

# Parents' Knowledge Overview of the Implementation of Toilet Training for Children Aged 4-5 Years (at Arifah Kindergarten, Lassang Barat Village, North Polombangkeng District, Takalar Regency)

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## ABSTRACT

Toilet training is an effort to train children to develop the habit of controlling urination and defecation activities in the right and regular place. In addition, toilet training also teaches children to clean up their own waste and put their pants back on independently without the help of others. A child's readiness for toilet training can be influenced by parental motivation, the child's physical, psychological, and intellectual readiness. The purpose of this study is to understand the parents' knowledge overview of the implementation of toilet training for children aged 4-5 years at Arifah Kindergarten, Lassang Barat Village, North Polombangkeng District, Takalar Regency.

The research method used is descriptive observational with a survey method. The research was conducted using a questionnaire along with a respondent consent form. The results of the study conducted on 30 parents as respondents at Arifah Kindergarten, Lassang Barat Village, North Polombangkeng District, Takalar Regency, showed that most respondents had good knowledge about the implementation of toilet training for children aged 4-5 years, amounting to 66.7%. Meanwhile, 23.3% had sufficient knowledge, and 10% had less knowledge about the implementation of toilet training for children aged 4-5 years.

It is expected that future researchers will continue this study by developing additional variables from this research.

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## INTRODUCTION

Children are the most valuable asset of a family, and during their growth and development stages, they require proper nutrition, stimulation, and parenting patterns to ensure optimal growth and development during their golden age (0-5 years), leading to a healthy and intelligent future [1]. Parents often display inappropriate behavior when dealing with children who wet their pants, such as being unresponsive, scolding the child when they wet their pants, allowing the child to relieve themselves in random places or outside the house, or knowing about toilet training but not applying it to their child. Some parents believe that the child will naturally be ready for toilet training once they start school. This condition is caused by a lack of parental knowledge about the importance of implementing toilet training, which is a crucial aspect of development during the toddler period [2].

According to data from the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, 15 out of 25 children aged 4-6 years worldwide still frequently wet the bed during sleep. This also occurs in the United Kingdom, where 1.3% of boys and 0.3% of girls defecate (BAB) and urinate (BAK) in inappropriate places or outside the toilet, and this continues until the age of 7. This condition is caused by a lack of understanding and preparation regarding latrines or toilet training [3]. In the Health Profile of the Republic of Indonesia, it was reported that the number of toddlers (aged 1-5 years) reached 23,960,310 [4]. According to the National Household Health Survey (SKRT), there are 75 million toddlers who struggle to control urination and defecation (wetting) until preschool age [5]. Based on initial observations conducted by researchers at Arifah Kindergarten, there were 27 students aged 4-5 years who participated as respondents in this study.

In the process, toilet training may fail in children. This failure can be caused by several factors, including internal and external factors. Internal factors may include congenital abnormalities of the urinary tract, urinary tract infections, polyuria, or neurogenic bladder. External factors arise from a lack of parental attention and concern, leading to neglected toilet training, or from initiating toilet training at an age that is too early [6].

Other factors that can influence the failure of toilet training include parental knowledge, the readiness of both the child and the parents, the child's awareness, and the child's bowel movement habits. When training a child to use the toilet, the correct method is essential to ensure the child understands easily. Additionally, the child needs to be patient and trained gradually to successfully carry out toilet training [7].

In the research conducted by Mitha Febriany Surti [8], the findings were as follows: (1) The implementation of toilet training at RA Lia Namira consists of three stages: the oral stage/material delivery, the modeling stage/direct application, and the habituation stage. (2) Teachers' experiences in implementing toilet training at RA Lia Namira include communicating with parents, assessing the child's readiness, providing supporting facilities and infrastructure, and preparing teaching materials. (3) Children's behavior during the implementation of toilet training at RA Lia Namira includes recognizing the sensation of needing to urinate or defecate, the habit of asking for permission to go to the toilet, performing toilet training independently, and understanding the etiquette of using the toilet according to Islamic teachings.

Based on the background described above, the author is motivated to conduct research on 'An Overview of Parents' Knowledge Regarding the Implementation of Toilet Training for Children Aged 4-5 Years at Arifah Kindergarten, Lassang Barat Village, North Polombangkeng District, Takalar Regency.

## METHODS

The type of research used is descriptive observational research with a survey method, where the author aims to describe parents' knowledge about the implementation of toilet training for children aged 4-5 years at Arifah Kindergarten, Lassang Barat Village, North Polombangkeng District, Takalar Regency. The research location is at Arifah Kindergarten, Lassang Barat Village, North Polombangkeng District, Takalar Regency. This study will take place from April to May 2024.

The population includes parents who take their children to school at Arifah Kindergarten, Lassang Barat Village, North Polombangkeng District, Takalar Regency, totaling 30 people. The sample in this study consists of all parents who take their children to school at Arifah Kindergarten, Lassang Barat Village, North Polombangkeng District, Takalar Regency, and are present at the time of sample collection, with a total of 30 people.

In data collection, one of the techniques used is the questionnaire technique. The questionnaire technique is a list of questions designed to gather data and opinions from respondents. If a respondent answers correctly, the score is =1; if the answer is incorrect, the score is =0.

After the data is collected, the next stage is data processing. The steps that need to be performed are [9]: (a) Editing (code checking), after the data is collected, editing or data revision is done, and the data is grouped according to the criteria. (b) Coding (assigning codes), this is done to facilitate data processing by assigning codes to the questionnaire responses filled out by the respondents. (c) Tabulation, after coding, the data is entered into a table to make data processing easier.

## RESULT

The condition of the research respondents based on age can be observed in Table 1 below:

**Table 1.** Frequency Distribution of Respondents Based on Age: Overview of Parents' Knowledge About the Implementation of Toilet Training for Children Aged 4-5 Years at Arifah Kindergarten, Lassang Barat Village, North Polombangkeng District, Takalar Regency

Age	n	%
17-25	2	6,7
26-35	18	60
36-45	10	33,3
Total	30	100

Based on the table above, it can be seen that out of 30 respondents, 18 (60%) are aged 26-35 years, while 10 (33.3%) are aged 36-45 years, and 2 (6.7%) are aged 17-25 years. The condition of the research respondents based on gender can be observed in Table 2 below:

**Table 2.** Frequency Distribution of Respondents Based on Gender: Overview of Parents' Knowledge About the Implementation of Toilet Training for Children Aged 4-5 Years at Arifah Kindergarten, Lassang Barat Village, North Polombangkeng District, Takalar Regency

Gender	n	%
Female	19	63,3
Male	11	36,7
Total	30	100

As can be seen from the table above, out of 30 respondents, 19 (63.3%) are female, while 11 (36.7%) are male. The condition of the research respondents based on education can be observed in Table 3 below:

**Table 3.** Frequency Distribution of Respondents Based on Education: Overview of Parents' Knowledge About the Implementation of Toilet Training for Children Aged 4-5 Years at Arifah Kindergarten, Lassang Barat Village, North Polombangkeng District, Takalar Regency

Education	n	%
SD	5	16,7
SMP	8	26,7
SMA	8	26,7
S1	7	23,3
S2	2	6,6
Total	30	100

Next, as can be seen from the table above, out of 30 respondents, 8 (26.7%) have a junior high school education, 8 (26.7%) have a high school education, 7 (23.3%) have a bachelor's degree, 5 (16.7%) have an elementary school education, and 2 (6.6%) have a master's degree. The condition of the research respondents based on parents' knowledge about the implementation of toilet training can be observed in Table 4 below:

**Tabel 4.** Frequency Distribution of Respondents Based on Knowledge: Overview of Parents' Knowledge About the Implementation of Toilet Training for Children Aged 4-5 Years at Arifah Kindergarten, Lassang Barat Village, North Polombangkeng District, Takalar Regency

Knowledge	n	%
Poor	3	10
Fair	7	23,3
Good	20	66,7
Total	30	100

Finally, from the observation of the table above, it can be seen that out of 30 respondents, 20 (66.7%) have good knowledge, 7 (23.3%) have sufficient knowledge, and 3 (10%) have insufficient knowledge.

## DISCUSSION

The results of the study conducted on 30 parents as respondents at Arifah Kindergarten, Lassang Barat Village, North Polombangkeng District, Takalar Regency, and based on Table 4.4, show that most respondents have good knowledge about the implementation of toilet training for children aged 4-5 years, with 66.7%. Furthermore, 23.3% of respondents have sufficient knowledge, and 10% have insufficient knowledge about the implementation of toilet training for children aged 4-5 years.

Respondents with good knowledge totaled 20 people, with education levels ranging from junior high school, high school, bachelor's degree, and master's degree. They are aged between 26-35 years and 36-45 years, and include both female and male respondents. This is due to the amount of information they have obtained from their families, experiences, and also their education. Although there are still respondents with high school, junior high school, or elementary school education who have good knowledge, this may occur because these respondents actively seek information on the proper and correct implementation of toilet training for children aged 4-5 years.

Respondents with sufficient knowledge totaled 7 people, with education levels of elementary school and junior high school. They are aged between 17-25 years and 26-35 years, and include both female and male respondents. This indicates that these respondents are less likely to apply their knowledge and have not actively sought information about the implementation of toilet training for children aged 4-5 years.

Meanwhile, respondents with insufficient knowledge totaled 3 people with an elementary school education. They are aged between 17-25 years and 26-35 years, and include both female and male respondents. This indicates a lack of attention from the respondents to seek information about the implementation of toilet training for children aged 4-5 years.

When describing the knowledge, age, gender, and education of the respondents, there is little difference between those with good knowledge, sufficient knowledge, and insufficient knowledge. According to the researcher's assumption, parents should receive information about the proper and correct implementation of toilet training for children aged 4-5 years from local healthcare professionals and should be more active in seeking and learning what should be done when a child is learning toilet training, whether through books or social media. Additionally, knowledge is influenced by many factors, including age and experience. Age represents a person's level of maturity. As a person gets older, their knowledge increases from the environment, education, and experiences of facing the realities of life, leading to mental maturity.

According to the researcher, parents' knowledge about the implementation of toilet training for children aged 4-5 years in this study is influenced by age and education. Most respondents aged 26-35 years and 36-45 years have gained much experience in how to implement toilet training for children aged 4-5 years. Most respondents with high school, bachelor's, and master's degrees have a greater curiosity to seek information about the implementation of toilet training for children aged 4-5 years.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the study on parents' knowledge about the implementation of toilet training for children aged 4-5 years at Taman Kanak-Kanak Arifah, Desa Lassang Barat, Kecamatan Polombangkeng Utara, Kabupaten Takalar, it was found that out of 30 respondents, 20 (66.7%) had good knowledge, 7 (23.3%) had sufficient knowledge, and 3 (10%) had insufficient knowledge. Parents' knowledge about the implementation of toilet training for children aged 4-5 years in this study is influenced by age and education. Most respondents aged 26-35 years and 36-45 years have gained considerable experience in implementing toilet training for children aged 4-5 years. Most respondents with high school, bachelor's, and master's degrees are more curious and actively seek information about the implementation of toilet training for children aged 4-5 years.

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