental psychology to describe individual differences in parenting is the conceptualization of parenting styles outlined by Baumrind (1971): authoritative, authoritarian, permissive. Authoritative parenting styles may have different feedback than authoritarian or permissive parenting styles.

## 2. LITERATUR REVIEW

Based on some literature that discusses family problems and reversed parenting and political behavior of adolescents, several previous studies have been found, including: Research on Childhood Socialization and Political Attitudes: Evidence from a Natural Experiment written by Andrew Healy and Neil Malhotra found that political attitudes are substantially influenced by childhood experiences, but there is little evidence that these experiences cause these attitudes due to other variables that can influence preferences correlated with the home environment. The findings suggest that early experience can play a significant causal role in the development of political opinion. (13).

Research conducted by Silvana Santolupo and Michael W. Pratt From the perspective of Vygotskian cognitive socialization, this study examines parental socialization of adolescent political reasoning. Using a transactive dialogue system, conversations between mothers and their sons were investigated and related to the age, gender, and parenting style of the adolescents. This discussion is expected to have an impact on how complicated the political reasoning of the next youth will be. (14).

The relationship between parental behavior, parenting style, and family functioning in relation to the development of childhood obesity is examined in Kyung Rhee's essay, "Childhood Overweight and the Association between Parent Behaviors, Parenting Style, and Family Functioning." (15).

This article, titled Parenting and Family Matters: Contrasting Parenting and Family Processes—Examining Family Strengths and assets, examines research on the long-term and short-term effects of these relationships and discusses how the role of parents and family contributes to increasing children's hope and fostering their resilience. (16).

The study by Mahmood Shahsavari titled "A General Overview of Parenting Styles and its Effective Factors" found that many of the behaviors and characteristics of parents are transmitted to their children through parenting styles; therefore, children engage in creative behavior with confidence and peace of mind when parents provide a safe and suitable environment. (17).

The "domain-specific" model, which depicts parents flexibly adopting different practices depending on their goals, the needs of the child, and the type of behavior toward which parenting is directed, is discussed in the article on "Current Research on Parenting styles, Dimensions, and beliefs" written by Judith G. Smetana. (18).

Burkhard Gniewosz, Peter Noack, and Monika Buhl's research focuses on how parents' political attitudes, parenting styles, and class characteristics predict adolescent political alienation. Political alienation is the belief that an individual cannot influence the performance of the political system at the individual level. This study discovered a correlation between political alienation among parents and children. The relationships between teenage political alienation, upbringing, and class climate are viewed as features of interactions with authority that influence adolescent political attitudes. (19).

The article "From Leadership to Parenthood: The Applicability of Leadership Styles to Parenting Styles" addresses the ideals of young adult parenting that occur during childhood and relate to Dreikurs and Lewin's leadership styles: autocratic, democratic, and laissez-faire. (20).

A recent study titled "Parenting style as a mediator of the impacts of political violence: A cross-cultural comparison of Israeli Jewish and Arab children" compared the parenting

styles of Israeli Jewish and Arab children. This study investigates cross-cultural differences in the moderating role of authoritarian, authoritative, and permissive parenting styles for Israeli, Jewish, and Arab children exposed to political violence. These findings demonstrate the necessity to evaluate the parenting styles of mothers and father, as well as the cultural influences on the consequences of parenting styles. (21).

### 3. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

From some of the literature reviews described above, it has not been found about the influence of parenting styles on children's political behavior. So research on adolescent political behavior is interesting to see the influence of family background and upbringing. Therefore, this study seeks to explore the relationship between family background and upbringing on youth political behavior.

### 4. METHOD

This research used a quantitative approach. The population in this study are adolescents. The sampling technique used in this study was purposive sampling, namely, a sampling technique based on consideration of certain characteristics that had previously been determined: adolescents between 17-25 years.

In this study, we used a Likert scale type which consists of three scales. The first scale is the family background scale compiled by Shabrina (2018). The second scale is the parenting scale compiled by Buri (1991). The third scale is the political behavior scale compiled by the scale by Shabrina (2018). The data obtained were then analyzed using Pearson Correlation and Multiple Linear Regression Test with the help of SPSS software.

### 5. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### 5.1. RESULTS

The results of the family background scale data, upbringing pattern scale, and political behavior scale distributed to research subjects are score data that have been analyzed by statistical calculations as shown in the following table.

1. Multiple Regression Analysis of Family Background and Parenting on Political Behavior

The first data analysis was conducted to determine whether there is a relationship between family background and upbringing on youth political behavior. Following are the results of the first data test:

TABLE 1: First Hypothesis Test Results.

Model	R	R Square	F	Sig. F
1	.365	.134	11.171	.000*

\* $p < .01$

Based on the results of the first data test, it can be seen that the value of  $R = 0.365$  and the value of  $F = 11.171$  with a significance of  $0.000$  ( $p < .01$ ). Thus, it was concluded that family background and upbringing styles had a relationship with youth political behavior. Then to determine how high the independent variable affects the dependent variable can be seen in the R-Square. Based on the table above, it can be seen that the R-Square value is  $0.134$  or if it is percentage, it is  $13.4\%$ , so it can be concluded that family background and upbringing influence youth political behavior by  $13.4\%$ . While the remaining  $86.6\%$  can be influenced by other factors of political behavior.

### 1. Correlation Analysis of Authoritative, Authoritarian, and Permissive Parenting with Political Behavior

The second data analysis was conducted to determine whether there is a relationship between authoritative parenting, authoritarian parenting, and permissive parenting with youth political behavior. In this data analysis, each correlation coefficient value ( $r_{xy}$ ) =  $-0.022$  was obtained with a significance value of  $p 0.791 > 0.01$ . This value indicates that there is no relationship between authoritative parenting and youth political behavior.

TABLE 2: Second Hypothesis Test Results.

Variabel	R	Sig.	Keterangan
Authoritative Parenting Style with Political Behavior	-.022	.791	Negative-Not Significant
Authoritarian parenting style with Political Behavior	.210	.010	Positive-Significant
Permissive parenting with Political Behavior	.086	.297	Positive-Not Significant

Correlation results ( $r_{xy}$ ) =  $0.210$  with a significance value of  $0.010$  ( $p < .05$ ). This value indicates that there is a significant relationship between authoritarian parenting and youth political behavior. Thus, it can be concluded that the higher the authoritarian parenting style, the higher the level of youth political behavior and vice versa. Then for

the correlation value ( $r_{xy}$ ) = 0.086 with a significance value of  $0.297 > 0.01$ . This value indicates that there is no relationship between permissive parenting and youth political behavior.

**DISCUSSION**

This study aimed to determine the relationship between family background and upbringing with novice political behavior. The population in this study were late adolescents who already had voting rights to vote in general elections. Sampling was carried out using a purposive sampling technique and the number of samples obtained was 148 individuals. The measurement tool or data collection instrument used by researchers is in the form of a Likert scale including family background scale, upbringing pattern scale, and political behavior scale.

This study tested two hypotheses, which were carried out with the help of SPSS 22.0 for Windows software. The first hypothesis obtained results, namely "there is a relationship between family background and upbringing with youth political behavior" with a value of  $R = 0.365$  and an  $F$  value = 11.171 with a significance of 0.000 ( $p < .01$ ), and the two independent variables have an influence on the dependent variable of 13.4%.

Then, to test the second hypothesis, the results obtained a positive and significant relationship between the dimensions of authoritarian upbringing and youth political behavior with a correlation coefficient of 0.210 and a significance of 0.010 ( $p < .01$ ). The positive relationship here means that if the authoritarian parenting style experiences an increase, the political behavior of youth may also increase. Vice versa, if the authoritarian parenting style has decreased, then political behavior may also have decreased. Meanwhile, the dimensions of authoritative parenting and permissive parenting have no relationship with youth political behavior. These results also support previous research which shows that differences in parenting styles play an important moderating role in the transmission of parents' political values variables (Murray & Mulvaney, 2012).

In accordance with previous research which shows that restrictive parenting (by both mother and father) predicted political conservatism (Janoff-Bulman, Carnes, Sheikh, 2014). A longitudinal research found that: children with authoritarian parents were more likely to have conservative values at age 18. (Fraleigh, Roisman, and Belsky, 2012); young children's fearful temperament and anxious attachment security, as well as mothers' authoritarian parenting beliefs in early childhood, predicted conservative political orientation at age 26 (Wegemer and Vandell, 2020)

Based on the hypothesis testing above, it can be seen that in this study the family background variable has a greater influence on the level of political behavior compared to the upbringing pattern variable. This can be seen from the greater value of the correlation coefficient and the significant value given by family background to youth

political behavior compared to the value of the correlation coefficient and the significant value given by parenting style to youth political behavior.

This is in line with previous research conducted by Shabrina (2018) which shows a relationship between family background and political socialization with political behavior. In addition, the biggest factor influencing first-time voters in choosing candidates is their family and parents as trustworthy figures (Melani, 2013). This is in accordance with the research conducted by Shabrina (2018) that family background can stimulate an increase in political behavior. According to Martani and Suharno (2022) the background has a positive correlation with increasing political participation, which is a form of political behavior.

The family has a major role in: providing information, knowledge, awareness, and motivation for first-time voters, which makes the family the factor that most influences the orientation and political behavior of first-time voters (Soimah, 2013). Similar research conducted by Martani and Suharno (2022) found that there was a significant relationship between family background and political participation, which is a form of political behavior.

## 6. CONCLUSION

Based on the research that has been done, it can be concluded that: a) Taken together, there is a relationship between family background and parenting style with youth political behavior; b) For the parenting style variable with political behavior there is only a significant positive relationship on the authoritarian parenting dimension, while the authoritarian parenting dimension and the permissive parenting dimension have no relationship with the political behavior variable.

Based on the results of the research that has been carried out and the conclusions that have been described above, the researcher provides suggestions to related parties for joint progress the suggestions are aimed at:

1. For youth who already have voting rights in elections to pay more attention to recognize and understand the importance of political insight in the life of the state and participate in the implementation of elections.
2. For families, especially parents, it is hoped that they will further improve their parenting style and political socialization so that children and families who are politically aware and not apathetic towards politics are created.

3. For further research interested in researching and reviewing family background variables and parenting styles on political behavior, it is hoped that they will be more careful in selecting research subjects with different respondent characteristics. In addition, future researchers are expected to be able to use other variables that can influence political behavior such as the social environment, political knowledge, political actors, or religion.

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