# The dynamics meaning of parenting patterns for children in conflict with legal conflicts in cases of violence from the perspective of Logotherapy

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KEYWORDS ABSTRACT

Children inflict with legal Parenting pattern Logotherapy Violence Children in Conflict with the Law (ABH), as children who commit criminal acts, commit acts that are prohibited according to statutory regulations and other legal regulations. Based on the type of crime is divided into two, namely violent and non-violent crimes. Previous studies have explained that one of the causes of ABH is inappropriate parenting. This study aimed to find out the meaning of ABH in cases of violence against the care they received. This research method is qualitative. There were 5 participants in this study who were ABH who lived in Class 1 Kupang LPKA. Data collection techniques are through pictures and interviews. The study results showed that all participants received violent parenting and anger toward their parents. Based on the picture, the results are (1) a feeling of longing for parents, (2) needing to be cared for and loved (3) wanting to do different parenting for their children. Future research can examine more deeply the stages of the meaning of ABH regarding the parenting style they experience.

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#### Introduction

Children are the next generation who will bring change to the nation's development. Law No. 3 of 1997 defines Children in Conflict with the Law (ABH) as children who commit criminal acts, commit acts that are prohibited according to statutory regulations and other legal regulations. In Indonesia, children who commit crimes between the ages of 8 and 12 are only subject to action sanctions, namely diversion. However, those aged 12 to 18 years will be

subject to criminal penalties (Salundik, 2020). Basically, the Indonesian government through presidential decree number 36 of 1990 has put forward the principle of child protection for the survival and development of children as well as legal protection. This is intended so that children can live life with all their rights and needs fulfilled. However, in reality, not all children get their rights as children properly, causing behavioral problems in children, even in conflict with the law (Palomares, 2018).

Children in conflict with the law (ABH) in psychology, as coined by Kearney, is known as Conduct Disorder. Conduct disorder is behavior that deviates or goes against social norms, and is very disturbing to society (Aprilia, Nur, Usman, & Husin, 2020). Types of violent cases committed by ABH can be grouped into two, namely those involving violence and non-violence. Crime cases involving violence include robbery, beatings, child protection, and murder, while non-violent crimes include theft and narcotics (Putri, Rahayu, & Adjuni, 2021). The crimes committed by ABH were the result of several factors. There are several factors that cause crime in ABH, namely environmental and technological influences, association, biological factors, and parenting styles (Amran & Basri, 2020).

Parenting is an important aspect that affects children's well-being and creates a functional family (Desa, Yusoff, Zamani, Kadir, 2015). This research focuses more on discussing parenting styles as a cause of violent crimes in ABH. Democratic parenting style makes children grow up to be children who are mentally healthy and behave adaptively in their lives. Authoritarian, permissive, and neglectful parenting styles contribute to children committing crimes (Igbo & Ihejiene, 2014). The results show that children who experience or witness violence in the family have the potential to become victims or perpetrators of violence. This is because late childhood, adolescence, to early adulthood (8-25 years) have not experienced the maturity of psychosocial development (Monahan, Steinberg, Cauffman, & Mulvey, 2013).

Children who are victims of violence tend to experience impaired mental, social, and moral functioning, as well as psychological stress such as anxiety, depression, and even psychotic disorders (Omar & Hamzah, 2016). On the other hand, children who become perpetrators of violence tend to experience behavioral disorders, especially deviant behavior that norms and aggressive towards the surrounding environment. The results of the research show that deviant behavior in juvenile delinquency has reached murder, theft, rape, and so on, which increasingly threatens the safety of a country (Othman & Druis, 2015). These behaviors ultimately bring children into conflict with the law.

ABH aged between 12-18 years who do not experience diversion will be subject to criminal law in the Special Child Development Institute (LPKA). Based on observations and initial interviews conducted by researchers, LPKA ABH is fostered through spiritual activities, formal and non-formal education, as well as other activities from communities that work with LPKA. In addition, LPKA forms the character of ABH through regulations that ABH must obey. These restrictive rules limit the space for ABH to explore and be creative with others. The activities carried out by ABH in LPKA are also repetitive routines that have not changed at all for years. As a result, ABH feels bored, lonely, and isolated from the environment, and has an impact on the ABH's mental state. This condition is exacerbated by the lack of family support due to limited visiting times from the ABH family. The phenomenon of the presence of ABH in LPKA gradually narrows knowledge about the outside world and limits the meaningful experiences that may be obtained outside LPKA.

ABH can only give meaning to their life in LPKA based on the experience that ABH has gained in LPKA. Bastaman (Kardipranoto, Anakaka & Benu, 2021) explains several stages to achieve the meaning of life, namely (1) the suffering stage which consists of tragic events and meaningless appreciation (2) the stage of self-acceptance which consists of self-understanding and changes in attitude (3) the stage of discovering the meaning of life which consists of finding meaning and determining the purpose of life (4) the stage of realizing meaning which consists of self-realization, directed activity and fulfilling the meaning of life (5) the stage of meaningful life consisting of meaningful appreciation and happiness. One example of a tragic event that becomes a source of meaning is violence in parenting, especially for ABH. However, ABH is unable to achieve this meaning because they feel that this is not something important.

The meaning of life has dynamics that are formed through various processes in life, including children in LPKA. ABH reflects the will to live a meaningful life in LPKA because the care received will determine the behavior of ABH in the future. This also influences the views or wishes about what kind of parents ABH dreams of.

#### **Method**

This research is qualitative research. The participants in this study were 5 ABH with cases of violence. The criteria used in selecting participants were (1) ABH who committed crimes of violence; (2) teenagers aged 12 – 19 years; and (3) Criminal sentence in Class 1 Kupang LPKA. All participants have given written consent to participate in the research process with anonymity. The data collection process was carried out by drawing methods and open interviews. Each participant participated in 2 to 4 interview sessions. Data analysis in this

study was carried out using thematic analysis. The data collection process was carried out by the process of (1) rapport (2) drawing the theme of the current mood (3) telling what was drawn (4) drawing the meaning of parenting so far (5) in-depth interviews related to parenting based on pictures (6) verbatim (7) thematic analysis.

#### **Result and Discussion**

Participants in this study were 5 participants who were ABH living in LPKA. The following is the demographic data of the participants:

Table 1. ABH Demographic Data in Kupang Class 1 LPKA

Participant	Age	Gender	<b>Length of Punishment</b>	Long Time at LPKA	Case
DD	18	M	4 Years Month 6 Bulan	1 Years 7 Month	Murder
GS	19	M	6 Years 8 Month	1 Years 5 Month	Murder
GL	17	M	4 Years 6 Month	1 Years 5 Month	Murder
MK	17	F	5 Years	1 Years 5 Month	Murder
PP	19	M	10 Years	4 Years	Murder

<sup>\*</sup>Information: M = Male; F = Female

The following describes the results of ABH images related to the care obtained. From these pictures, the researcher then conducted in-depth interviews regarding the results of the participant pictures:

**Table 2. Image Results** 

Participant	Image	Caption	
I	Figure 1. T-Shrit	T-shirts are clothes given to them by their parents when participants first entered LPKA.	
II	Figure 2. Cracked Glass	His cracked self was the result of parents who didn't care about him.	

Participant	Image	Caption
III		Unbroken parental love is like the number 8.
	Figure 3. Number Eight	
IV		Spend a lot of time in the garden with his parents, who are farmers.
	Figure 4. Garden and Cottage	
V	Figure 5. Pillow and Chairs	Wants to be hugged and hugged and wants to lean on his parents, especially his mother.

Based on Table 2, it can be interpreted that there are several themes that emerge (1) Feelings of longing for parents (2) having a need to be cared for and loved (3) Positive hopes to become parents in the future. The results of interviews with these pictures show that (1) Parenting patterns of violence from parents (2) Feelings of anger towards parents' feelings arise (3) Poor emotional management.

# **Unhealthy Parenting Patterns from Parents**

#### Participant 1

"I often get harsh treatment from my parents when I can't do what my parents want. Sometimes I try to defend myself, but my parents argue and say that I am a child who must hear what parents say."

# Participant 2

"I am an old man who doesn't care about me. I live with my grandmother. I want to eat or not. I want to live or die they don't care."

#### Participant 3

"My grandmother is good, but my mother, if I make a mistake, means she will hit her straight away. I remember getting hit the first time when I was fighting with my twins. Mama used to pinch too."

#### Participant 4

"If I'm wrong, my mother often beats me."

#### Participant 5

"Since I was young, I was always beaten, even when I was growing up by my father. I also witnessed my father often hitting my mother."

#### **Feelings of Anger Against Parenting**

#### Participant 1

"Sometimes I was angry with my parents when I was constantly being abused. If I get too emotional, I like to slam doors or slam things in the house."

#### Participant 2

"I was very angry with my father and mother. I was never cared for. Sometimes I compare myself with my uncle, who has children and always pays attention to his children. I do not like to hear a lot of advice from them."

#### Participant 3

"My uncle often hit me without any problems, and when I couldn't stand the treatment, I would respond by swearing at my uncle."

#### Participant 4

"I often dispute what my parents talk to me about. If I'm tired of hearing what my parents say, I tell my parents not to talk much."

#### Participant 5

"I didn't like my father. He wanted to die, too, I didn't care. He hit me without thinking about me, my mother, and my siblings. That's why we all didn't want to stay at home anymore. So I got into this problem. I have a grudge against him."

#### **Poor Emotional Management**

#### Participant 1

"If someone commits violence against me, I cannot control my emotions. I immediately retaliated with more violence than I got. I could have beaten him until he was injured."

# Participant 2

If I were angry, I would go out and drink as much as possible. Sometimes coming home sometimes not coming home. When I came home, and someone was talking a lot I cursed at him, smashed things, I even hit my mother. I also often fought with other people. Just a little wrong word. I immediately cursed and hit, even to the point where I got into this problem. In my mind, what I hit "must be destroyed, then I am satisfied."

#### Participant 3

"If there is a light match, I immediately get emotional, I immediately hit him. I don't like people the most."

# Participant 4

"I get emotional easily, so I often fight with my friends. I once asked them to fight on the beach, only because they were often bothered and then challenged them to fight."

# Participant 5

"I, if there is someone for me, at first I keep quiet, but if it's been too often I don't think about who he is. I just hit it. Love died. I like to fight and fight with other people."

#### **Discussion**

The analysis results show that ABH experiences parenting patterns of violence (authoritarian) and neglect (permissive). This has an impact on their behavior, where they also tend to commit violence and lack good affection. ABH also has bad emotional management, which makes ABH commit violence which results in being admitted to LPKA. This is also caused by behavior modeling that occurs unconsciously by ABH from parents. This condition reinforces the research on parenting that Diana Baumrid first conducted as the originator of the parenting theory, that parenting is based on two dimensions: demandingness (demands) and responsiveness (response/acceptance). Authoritarian parenting style puts forward demands from parents to be carried out by children so that children are not given the opportunity to convey what is good in their view. Meanwhile, neglected parenting is synonymous with parental indifference to the good or bad things that children do. The child then grows up without knowing what values need to be upheld in his life. At a certain saturation point when the function of emotional development is not going well, then the behavior of violence and neglect experienced by children will become part of the child's character. Children will show violent behavior towards the surrounding environment (humans and objects) and do not empathize with the risks and impacts of their actions (Sonia & Apsari, 2020).

This research is interesting because even though they received violent and neglected parenting, the participants did not blame their parents for the current behavioral conditions experienced by ABH that were the result of wrong upbringing. This shows that the participants have very limited knowledge related to good parenting. This allows ABH to carry out the same abusive and neglectful behavior pattern with their children. However, the research results

obtained through the pictures of the participants have shown that there are still memories and hopes for the existence and attachment with the family, especially parents. The research results can be explained from the perspective of previous research by Purwanto, Asbari, and Santoso (2020), who said that parenting has an impact on children's character naturally. This is influenced by the genetic structure, which is a blueprint for a person's strengths and weaknesses, and is fixed and different for each individual, also known as innate character. This character is dominated by the working system of the brain, which encapsulates various memories about the treatment experienced/witnessed by the child from parents (caregivers), as well as expectations for the treatment desired/needed by the child. This combination of contradictions between the treatment received and the treatment expected is what the participants conveyed through various pictures in the research results. This condition illustrates an attempt to make meaning of a simple life carried out by participants behind the walls of LPKA.

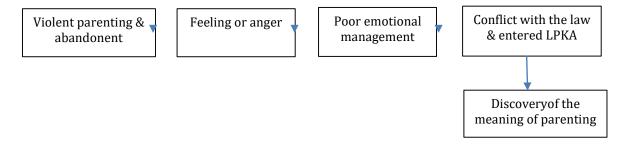
With regard to meaning, being away from parents makes participants aware of and misses parents. Longing need for affection and high emotion from parents are depicted in the pictures produced by ABH, except for participant 2, who has a different picture from participants 1, 3, 4, and 5. This is because Participant 2 gets neglectful care, where there is no feeling of love and rules in doing something. Participant 2 yearns for a life like other children but feels inadequate and has been devastated by the wrong upbringing. Frankl, in his logotherapy theory, says that every meaning in life always begins with the will to live meaningfully (will to meaning). The choice to live meaningfully departs from knowledge, experience, and awareness of every life event that provides lessons (Fitriana & Hadjam, 2016). For a child, parenting is the first education providing life knowledge. Parenting is a place where children get love and learn how share it with others. Caring, acknowledgment, support, care, and protection are forms of affection that can encourage children to create various experiences in life and interpret them correctly (Sa'adah, 2017). For ABH in LPKA, the true meaning of life cannot be appropriately created without good parenting from parents.

The dynamics of the meaning of ABH parenting can be explained in Bastaman theory, (in Fitriana & Hadjam, 2016) through the following flow:

1. Suffering Stage Patterns of violence and neglect are the suffering experienced by ABH, without ABH giving meaning to the parenting. This is because the age of ABH is still too early when experiencing violence.

- 2. Self-acceptance stage Entering adolescence, ABH has poor emotional management because emotional and moral development does not go well in parenting. This triggers children to behave in deviant ways that result in ABH entering LPKA.
- 3. The stage of finding meaning At this stage, ABH, with various knowledge and experiences received in LPKA, as well as the condition of being far from their parents and family, slowly begin to find meaning, especially about their figure as parents in the future. Feelings of longing and wanting to be with their parents make ABH increasingly understand the importance of parental love. Because of that, ABH began to have the desire to be parents who would not allow their children to be treated as they were currently experiencing.

The following is a chart of the meaning of ABH parenting in cases of violence:



In stages 4 and 5, ABH has not been found because currently ABH is still a teenager and is in LPKA, so he cannot enjoy parental care as something meaningful, and happy. This is in line with research by New Land (2015), which says that the family is the foundation of child welfare. This means that the quality of parental care strongly influences the psychological wellbeing of children. Parenting styles of violence (authoritarian) and neglect (neglected) do not have a good effect on the psychological well-being of children. Both of these treatments only make the child's social-emotional and moral development function not go well, causing feelings of anger, and uncontrolled emotions. As a result, children overflow into deviant behavior, which leads to conflicts with the law. The meaning that occurs by children in conflict with the law does not occur perfectly because of limited knowledge, which makes the meaning of life itself not seen as something important. Pastorelli, et al. (2016) also added that proper parenting is able to foster prosocial behavior in children, as well as fostering warm, safe, trusting relationships, arousing positive and responsive affect. Thus the probability of child deviation can be minimized, and the meaning of life can be created better.

#### Conclusion

Based on the results of the research, it can be concluded that the process of interpreting ABH parenting begins with violence and neglect that has been experienced since childhood, then finds himself as a child who is neglected and has feelings of anger towards his parents, so that he falls into bad associations, then finds the meaning of parenting when you are away from your parents, namely when you are in LPKA. However, they have not been able to realize and enjoy the meaning of parenting. Therefore, they can conduct research to find out stages 4 and 5 of Bastaman related to realization and enjoying parenting happily. If possible, carry out psychological interventions so that ABH can achieve the meaning of parenting they have experienced.

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