

## **CULTIVATING THE FOUNDATION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT BY COMMUNICATING FROM THE WOMB**

**Ajjah Sadiyah Nufus<sup>1</sup>, Nurul Fitria Kumala Dewi<sup>2</sup>, Titi Rachmi<sup>3</sup>**

Universitas Muhammadiyah AR Fachruddin<sup>1</sup>, Universitas Muhammadiyah Tangerang<sup>2,3</sup>

e-mail: [Ajjahsn@gmail.com](mailto:Ajjahsn@gmail.com)<sup>1</sup>, [nurulfitriakd@gmail.com](mailto:nurulfitriakd@gmail.com)<sup>2</sup>, [titirachmi1985@gmail.com](mailto:titirachmi1985@gmail.com)<sup>3</sup>

### Abstrack

Humans are social creatures, where in everyday life there is interaction between humans and this interaction uses language. Language is a means of communication in interacting with other humans, so that language is important in human life. As important as in children's lives Language development includes several aspects of development, namely (Speaking, Listening, Writing and Telling Stories) (Ilmiah et al., 2022) and all these aspects are interconnected in language development as well as the development of children's language which needs to be considered from an early age even since in the womb (fetus), this study researchers focus on the development of early childhood language, stimulating children's language development can be done since the child is in the womb, namely parents can chat, read books and provide audio such as music / chanting of holy verses of the Qur'an. This is reinforced by research data (Suri & Nelliraharti, 2019) , that fetuses who are often stimulated or listened to the recitation of the holy verses of the Koran are proven to be more intelligent children and cognitive nerve cells are interconnected and children become more prominent in aspects of cognitive and language development. This study applies descriptive qualitative research. The place of research is Posyandu Mawar 10 Gelam Jaya Pasar Kemis Tangerang. This research was conducted from 7-10 October 2024, and involved 15 parents who already had toddlers and were pregnant with their 2nd/3rd/4th child. This study used 3 stages of data collection, namely data reduction, data presentation and data collection. Children who are accustomed to being chatted with by their parents since they were in the womb have developed effective communication between children and parents so that children find it easier to express their feelings with verbal and non-verbal language. An emotional warm relationship is established between parents and children so that it is easier to stimulate children in each phase, especially in the development of children's language. Children's intelligence in language and cognitive development tends to be more prominent because of the interaction of chatting between the fetus and parents helping brain nerve cells connect to each other, this is assisted by consistent postnatal stimulation (Nufus, 2021) . This study focuses on parents' understanding of the stimulation of children's language development since in the womb and children who are accustomed to being chatted with since in the womb , parents in today's era have very easy access to all information but do not necessarily implement it while children grow up side by side with technology where the main stimulation is from parents.

Keywords : Language Development, Parental Pregnancy.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Language is a communication tool in interacting with other humans so that language is important in human life as it is important in children's lives, language development includes several aspects of development, namely (Speaking, Listening, Writing and Storytelling) (Ilmiah et al., 2022) and all these aspects are interrelated. continuous in language development.

This study focuses on the development of early childhood language, stimulating children's language development can be done since the child is in the womb, namely parents can chat, read books and provide audio such as music / chanting of the holy verses of the Qur'an. This is reinforced by research data (Suri & Nelliraharti, 2019) , that fetuses who are often stimulated or listened to the chanting of the holy verses of the Qur'an are proven to be smarter children and cognitive nerve cells are interconnected and children become more prominent in aspects of cognitive and language development.

During this pregnancy, the mother can stimulate the fetus through sounds and playing music that will form regular vibrations so that it can stimulate the senses, body organs and emotions because the fetus in the womb from the age of 3 weeks already has feelings, awareness, memory, learning ability, is able to know the difference between light and dark and can receive stimulation from outside (Suri & Nelliraharti, 2019) . These stimuli include physical-motorist by stroking the fetus through the mother's stomach skin, cognitive stimulation by talking and telling stories to the fetus and effective stimulation by touching the baby's feelings using music that will stimulate the development of brain cells (Stage et al., 2025) . Stimulation in the form of the mother's voice is more needed than stimulation in other forms, this can strengthen the bond between the mother and the prospective child.

Unfortunately, not all parents understand and know the benefits of inviting communication since in the womb is one form of stimulating children's language development (Nufus, 2021) when the fetus is invited to chat/read a book and there is a response in the form of a love kick or twitch in the stomach, this is one form of communication between parents and the fetus.

Every child's development is different, as is the development of early childhood language, both in terms of age and gender (Hanim et al., 2022). Girls' language development is faster while boys' language development is not as fast as girls because girls' brainstem are thicker and boys' brainstem are thinner, the relationship between gender affects children's growth and development according to gender (Nufus & Lestari, 2023) . There are differences in language development between children who have been invited to chat since in the womb and children who have never been invited to interact since in the womb (Soedjatmiko, 2011).

Parents can use various media and create various activities that can stimulate the development of children in the womb. Parents who already have children and are pregnant when doing activities with their first child are indirectly stimulating the child in the womb. The tool that pregnant women usually use for baby classes is baby plus. The application is software that is used to carry out certain commands (Sanjaya, 2015: 102). Data processing is the process of manipulating data to produce more meaningful data such as information that can be used by those who need it (Sutabri, 2012: 21).

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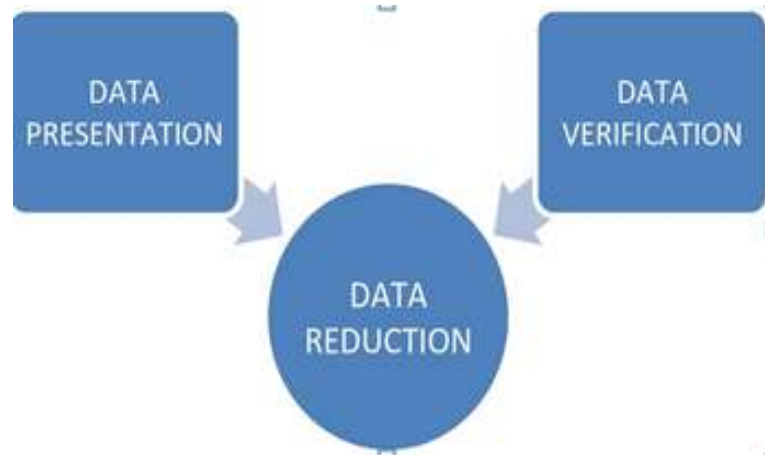
**Chart 1. Pre-Observation Results**

The data obtained by the researcher during the re-observation, namely with the majority of research subjects, 15 parents who already have toddlers and are pregnant with their 2nd, 3rd and 4th children, there are still many parents who do not know that we as parents can stimulate the development of children's language from the womb.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

This study applies descriptive qualitative research (Djam'an Satori, 2011: 23). The research location is Posyandu Mawar 10 Gelam Jaya Pasar Kemis Tangerang. This study was conducted from 7-10 October 2024, and involved 15 parents who already had toddlers and were pregnant with their 2nd/3rd/4th child. The researcher collected data using observation. Observation was carried out at the beginning of the activity until the end of data collection, followed by interviews. This interview was during the implementation of the question and answer session with parents, which it coincided with the measurement activities of BB (Body Weight), TB (Height) and LK (Head Circumference). Data analysis

consists of data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusion (Bahri, 2017: 73).



**Figure 1. Research Flow**

#### A. Data Reduction

During the process of collecting data from various sources, of course, there will be a lot of data obtained by researchers. The longer the researcher is in the field, the more complex and complicated the data obtained will be, so that if it is not processed immediately it will be difficult for researchers. Therefore, the data analysis process at this stage must also be carried out. To clarify the data obtained and make it easier for researchers in further data collection, data reduction is carried out. Data reduction can be interpreted as the process of selecting, focusing on simplification, abstraction and transformation of raw data that appears from Notes that appear in the field. Data reduction takes place while the data collection process is still ongoing. At this stage, coding, summarizing and creating partitions (parts) will also take place. This transformation process continues until the report.

#### B. Data Presentation

The next important step in qualitative data analysis activities is data presentation. In simple terms, data presentation can be interpreted as a collection of structured information that allows for drawing conclusions and taking action. In a qualitative study, data presentation can be done in the form of brief descriptions,

charts, relationships between categories, flowcharts and the like. However, in this study, the data presentation that researchers did in this study was in the form of narrative text, this is as stated by Miles & Huberman, "the most frequent form of display data for qualitative research data in the past has been narrative text" (the most frequently used for presenting qualitative data in the past is the form of narrative text). In addition, data presentation in the form of charts and networks was also carried out in this study. Data presentation aims to enable researchers to understand what is happening and plan further actions to be taken.

### C. Verification / Conclusion Drawing (*Verification*)

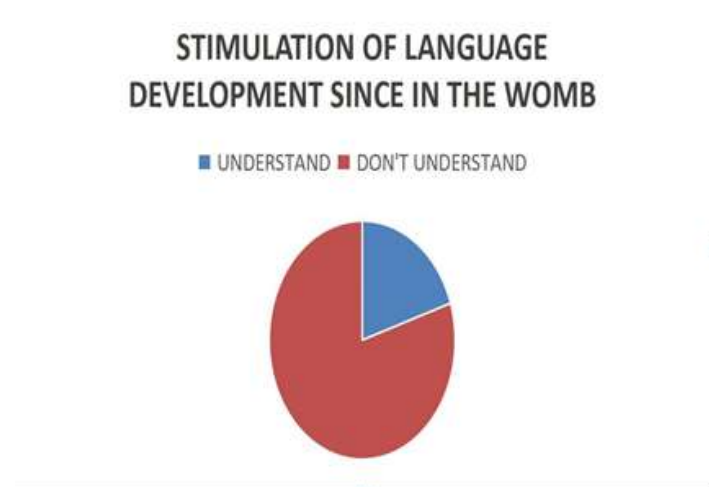
The third step in the interactive analysis stage according to Miles & Huberman is drawing conclusions and verification. From the beginning of data collection, researchers begin to look for the meaning of relationships, note regularities, patterns and draw conclusions. The basic assumptions and initial conclusions presented above are still temporary, and will continue.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **Results**

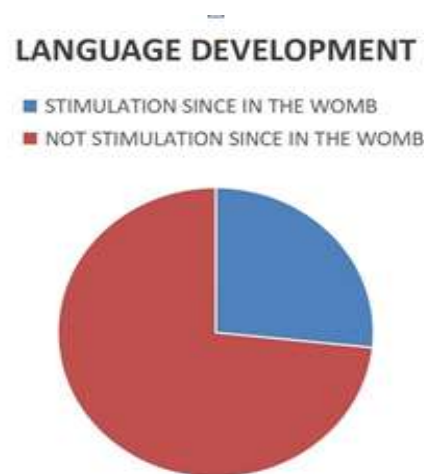
Language development in early childhood can be done by stimulating aspects of language, namely (Speaking, Storytelling, Listening and Writing) from the four aspects, as parents can stimulate it, since in the womb, reinforced by research (Suri & Nelliraharti, 2019) by fetuses who are Inviting to chat and communication between parents and fetuses will have an impact on the development of children's language (Nufus, 2021).

This is stated because there is a difference in language development between children who are used to being talked to in the womb and children who are not talked to since being in the womb, and there are still parents who do not know that stimulating children's language development can be done since being in the womb. The data obtained in this study was from 15 research subjects who had young children and were pregnant.



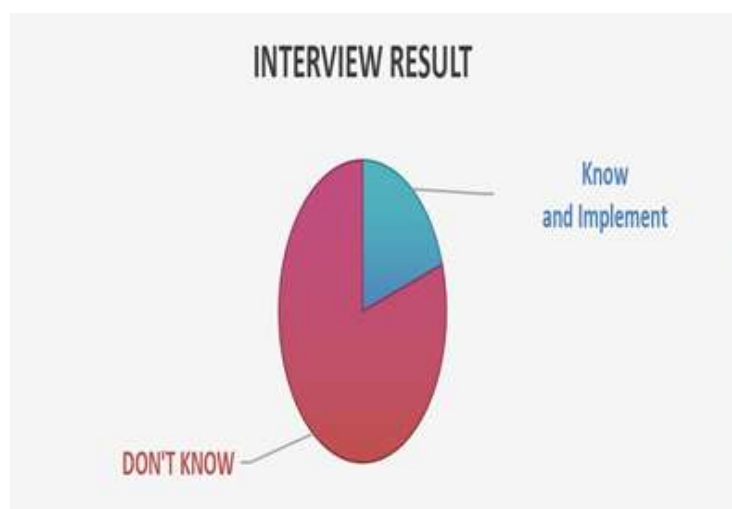
**Chart 2. Results of Observation of Parents' Understanding**

Most parents do not know since in the womb that the fetus can be stimulated in its language development (Nufus & Juningsih, 2022) , where the more often the fetus is invited in the womb, the more it has the potential to stimulate and connect more complex brain nerve cells. This is very unfortunate, people only know when pregnant, they focus enough on the growth of the child, namely the weight of the fetus, considering chatting with the fetus as a taboo (Sari, 2013). So from the data above, we can draw the following data on the language development of children who have been invited to communicate since in the womb and those who have not been invited to communicate since in the womb:



**Chart 3. Child Observation Results**

Children who are accustomed to being chatted with by their parents since the womb have developed effective communication between children and parents, so that children find it easier to express their feelings with verbal and non-verbal language, establishing a warm emotional relationship between parents and children, so that it is easier to stimulate children in each phase, especially in the development of children's language. Children's intelligence in language and cognitive development tends to be more prominent because the interaction of chatting between the fetus and parents helps the brain's nerve cells connect to each other. This is assisted by consistent postnatal stimulation (Nufus, 2021).



**Chart 4. Interview Results**

The results of the interview can be concluded that the majority of parents do not know that since pregnancy they can stimulate language development in the womb, because the mother focuses only on the growth of the fetus and still feels ignorant about whether it is true that the fetus in the womb can be invited to chat, tell stories, listen to music and even be invited to discussions because parents feel that inviting interaction with the fetus is the same as talking to a wall that has no interaction partner.

## **Discussion**

As parents, we continue to learn how to be the best parents for our children ( Nahmad- Williams, Lindy & Callader, 2010) , (Becoming, n.d.) one of which is



having the provisions to become complete parents who are ready to have children, if you are ready then continue to explore knowledge about children since in the womb that when pregnant not only focuses on the growth and health of the fetus but also focuses on the development of the fetus, one of which is language development (Henry Guntur Taringan, 2008) .

Children are a gift that has been given to parents and also a trust that will be held accountable in the afterlife. Therefore, parents must provide education not only in science but also in religious knowledge, because the first place of education is the family environment, education in the family environment is the most basic education for children to form intelligence, character or personality, as well as preparation. to enter the community environment later. (Ginanjari. 2017)

As we know, parents play an important role in providing examples for children, because children will imitate whatever they do. So parents must set good examples and habits every day, so that children can be used as good examples. Good examples and habits must be instilled from an early age or during the child's growth because this can influence the development of the child's character and personality. (Permono. 2013)

The foundation of communication that is embedded since in the womb will be carried over into harmonious emotional results until the child is born, the occurrence of this harmony will give rise to effective communication so that all aspects of language development can develop optimally (Suri & Nelliraharti, 2019).

Public health institutions have supported the existence of integrated health post counseling which focuses on child growth, this counseling can be in conjunction with child development as well where child growth and development become a mutually integrated whole. Language development consists of four aspects, namely Speaking, Reading, Writing and Telling Stories from the components of these aspects the main basis is the existence of an interaction between the interlocutor where in the mother's womb it acts as an interlocutor or

interlocutor for the fetus. Fetuses who are often invited to communicate, tell stories and listen to music will have their brain development stimulated and have an impact on language development later after birth (Nufus, 2024).

The current generation of parents tend to feel that child development is not important, only focusing on the growth of the child in the womb, there are many media that parents can use to stimulate children in the womb, for example, baby plus where the fetus already has a certain routine schedule to be stimulated or commonly called a school fetus, turning on YouTube by listening to the recitation of the holy verses of the Koran or music, reading stories using applications and many more media that can be used to stimulate the development of children in the womb, especially in language development (Gilang, Agung. 2022).

It is undeniable that parents who already have children and are pregnant must have their focus shifted not only to the child in the womb, they can ask for help from their first child to chat with their younger sibling in the womb, reading books to their first child is indirectly reading books to their child in the womb. Where there are many media and activities that are carried out simultaneously by the mother and first child which directly stimulate the child in the womb as well (Defi , Y. Mey, Y. 2021).

## **CONCLUSION**

In today's digital era, it is very easy to access all information, for parents who are pregnant can access various information related to fetal growth and development. It is very unfortunate if the pregnancy period is not utilized optimally, in this study focuses on language development that can be stimulated since the womb with the research subjects being 15 parents who have toddlers and are pregnant. Of the 15 subjects, the majority of parents did not know that they could stimulate their child's language development since in the womb and there was a difference between children who were used to chatting with their parents since in the womb and those who were not, seen from the growth of effective

communication and harmonious emotional bonds, this is inseparable from stimulation after birth.

The main foundation in the womb is the nutrition consumed by the mother. From these nutrients, the fetus or child in the womb gets sufficient intake and will grow according to its age and this is related to the development of the child in the womb as well, where nutrition influences the development of the child in the womb. As a parent who already has a child and is pregnant, of course you are no longer familiar with child growth and development, but awareness of the child's development in the womb is still not comprehensive, especially regarding the child's language development.

Children who grow and develop with parents who are ready since the child is in the womb always learn and continue to learn how to become complete parents. In this research, the researchers' hope is to broaden awareness of the development of children in the womb, where parents can stimulate the language development of children in the womb with various activities described above and using the media described above.

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