PARENTS' MOTIVATIONAL FACTORS FOR SENDING THEIR CHILDREN TO PRIVATE ISLAMIC SCHOOL

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Abstract-*Children mostly receive their first education from their parents. In Islamic intellectual tradition, the most important part to be instilled first in man's life is the teaching of religious beliefs, of morality (adab). When the children have to pursue further studies, their parents are playing important roles in the process of choosing educational institution for their children. In this paper discusses specifically on parents' reasons for sending their children to Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta Academic Year 2019/2020. This is a field study and using a descriptive quantitative approach by distributing closed questionnaires via Google form. The result shows that the parents really hope that their children are good in understanding general knowledge within Islamic educational framework. If the parents' wishes can be successfully instilled into their children in the educational process and hope it can be successfully achieved, it means the vision and mission of the school are fulfilled accordingly.*

Keywords: Motivation, Parents, Islamic Education

Abstract-*Anak-anak kebanyakannya menerima pendidikan terawal dari kedua orang tua mereka. Dalam tradisi keilmuan Islam, aspek paling penting yang menjadi bekal bagi kehidupan insan ialah ilmu agama dan adab. Ketika anak-anak harus melanjutkan jenjang pendidikan yang lebih tinggi, orang tua mempunyai peran yang sangat penting dalam memilih institusi pendidikan yang terbaik untuk anaknya. Artikel ini akan membahas faktor yang memotivasi para orang tua didik untuk mengirimkan anak-anak mereka untuk menempuh pendidikan di SMP Muhammadiyah 4 Surakarta Tahun Ajaran 2019/2020. Penelitian ini adalah studi lapangan dan menggunakan metode qualitatif deskriptif dengan proses membagikan pertanyaan melalui Google form. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa para orang tua didik*

sangat mengharapkan anak mereka mempunyai pemahaman yang baik mengenai pengetahuan umum dan juga ilmu agama yang mana menjadikan ilmu agama sebagai kerangka berfikir dalam memahami luasnya pengetuhuan umum tersebut. Jika harapan orang tua didik tersebut dapat tertanam kepada anak-anak dalam proses pendidikan, maka visi dan missi sekolah tersebut dapat tercapai sesuai dengan baik.

Kata Kunci: Motivasi, Orang Tua Didik, Pendidikan Agama Islam

A. Introduction

All parents want their children to be better generation than theirs, especially in terms of level of education and also moral values. Parents try their best to make their children enable to study at school at higher level (college). And one of parent responsibility and obligation to their children is to provide a good education. As Muslim parents, they must be selective in choosing a school for their children education because not all schools provide a good in both general knowledge and also Islamic teachings.

Parents have their freedom to send their children to any schools they want. There are several reasons why parents choose private school or Islamic school, one of those is that public or government schools provide less portion of Islamic subjects compared to Islamic school. Between public school and Islamic school have their respective advantages and disadvantages. Indeed, the most visible difference between these two types of school is that, the government school in term of tuition fees is lower than private Islamic school. But again, although the tuition fees in private Islamic education is higher but this school cover Islamic education and the practices immensely.

In this study, researchers focused on Islamic school. Islamic schools are spread all over the country, starting from the basic level to the college level. In Surakarta city there are varieties of private school. For example: TK (Taman Kanak-Kanak or Pre-School) Aisyiyah 2 Jebres, SD Islam (Sekolah Dasar Islam or Islamic Primary School) Al Azhar 28 Solo Baru, SMP (Sekolah Menengah Pertama/Junior High School) Muhammadiyah Program Khusus Kottabarat, SMA (Sekolah Menengah Atas/Senior High School) Al-Muayyad, Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta and others.

Although in the academic year 2019/2020, the schools were started with zoning system, Islamic based school remains favorite choice by common people. That is because private school (Islamic-based school)

can compete in term of its quality by having a clear vision and mission to ensure the outcome of the students. For that reason, the parents wish their children are having depth in Islamic knowledge as a result of it, their children can internalize the knowledge that make them to become a good person.

Islamic education is not merely an idea but also a series of action and activities. An institution that are designed to instill Islamic values in students must create a program to ensure that the students on right track to be guided and be reminded to follow the most best example of all human beings, Prophet Muhammad which all Muslims be optimally and potentially can explored to that right path.[1]

In this research, the researchers conduct research specifically at Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta and distribute the questionnaire via Google form to parents of 7th grade academic year 2019/2020. Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta is one of Muhammadiyah's Bussiness Charities in the field of education especially at the Islamic-based Junior High School. This school is located in Jl. A. Yani Tempurejo Rt. 05 Rw. II, Sumber, Banjarsari Sub-district, Surakarta City, Central Java.

Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta has been established since 1952. This school continues to make an innovation to ensure quality school and its improvement. Proven by accredited A, school facilities and infrastructure are very adequate. Meanwhile the varieties of extra-curricular activities potentially enable to develop interests and ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Based on the background aforementioned above, the formulation of the problem in this study is to understand parent's motivation to send their children to Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta. Based on the formulation of the problem, this study aims to describe parents' motivational factors for sending their children to the Private Islamic school.

The outcomes of this study are of several categories; parents and student as well as the school; as for the parents, this study contributes to the science of motivational factors of sending children to Islamic schools and also provides information to other parents on the importance of Islamic education upon their children Muslim. As for the student: this study provides motivation to improve learning in the foundations of Islamic teaching for his or her intellectual framework before excels

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[1]Mohammad Ali & Istanto, *Manajemen Sekolah Islam* (Surakarta: Muhammadiyah University Press, 2018), 18.

in general knowledge. And for the school, this study gives valuable information that ensures the quality of the school.

B.   Research Approach

A sociologist, Parson said that research is a search for something (*inquiry*) conducted systematically, with the emphasis that this search is done against the problems that can be solved.[2] In this research, the researchers are using field research. Field research is a research activity conducted by researchers to find information and data on the research objects implemented directly.

This research uses descriptive quantitative approach. Quantitative research is a process of finding knowledge that uses numeric data as a tool to find information about what we want to know.[3] While the descriptive quantitative research is a quantitative research that aims only to describe the state of social phenomena without looking at the existing.[4]

Sources of data are obtained by researchers in the form of information. Meanwhile the data obtained directly through observation conducted at Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta from the result of closed questionnaire via Google Form by students' guardian of 7th grade Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta academic year 2019/2020. The intense and depth interview with the teachers and compelling the documentation of Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta are also applied. In this research, there are 33 respondents of students' parents at 7th grade Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta academic year 2019/2020.

This research also uses the descriptive statistics for data analysis methods. Descriptive statistics is describing data either numerically (calculating average and standard deviation) or graphically (table or chart) to get a glimpse of the data so that it is easy to read and to see the result. The technique of analyzing data in descriptive statistics used by researchers is frequency distribution. Calculation of the data with frequency distribution can be done using a diagram or chart.[5]

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[2]Kaelan, *Metode Penelitian Kualitatif Untuk Ilmu-Ilmu Sosial* (Jakarta: Salemba Humanika, 2010), 1.

[3]Deni Darmawan, *Metode Penelitian Kuantitatif* (Bandung: PT. Remaja Rosdakarya, 2013), 37.

[4]Burhan Bungin, *Metodologi Penelitian Kuantitatif* (Jakarta: Kencana, 2011), 181.

[5]Deni Darmawan, *Metode Penelitian Kuantitatif* (Bandung: PT. Remaja Rosdakarya, 2013), 174.

C. Results and Discussion

1. Parents' Motivational factors for Sending Their Children to Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta

Parents have two roles at once, namely as parents for their child and also as the first teacher. All parents mostly hope that their children will be a good man (*ṣaliḥ/ ṣāliḥah*), and have a better life than them. One of the efforts is to send their children to Islamic-based schools. It is also based on the Prophetic tradition mention below; Rasulullah SAW said: From Abu Hurairah ra. He said, Rasulullah SAW said: "There is not a child born in a state of fitrah, so his parents who make him a Yahudi, Nasrani or Majusi." (HR. Muslim).[6]

In Indonesian Law Consitution or Undang-Undang(UU) RI (Republik Indonesia/Indonesian Republic) No. 2 of 1989 about National Educational System confirms that the function and role of family in achieving educational goals is to develop Indonesian people as a whole. Family education is a part of external education in a school which was organized at home. Meanwhile, it is also parents who give religious beliefs, cultural values, moral values and skills (Article 10 Paragraph 4). In the explanation of UU, that family education is one of the efforts educa □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ [7] □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

School is one of the educational institution that seeks to mature human formally with more organized and systematic approach. School can also be interpreted as building or institution for learning, a place to receive and give lessons. There are several types of schools, such as National School, National Plus School, Madrasah (Islamic-based school), International School, Natural School (Sekolah Alam) and also Home Schooling. In Surakarta City, all types of schools are able to compete well. In addition, the amount of Islamic based school is very much and still popular because it is no less superior to other types of schools in term of the quality.

Islamic-based school has their own characteristics compared to other types of schools. One of the characteristics is the school have more subjects of PAI (Islamic education). Therefore the Islamic-based school under the auspices of AUM (Amal Usaha Muhammadiyah/ Muhammadiyah Charity Business) such as Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta has Al-Islam and Kemuhammadiyahan

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[6]Imam An-Nawawi, *Al-Manhaj Syarh Sahih Muslim ibn Al-Hajjaj Jilid XI* Terj. Fathoni Muhammad dan Futuhal Arifin (Jakarta: Darus Sunah, 2011), 885.

[7]Umar Tirtarahardja, *Pengantar Pendidikan* (Jakarta: PT Asdi Mahasatya, 2005), 169.

(AIK) subjects. With the subjects mentioned, the students will have a deep knowledge of Islamic education.

Islamic education (PAI) should be taught since childhood because childhood education is a decisive basis for further education. According to Zakiyah Daradjat that: "In general, a person's knowledge of religion is determined by the education, experience and training that he has been having since childhood." Therefore, the development of religion in a person is determined by education and experience of life since childhood in family, school, community environment especially in the period of growth.[8]

Motivation is a strength both inside and outside that encourages a person to achieve certain goals that has been set previously. Therefore, motivation can be divided into two kinds, namely: Intrinsic Motivation (from inside or internal factor) and Extrinsic Motivation (from outside or external factor). Intrinsic Motivation is motivation that arises from within individuals who do not need outside stimulation because in each individual there is an urge to do something. For example all actions which are essentially human need, interest or curiosity. Meanwhile, Extrinsic Motivation is the opposite of intrinsic motivation, which is motivation caused by the stimulation of outside individual.[9] Example: student will pay attention to his teacher's explanation if the teacher uses fun learning methods that are easy to understand, etc.

Here is an instrument of questionnaire that has been shared via Google form to students guardian of 7th grade Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta academic year 2019/2020 on Friday, May 01 2020 at 10.00 AM until Tuesday, May 05 2020 at 07.45 AM:

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[8]Abdul Majid, *Belajar dan Pembelajaran Pendidikan Agama Islam* (Bandung: PT Remaja Rosdakarya, 2012), 22-23.
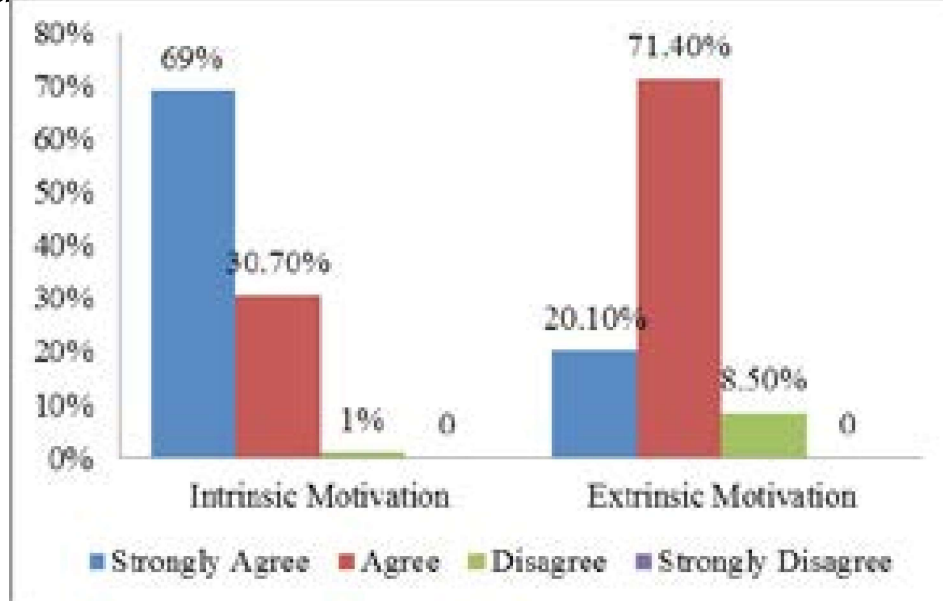
[9]Hamzah B. Uno, *Teori Motivasi & Pengukurannya* (Jakarta: Bumi Aksara, 2017), 4.

Tabel 1 Instrument of Questionnaire

	No.	Indicator	Item Number	Total Item
Intrinsic	1.	Having knowledge of Islamic education	4	1
	2.	Achievement	14	1
	3.	Reading and memorizing the Qur'an	10, 11	2
	4.	Strengthen faith	12	1
	5.	Worship	13	1
	6.	Good attitude	7, 8, 9	3
	7.	Interest	1	1
	Total			**10**
Extrinsic	1.	School location	2	1
	2.	Accreditation school	3	1
	3.	Vision and mission of school	5, 17	2
	4.	School environment and facilities	15, 18	2
	5.	School achievement	16	1
	6.	Teacher profile	6	1
	7.	Encouragement from the community	19	1
	8.	School fees	20	1
	Total			**10**
	Total Number			**20**

A questionnaire that has been shared via Google form to the student guardians of 7th grade Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta academic year 2019/2020 is divided into two parts. The first part is respondent's identity and the second part is the statements that have been adapted to the instrument of questionnaire about intrinsic motivation and extrinsic motivation of parent's motivation to send their children to Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta.

The data has been obtained regarding with parent's motivation to send their children to Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta also consist of two kinds of motivation. Here are the results of the data of average percentage from closed questionnaire via Google form that have been answered by 33 respondents:

It shows that intrinsic motivation student guardians of 7th grade Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta academic year 2019/2020 is 69% strongly agree, 30.70% agree and 1% disagree. While extrinsic motivation student guardians of 7th grade Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta academic year 2019/2020 is 20.10% strongly agree, 71.40% agree and 8.50% disagree.

Several elements that are included in the Intrinsic and Extrinsic motivation of parents' motivational factors for sending their children to Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta, as follows:

1) **Intrinsic Motivation**
   a) Interest
      The student guardians of 7th grade Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta when they send their children to this school without coercion from any party and based on the willingness and ability of each student guardians. This can be proved by the acquisition of data results indicated that as many as 21 respondents (64%) answered "Agree".
   b) Having Knowledge of Islamic Education.
      The student guardians of 7th grade Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta hope their children have a balanced knowledge of general and Islamic education. This can be proved by the acquisition of data results indicated that as many as 24 respondents (73%) answered "Strongly Agree".

   c)   Good Attitude.

The student guardians of 7th grade Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta hope their children have Islamic personality, to avoid juvenile delinquency and discipline in all good activities. This can be proved by the acquisition of data results indicated that as many as 33 respondents with average 71% answered "Strongly Agree".

   d)   Reading and Memorizing Al-Qur'an.

The student guardians of 7th grade Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta hope their children can read and have memorization of the Al-Qur'an very well and correctly. This can be proved by the acquisition of data results indicated that as many as 33 respondents with average 78% answered "Strongly Agree".

   e)   Strengthen Faith.

The student guardians of 7th grade Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta hope their children have a strong faith. This can be proved by the acquisition of data results indicated that as many as 26 respondents (79%) answered "Strongly Agree".

   f)   Worship.

The student guardians of 7th grade Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta hope their children to awareness to do five daily prayers and other worship. This can be proved by the acquisition of data results indicated that as many as 26 respondents (79%) answered "Strongly Agree".

   g)   Achievement.

The student guardians of 7th grade Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta hope their children to be an outstanding student bot academic or non-academic achievement. This can be proved by the acquisition of data results indicated that as many as 26 respondents (79%) answered "Agree".

2)   Extrinsic Motivation

   a)   School Location

The student guardians of 7th grade Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta choose to send their children to this school because it is easy to reach from the residence. This can be proved by the acquisition of data results indicated that

as many as 25 respondents (76%) answered "Agree".

b) Accreditation School

The student guardians of 7th grade Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta choose to send their children to this school because Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta has excellent accreditation which is A, so this is very good school. This can be proved by the acquisition of data results indicated that as many as 24 respondents (73%) answered "Agree".

c) Vision and Mission of School.

The student guardians of 7th grade Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta have noticed the vision and mission of this school before send their children to Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta. . This can be proved by the acquisition of data results indicated that as many as 33 respondents with average 87% answered "Agree".

d) Teacher Profile

Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta has professional and good manners teachers so the learning process will going well. This can be proved by the acquisition of data results indicated that as many as 23 respondents (70%) answered "Agree".

e) School Environment and Facilities.

Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta has complete and adequate facilities and infrastructures also the school environment is comfortable and clean. This can be proved by the acquisition of data results indicated that as many as 33 respondents with average 70% answered "Agree".

f) School Achievement.

Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta has many achievements both in academic and non-academic field. This can be proved by the acquisition of data results indicated that as many as 24 respondents (73%) answered "Agree".

g) Encouragement from the Community.

The student guardians of 7th grade Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta choose to send their children to this school because the majority of their neighbors also send their children to Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta. This can be proved by the acquisition of

data results indicated that as many as 21 respondents (64%) answered "Disagree".

h) School Fees

The student guardians of 7th grade Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta choose to send their children to this school because affordable school fees. This can be proved by the acquisition of data results indicated that as many as 25 respondents (76%) answered "Agree".

D. Closing

Based on the results and data that have been obtained, it can be concluded as follows: parent's motivational factors for sending their Children to Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta Academic Year 2019/2020 consist of two kinds of motivation, namely: intrinsic motivation and extrinsic motivation. As for intrinsic motivational factors of parents for sending their children to Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta is the parents really hope that their children are good in understanding general knowledge within Islamic educational framework. As for extrinsic motivational factor of parents for sending their children to Muhammadiyah Junior High School 4 of Surakarta are as follows; the school location is easy to reach, the school has been registered A (very good) by national standard accreditation. Moreover, the vision and mission of the school, teachers' qualification, adequate facilities and clean environment, school achievements, affordable school fees are also important reasons for parents to send their children to that school. It can be concluded that the parents really hope that their children are able to comprehend the general knowledge in accordance with the Islamic intellectual framework. As a result of it, their children are inculcated with the proper knowledge as their foundation to become a good person (*ṣaliḥ/ṣāliḥah*). If such wishes can be successfully handled by the school and hope it can be successfully tackled, it means the mission and vision of the school are fulfilled accordingly.

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