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Communication Patterns of Overseas Students with Parents

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Abstract: Communication is an activity that is a human need. Overseas students of course still maintain communication even though there are differences in the intensity of communication so that there are obstacles experienced in communicating. The purpose of this study is to understand the communication patterns applied by overseas students with their parents by using Family Relationship Schematic Theory. This study uses a qualitative and technical approach to data analysis by Miles and Huberman. By using a purposive sampling technique, the research subjects were only limited to overseas students of the Communication Studies Program, State University of Jakarta, and Class of 2020 from outside Java. The results of this study are that there are several matches between informants such as communication patterns applied in the family, freedom of expression, intensity of communication, consistency of mutual agreement, and compliance with the media. Secondary communication patterns are communication patterns used by overseas students in long-distance relationships with parents.

Keywords: Communication Patterns, Interpersonal Communication, Family Relationship Schema Theory, Overseas Students, Parents.

1. INTRODUCTION

According to Littlejohn (1999), defining "communication" in a meaningful sense is very difficult because "communication" has an abstract nature and refers to various meaning (Littlejohn, 1999). However, we can all agree that communication is an activity that is a human need so that it cannot be separated from human life. Communication is an activity of transferring information, ideas, understanding from the communicator to the communicant in the hope that the communicant can interpret what is meant by the communicator (Mangkunegara, 2005).

The nature of communication is a social process when symbols create and interpret the meanings around them used by individuals (West & Turner, 2009). In everyday life, an individual can communicate with individuals or with groups. Communication between

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individuals with individuals is often referred to and is known as interpersonal communication. Communication is defined as the transfer of thoughts, feelings, opinions, and giving advice between two people (Nursalam, 2013). The word "advice" is synonymous with the message given by parents to their children. Parents are the first "school" for a child. Therefore, communication that exists between parents and children must take place effectively.

That is, the communication that occurs is that there must be a shared meaning that is mutually understood between those who give the message and those who receive the message (Mulyana, 2017). Communication that occurs between children and parents includes interpersonal communication. Interpersonal communication includes communication that exists between two people or two humans and can be said to be effective if there is empathy, support, confidence and so on in the communication that occurs (Devito, 2016). The important role that is owned in communication that occurs in the family is in terms of parenting and supervision carried out by parents to children (LePiore, 2006).

Communication media provide opportunities for humans to stay connected with one another (Maulia et al., 2021). Long-distance communication is supported by the presence of new media in society. The convenience provided by the internet makes communication easier because there is no space and time limit. However, the internet certainly has a weakness, namely relying on a stable signal so that communication can run smoothly which is of course one of the obstacles in Indonesia because the spread of the internet in Indonesia is not evenly distributed. The construction of the Base Transceiver Station (BTS) is still under construction, meaning that not all points in Indonesia have equal internet access (Tempo.Co, 2021). Based on a survey conducted by the Association of Indonesian Internet Service Providers (APJII) as of November 2020, internet penetration in Indonesia comes from Java, which has reached
56.4%; followed by Sumatra 22.1%; Sulawesi 7%; then Maluku and Papua 3% (Annur, 2020).

Interpersonal communication patterns of parents and children pattern is defined as a process of communication interaction that aims to convey a message or information and is carried out by two or more people (Rahmawati & Gazali, 2018). According to Rahmah, the communication pattern is said to be a message delivery system that is conveyed through certain symbols, there is meaning contained in the message, and can stimulate changes in one's behavior (Rahmah, 2019). Putra & Malau (2020) concluded that the pattern of communication is a pattern of relationship with several elements that complement each other which is a requirement for the formation of this pattern and an overview of the ongoing communication process is the goal (Putra & Malau, 2020).

Communication patterns that occur between parents and children are categorized into three (Yusuf, 2014). The first is a liberating or permissive communication pattern which is characterized by the freedom given by parents to children that is unlimited so that children behave according to their wishes. In permissive communication patterns, parents tend to give in and parents give too much freedom over everything so that children perceive that parents don't care about them.

The second pattern of communication is the pattern of authoritarian or authoritarian communication. Authoritarian communication patterns characterized by autonomy or child freedom tend to be ignored by parents by setting restrictions on children, namely in the form of rigid rules made by parents for children. Parents who apply authoritarian communication patterns have the view that the rules they set are for the good of their children so that the child

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must follow all the rules they set. The pattern of authoritarian communication has high control but low acceptance, there is the application of punishment, it is more commanding than open, rigid, tends to be emotional, and there is resistance.
The last communication pattern is a democratic or authoritative communication pattern. The existence of openness between parents and children is something that marks the pattern of authoritarian communication. Children's abilities are valued by parents directly. In addition, the attitude of parents who apply an authoritarian communication pattern is to have a rational attitude and the child's interests take precedence but still control the child. Children are given freedom by their parents for their choices and actions. Communication that occurs in an authoritarian communication pattern is two-way, parents try to show a warm approach to their child.

Schema Theory of Family Relations the Family Relationship Scheme Theory explains the location of the relationship between children and parents in a family by providing an explanation of the interactions carried out by a person with other family members at one time (Santosa & Naryoso, 2019). A family is grouped into several categories by this Family Relationship Scheme Theory so that the communication patterns applied in a family can be easily identified. Fitzpatrick et al. argues that communication that occurs in a family occurs based on certain schemes and is not random because of how the interaction of communication that exists between one family member and another is determined based on this particular scheme (Morissan, 2013).

There are two kinds of vital orientations in a family scheme proposed by Morissan (2013), namely conversational orientation which is characterized by freedom in expressing opinions owned by all family members and communication within the family has a high intensity; and obedience orientation which is marked by the same way of life, views, behavior, and life values that are owned and carried out by all family members and children in the family have a tendency to enjoy hanging out with their parents (Morissan, 2013). The existence of a scheme that determines how communication is established in the family causes different types of families and according to Morissan (2013), there are four types of a family, namely the pluralistic type, the protective type, the consensual type, and the laissez faire type (Morissan, 2013).

2. RELATED WORK

Communication interactions carried out between communicators and communicants create patterns of communication. Parents and children certainly have communication patterns and communication patterns will change if influenced by several factors, one of which is distance. Communication patterns that occur between children and parents who live separately usually change.

Research conducted by Barus and Pradekso (2018) entitled Perilaku Komunikasi Antara Mahasiswa Rantau dengan Orangtua states that in conducting long-distance relationships, students and parents experience changes in communication (Barus & Pradekso, 2018). This

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research, which aims to explain communication behavior between students and their parents, shows that changes in communication patterns are experienced by all research subjects due to the busyness experienced by the subjects as students due to campus activities.

Research on long-distance communication conducted by overseas students and their parents was also carried out by Faradian (2019) in his thesis entitled Komunikasi Jarak Jauh antara Mahasiswa Rantau dan Orangtua dalam Menjaga Hubungan. This study uses Joseph DeVito's Role Theory and Interpersonal Communication Theory and shows that long-distance communication between overseas students as children and their parents is well established because both parties know each other's roles and are supported by encouragement, empathy, openness, positive feelings, and openness (Faradian, 2019).
Differences in distance and time cause long-distance communication carried out by parents and children who migrate to be carried out using the media and trigger different communication patterns to form (Rosiilawati, 2021). In the thesis written by Rosiilawati, it was found that smartphone media is a media that is often used by parents and children in communicating; between parents and children often discuss lectures, economic conditions, health, religion, advice, and motivation to study; children as overseas students respond to their parents' messages in the form of changes in knowledge, attitudes, feelings, and behavior.
Research on patterns of interpersonal communication between children and parents who live separately written by Posumah et al. (2022) is a study of students majoring in Communication Studies at Sam Ratulangi University class of 2018. Through this research it was found that overseas students who are children who live separately from their parents, the meaning captured by children in their interactions can be understood and applied thanks to parents who apply attitudes openness, empathy, supportive attitude, positive attitude, and equal attitude (Posumah et al., 2022). The results of this study also stated that the five informants who were used as subjects carried out various interactions and were classified into three types, namely the consensual type, the pluralistic type, and the protective type.

3. METHODOLOGY

A qualitative approach is the approach used in this research. Qualitative research is defined by Denzin and Lincoln as research in which the background is natural and the phenomena that occur can be interpreted using all the methods involved in this research (Ardabilli, 2020). Meanwhile, according to Moleong (2005), qualitative research is defined as research that has the intention that a phenomenon can be understood including what is experienced by research subjects in the form of behavior, perceptions, motivations, actions, and so on (Moleong, 2005). Qualitative methods are stated to be diverse, complex, and dynamic, which are the properties of qualitative methods and the dynamic properties are owned by the reality of truth (Mulyana, 2004). The research subjects for this research were overseas students of the Communication Science Study Program, Jakarta State University Class of 2020 who were obtained based on a purposive sampling technique. Purposive sampling technique is a technique that is used by including people who are considered to meet the criteria set by the researcher in accordance with the research objectives (Kriyantono, 2006).

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In research conducted by researchers, researchers wanted to understand the communication patterns applied by overseas students of the Jakarta State University Communication Study Program Class of 2020 and their parents. The criteria set by the researcher for the research subject are; (1) The research subjects were overseas students in the Communication Science Study Program, Jakarta State University Class of 2020 from outside Java Island; (2) The research subjects lived separately from the area where their parents lived; (3) Research subjects communicate with parents through new media. Based on the criteria set by the researchers, there were four subjects in this study.

The data collection technique in this study was interviewing overseas students of the Communication Science Study Program, Jakarta State University Class of 2020. Researchers interviewed informants by providing a number of general and broad questions with the aim of deepening the understanding of what would be studied. The questions asked to the interviewees included conversation orientation and obedience orientation. The information obtained will be analyzed using Miles and Huberman's analysis techniques, namely collecting data, reducing data, presenting data, and drawing conclusions (Sugiono, 2016). Through these data analysis techniques, research findings are clarified by using theories that have been tested for success and then research findings are analyzed using data analysis components, namely data collection, data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions so that they become clear (Wanto, 2017).

4. RESULTS AND DISSCUSSION

The results of the research that was carried out by researchers regarding communication patterns between overseas students and their parents were carried out on 4 informants who were overseas students majoring in Communication Studies at Jakarta State University class of 2020 from outside Java Island, namely PM, LT, YN, and WS. Description of the results of interviews conducted by researchers with informants regarding the conversation orientation scheme which includes how communication patterns are applied between students as children and their parents, freedom of opinion, and conversational interactions that occur; and an obedience orientation scheme which includes the level of consistency of children towards obedience to parents while living far away and adherence to the media.
In the conversation orientation scheme, communication patterns, freedom in expressing opinions, to the intensity of communication interactions between students and their parents are things that researchers want to know. Based on the information obtained by the researchers, all informants applied democratic or authoritative communication patterns in their communication with parents. Informants tried to be open with their parents and parents also gave freedom to children to make decisions but still set limits as a form of parental control over children.

"As for my parents, liberating but not without limitations. Between children and parents there must be openness but sometimes as a child I can't tell all things to parents" (Informant YN)

The communication pattern applied by the informant in his communication with parents influences the freedom of opinion possessed by the informant. Informants feel that the

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openness that is applied in their communication patterns makes them feel free to express opinions when communicating with parents. The researcher found a match between PM and WS and LT and YN regarding the intensity of communication interactions that occurred with parents. PM with WS is classified as frequently communicating with parents. Meanwhile, informants LT and YN tend to rarely communicate with their parents. The low intensity of communication interaction that occurred between LT and YN informants and parents was caused by the lack of free time that both children and parents had. In the obedience orientation scheme, children's compliance with parents' wishes and agreements that have been agreed upon and whether children comply with the media plan used for communication are two aspects that researchers want to know.
Based on the information provided by the informants, all informants have a high compliance scheme. All informants tried to obey what their parents ordered them to do and the informants remembered their parents' messages well. Even though they were far from being supervised by their parents, the informants always held positive principles such as not doing bad things and not wanting to disappoint the trust that their parents had given them.

"Very obedient, because I know the boundaries set by parents are for a good cause too. Because my parents have also experienced it, surely they know what is right and what is wrong" (Informant PM)

The same thing was also found in the information provided by the informant WS. "How obedient (with parental limits) maybe I can't judge myself. However, from myself, I can remember what my parents said so I don't do anything weird" (Informant WS) the use of media used to communicate between informants and parents which was previously planned is a form of adherence to the media in the communication process.
Based on the results of the study, only one informant, namely the PM informant, made plans to communicate with parents, namely holding a special time to connect with parents.

"Yes, there is a special time, which is at night. Because I couldn't communicate spontaneously with my parents from morning to evening because I was busy working. Even if you can, it's because it's important" (Informant PM)

Other informants such as LT, YN, and WS communicated spontaneously with parents for different reasons, both children and parents could initiate communication interactions first. Based on research, secondary communication patterns are communication patterns applied by overseas students and their parents because in communication, tools or media are used as a means to convey messages from communicators to communicants by using verbal symbols, namely language (Devito, 2011).

5. CONCLUSIONS

Communication is an activity that is a human need so that it cannot be separated from human life. Parents are the first "school" for a child. Therefore, communication that exists between parents and children must take place effectively. Parents and children certainly have

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communication patterns and communication patterns will change if influenced by several factors, one of which is distance. Communication patterns that occur between children and parents who live separately usually change. Long-distance communication is supported by the presence of new media in society.

The convenience provided by the internet makes communication easier because there is no space and time limit. Based on the results of research conducted by researchers, from the information obtained from the informants it was found that there were several matches between informants such as communication patterns applied in the family, freedom of expression, intensity of communication, consistency with mutual agreements, and adherence to the media. The pattern of democratic communication is a pattern of communication that is applied by all informants' families so that it encourages freedom in expressing opinions. However, the intensity of the informants' communication varied, for example PM and WS informants had a higher intensity of communication with their parents than LT and YN informants. All informants had a high level of consistency or compliance with parental decisions for various reasons. In contrast to obedience to parental decisions, the motive for obedience to the media is only owned by PM informants which is marked by the presence of a special time as a form of communication planning. Secondary communication patterns, namely tools or media used as a means to convey messages from communicators to communicants by using verbal symbols, namely language, are munication patterns used by overseas students in conducting longdistance relationships with parents.

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