



Interpersonal communication patterns in long distance relationship between students from outside Java and their parents in maintaining family harmony

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ABSTRACT

Keywords

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This research aims to analyze interpersonal communication patterns carried out in long-distance relationships between students outside Java and their parents in maintaining family harmony. This paper studies the theory of communication patterns from Joseph De Vito. This type of research is descriptive qualitative with data collection techniques through in-depth interviews, the technique for collecting informants uses purposive sampling technique, validity testing using source triangulation, and the data analysis technique uses several stages, namely, data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. Based on the research results, it shows that the interpersonal communication patterns of long-distance students from outside Java with their parents in maintaining family harmony are different. Informant I, namely DR and IY, had a balanced communication pattern because when discussing determining the educational major, DR chose the medical major and his parents agreed and agreed to the financial matters. DR's father and mother always trusted DR's choices and desires, so he became a child who never lied. Meanwhile, informant II, namely SA and AS, had a monopoly communication pattern because SA felt powerful and never listened to input from his family members. He was always jealous of his older brother when his parents bought something for his older brother. Factors that influence informant I's communication patterns are smooth communication, parents willing to listen to children's wishes, and children's decisions to respect parents. Meanwhile, informant II lost the father's role in the child's life, forming a selfish personality.

1. Introduction

The family is the smallest unit of society, consisting of the head of the family and several people who are gathered and live under one roof (house) in a state of interdependence. A harmonious family is actually togetherness that can be realized by eating together happily, joking around, and asking about daily activities that have been carried out. However, in this day and age, of course, many families around us are less harmonious because there are so many factors that influence it, one of which is poor communication between children and parents.

As time goes by, quite a few families choose to have long-distance relationships, one of which is children who choose to migrate out of town to continue their education. The city of Yogyakarta is one of the cities that is much sought after by young Generation Z people. Apart from having many types of universities with good facilities, Yogyakarta is also known as a student city. The 2020 Higher Education Statistics Fund shows. There are 107 PTN/PTS, which accommodates 369,831 students. It is estimated that 60 percent, or around 200,000 students in Yogyakarta, come from outside the city on the islands of Java, Sumatra, Kalimantan, and Sulawesi (Mukhijab, 2022). In long-distance relationships, of course, not all children and parents can communicate well, such as the conflict that

is currently viral regarding content on the TikTok application, which shows the courage of a female student in lying to her parents. The student who was about to enter her 5th semester of study was courageous in spreading the amount of her tuition fees, which had yet to be paid in full, from a dependent of Rp. 2,580,000, this student manipulated her tuition fees to Rp. 6,300,000. On this account, it was uploaded with a caption “*Maafin aku yap ah, hehehehe*,”. The content was then also made viral on Twitter via anonymous comments on the @convoms account (Garjito & Elvariza, 2022). Communication patterns themselves can vary because each person has a different background.

Andry conducted previous research with the title Communication Patterns in Long Distance Relationships between Children and Parents in Maintaining Family Relationships (Study of Family Communication among Unhas Faculty of Social and Political Sciences Communication Science Undergraduate Students who come from outside the region). This research aims to determine the factors that encourage and inhibit long-distance communication between children and their parents in maintaining family relationships. The results of this research show that the communication pattern in long-distance relationships between children and parents uses one of the communication patterns throughout the network. This pattern allows for optimum member participation. Messages can be forwarded face-to-face by telephone. The factors that support and hinder the long-distance communication process between children and parents are curiosity about each other, students being busy with lectures, problems with inappropriate timing, and network problems. (Andry, 2017).

Based on the explanation of the background to the problem above, the researcher wants to discuss and analyze interpersonal communication patterns in long-distance relationships between students outside Java and their parents in maintaining family harmony.

2. Method

This type of research is descriptive qualitative to examine interpersonal communication patterns in long-distance relationships between students outside Java and their parents in maintaining family harmony. *Qualitative research* is a research process to understand human or social phenomena by creating a comprehensive and complex picture that can be presented in words, reporting detailed views obtained from informant sources, and carried out in a natural setting. (Ak et al., 2015). In this research, the objects and phenomena studied are interpersonal communication patterns in long-distance relationships between students outside Java and their parents in maintaining family harmony. In this research, researchers used in-depth interview methods. The informants who will be interviewed in this research are students from outside Java who study in Yogyakarta. This data analysis technique contains three stages in the form of data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion. To test the validity of this research, the researcher used the source triangulation technique, which means testing data from various sources of informants from which the data will be taken. Source triangulation can sharpen the power and reliability of the data if it is done by checking the data obtained during the research through several sources. (Alfansyur & Mariyani, 2020).

3. Result and Discussion

Researchers found the results of interpersonal communication patterns in long-distance relationships between students outside Java and their parents in maintaining family harmony as follows.

4.1. Presenting the Results

4.1.1. The importance of long-distance communication with parents

Communication that occurs between children and parents runs well and effectively if communication is carried out frequently by both so that it can increase the closeness between parents and children. According to Dea, as a child, "communication with parents when long distance is critical because with communication you can find out news about each other and a harmonious family will be formed. Meanwhile, Sefilla, as a child, said that "communication with parents when long distance is not that important because as long as pocket money is running smoothly, everything is fine".

4.1.2. Feelings when communicating with parents

In general, children who communicate more often with their parents certainly feel cared for because their parents are thinking about their children's condition, especially children who are in a long-distance relationship with their parents. As we know, children who migrate receive less attention from their parents, so overseas children are always excited when contacted by their parents. Dea felt that when her parents called her, she always felt happy. Dea said, "I always feel happy when mom calls because there are things you ask and certain questions. Sometimes, I like to be involved in mom's decisions." However, what Sefilla feels is different. She feels uncomfortable if her parents pay too much attention.

4.1.3. Be Honest to parents

Not all children are comfortable being open with their parents, especially when it comes to their child's matters, because not all parents respond well to their child's stories. Nowadays, quite a few parents need to be more relaxed with their work, which makes their children reluctant to talk to their parents. Since childhood, Sefilla, as a child, felt that she had no time to talk to her parents, so even as a student, Sefilla was not used to telling stories, let alone opening up because of the lack of parental role. This is different from Dea as a child whose parents always tell stories about everything, thus forming a child who is open and used to telling stories.

4.1.4. Tricking behavior to parents

Based on the news circulating and the increasingly hedonistic lifestyle of students, quite a few students dare to deceive their parents. As Sefilla admitted as a child in an interview, Sefilla admitted that she had pawned a gold ring given to her by her parents, but Sefilla deceived her parents and said that the ring was lost when Sefilla was on her way home to her boarding house. Sefilla used the money from her pawn shop to shop for branded goods with her friends. This is different from Dea as a child who never cheats on her parents because Dea lives as best she can and is always open to her parents when she needs and wants something..

4.1.5. Conflict that happens with parents

Within a family, there will undoubtedly be conflicts, with various kinds of conflicts. Families who are close together do not rule out the possibility of significant conflict. What if the families are far from each other, such as students moving away from home with their parents. In fact, conflict occurred with Sefilla as a child because Sefilla was jealous of her sister. After all, her brother bought her a laptop according to her brother's needs. Sefilla had bought it a long time ago, but she was still jealous of her brother. In contrast to the conflict that happened to Dea as a child, Dea said that the most complex conflict that ever happened to Dea with her parents was that Dea wanted to eat shrimp, but Dea was allergic to shrimp, This conflict made Dea go to her grandmother's house and resulted in her parents apologizing to Dea.

4.2. Create Discussion

4.2.1. The importance of long-distance communication with parents

Long distance communication is very important because it determines harmony in a family. Good children also occur because of good communication patterns between children and parents. The first informant said he really enjoyed communicating with his parents because his parents had always given time to their child since childhood and his parents always listened to what their child wanted to tell them. Meanwhile, the informants had two parents who never had time to play or tell stories with their parents because their parents were busy working, resulting in children who were not open to their parents. This research is in line with research results (Andry, 2017)

that communication is very important, especially for the relationship between children and parents in long distance relationship.

4.2.2. Feelings when communicating with parents

When a child's communication with their parents is more intense and more effective, of course, the child will feel comfortable communicating with their parents. However, if the communication that occurs is sporadic and of poor quality, the child will feel that communicating with their parents is not that important. This research is in line with the research results (Permata, 2013).

4.2.3. Be honest to parents

In a harmonious family, children will be comfortable if they talk to their parents. However, quite a few children do not want to be open with their parents because their parents tend not to want to listen, and sometimes their children's feelings are ignored. This research is in line with the research (Rahmah, 2018).

4.2.4. Tricking behavior to parents

Every individual has the potential to live a hedonistic lifestyle. Their environment influences the hedonistic lifestyle, especially the work environment. Apart from that, postgraduate students' hedonistic lifestyle is influenced by the level of stress in doing their assignments because some of them, apart from being students, also work. (Mufidah & Wulansari, 2018).

4.2.5. Conflict that happens with parents

Conflict in the family will undoubtedly have an impact on children's mental health, regarding the fact that many students choose to end their lives because conflict is occurring. Therefore, this must certainly be a concern for parents and children to achieve a harmonious family by means of sound and quality communication between children and parents. This research is in line with (Permata, 2013) 's research that many obstacles occur in achieving good communication.

4. Conclusion

This research concluded that a balanced communication pattern was found in the first informant because equality in relationships was maintained, and each person in the family held control or power in their respective fields. Meanwhile, the second informant found a monopoly communication pattern because the second informant tended to be commanding rather than communicating, giving advice rather than listening, and not wanting to lose. The first informant, as a child, should not have a monopoly communication pattern because the monopoly communication pattern is not favorable, and it is better for students who migrate and have long-distance relationships with their parents to communicate well so that the relationship between parents and children becomes closer and more harmonious.

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