

## Parental Attitudes and the Conflicts inside Families; (Value from the social aspect)

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**Abstract:** There are some relations between parents in the family. All these relations belong, almost to every family. These relations are about some social-economic problems and are sourced from the public society. For example from these problems in the family, we can say depression, family inside failure, divorce and etc. In this article, the author tried to comment and solve partly all these problems in social aspect. In summary, parents are involved from the very first days of their child's life in shaping and socializing their child's emotional style. Emotional socialization by family members helps children learn to recognize and label their own and other people's emotions, influences both physiological and behavioral capacities for emotional regulation, and provides children with models and strategies for assisting other people in emotionally-charged situations. Although the refinement of these skills is doubtless a life-long process, individual differences in the basic style of emotional reactivity and emotion-related social behavior are clearly identifiable by the end of the preschool period. [Hossein Rahimirad. **Parental Attitudes and the Conflicts inside Families; (Value from the social aspect).** *Life Sci J* 2013;10(4s):463-467] (ISSN:1097-8135). <http://www.lifesciencesite.com>. 71

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### Introduction

It is the true that the family is the social and real system and has belonging to features. In such system, individuals, is closed by strong and emotional or mental connections two-sided and for a long time. Family, as an institute, together with religion and politics, has always been a building block of Iranian society. Also, we observe the diminishing in the strength of these connections it is durable in height of life in the inside of time in families. The level of parental conflict children experien. The is found to be a major factor in determining how children cope with the separation of their parents. Research consistently shows that high levels of parental conflict have a negative impact on children's ability to cope with the separation as well as upon their further development. Even very young babies react with fear when their parents argue.

There are many conflicts in the families. The conflict between the parents is considered from the basic problems of the world. It is one of the most basic problems of these conflicts being *between parents*. It is the possible to say that if it is and it observes conflicts between parents of all children in fewer degrees and they accept as like piece of the life. Even considering the institutional development in Iran since the beginning of the 20th century, the three mentioned institutions have always shaped Iranian society structure and social relationships.

### Discussion

The scientists claim two basic theories about the family conflict. The main dominant theory is the classical view; this theory researches the destroying, crisis problems and disadvantages. In this position, it is necessary to solve the problems (Ibrahimi & Najafi ,2008:35). Three characteristics distinguish family conflict from other types: intensity, complexity, and the duration of relationships. First, relationships between family members are typically the closest, most emotionally intense of any in the human experience. The bonds between adult partners, between parents and children, or between siblings involve the highest level of attachment, affection, and commitment. There is typically daily contact for many years that bonds individuals together. When serious problems emerge in these relationships, the intense positive emotional investment can be transformed into intense negative emotion. A betrayal of a relationship, such as an extramarital affair or child sexual abuse, can produce hate as intense as the love that existed prior to the betrayal. It is well known that a high percentage of murders are committed within family groups. Family conflicts are typically more intense than conflict in other groups. This intensity means that managing conflicts may be more difficult in families, and that their consequences can be more damaging. Except the psychological behaviors the family conflicts reflected to the health of human beings. The parent of

conflicted families goes away for treatment from other happy families (Hosseini ,2005 :67).

The second matter of family conflicts, complexity, is especially important for understanding their sometimes-baffling characteristics. Why do battered wives stay with their husbands? Why do most abused children want to stay with the abusive parent rather than be placed elsewhere? One answer is that positive emotional bonds outweigh the pain involved with the conflicts. These are examples of the most pertinent type of complexity in family relationships—ambivalence. The person is loved, but they do things that produce hate as well. The web of family relationships includes dimensions such as love, respect, friendship, hate, resentment, jealousy, rivalry, and disapproval. Several of these dimensions are typically present in any given family relationship. Frequent family conflict may not be a problem if there are even more frequent displays of bonding behaviors(Fruzsamadi, 2002 :2). The course of conflict often depends on which dimensions are active in a relationship. Recognizing the multiple dimensions of conflict is a prerequisite for helping families deal more effectively with their problems.

The third character of family conflict is the duration of the relationships, the duration of some conflicts, and the long-term effects of dysfunctional conflict patterns. Family relationships last a lifetime (Hosseini , 2005 :21). A child's parents and siblings will always be their parents and siblings. Thus serious conflicted relationships within families can continue for longer periods. Such extended exposure increases the risk of harm from the conflict. It is possible to escape such relationships through running away from home, divorce, or estrangement from family ties. But even after contact has been stopped, there are residual psychological effects from the conflict. Family members, particularly parents, play a crucial role in emotional socialization in the society. Family members may be the cause of different emotional experiences, depending on the content and affective tenor of family interactions. Family members provide models of emotional expression and affect-related coping and behavior strategies (Karabakhi and Vafayi, 2008 :41). Finally, family members provide direct instruction, teaching children how to recognize and label emotions, and how to act on their emotional states. Due to Muhammadinya, throughout the past two centuries, Iranian families have undergone significant changes due to the cultural, social, and political regeneration processes. These changes in the family have not only been reflected on day-by-day lives but have also been quite effective in relationship strategies among various institutions (Humén, 2005 :40). Family has neither only changed its extensive form nor found a

nuclear shape but it has also included emotional relationships. However, such families are facing major challenges such as increase in divorce rate, delayed age of marriage, distress of marriage and intergenerational challenges. Thus, this present essay focuses on the following issues:

- a) *Research methods for studying families;*
- b) *the history of families and historical changes that have taken place through different periods;*
- c) *characteristics of Iranian families;*
- d) *changes in families; generation and family;*
- e) *marriage and changes associated with it;*
- f) *challenges and problems that families may encounter including divorce,*
- g) *Destruction and the future of the family in Iran (Ibrahimi & Najafi ,2008:25).*

Infants and young children rely on adults for help in regulating negative emotional states (Kopp, 1989). During 3-8 months, several important developments occur. The first is the emergence of associative learning related to emotions. For example, the infant may calm at the sound of a parent's voice, as a conditioned response to the parent's anticipated assistance. Infants also attempt to control their environments through techniques such as voluntary crying or using distinct calls to express different emotional states. Infants also engage in social referencing; in ambiguous or novel situations, they look for the parent's emotional reaction and use parental affect as a guide for their own behavior. As infants express a wider variety of emotions, parents show greater differentiation in their response to infant behaviors, e.g., mothers are more soothing when the child is fearful than when the child is angry. Kopp proposes that caretakers' distinctive behaviors help infants recognize variation in their own emotional states and (b) that by providing assistance at times of distress; parents teach children that the child's own behavior can be instrumental in soliciting assistance. She further proposes that true self-regulation of emotional distress does not occur until age two when children have the requisite physical agility and cognitive insights (Eisenberg, 1992: 45). Across the preschool years, parents increase their expectations for self-regulation and gradually cede responsibility for emotional control to the child. A social study on family is of a substantially high significance compared to other social issues and institutions, both due to the status of this institution among humanistic and Iranian societies and also because of the role it plays in modernizing individuals in Iran. Identification of history, changes and all problems in a complexity are

associated with family. Thus various approaches have been introduced in studies on Iranian Family due to the researches. Firstly, approach is more cultural and ethical. It results from a vulnerable atmosphere prevailing over the society has forced many people to defend the Iranian Islamic family against various critical conditions. This is very necessary. Thus numerous text books on families in Iran cover subjects such as "*Family is the secret of happiness*", "*Youth and family formation*", "*Women and men's problems*", "*Problems of marriage*", which have been prepared and published since 1951. These books adopt an advisory and ethical approach in reflecting positive aspects of family relationships and its harms (Bahar, 2005).

Second approach may be referred according to Salon Sociology. In Salon Sociology or market Sociology, issues cover wide topics and all participants are regarded as experts and authorities. However, in professional sociology only individuals with necessary skills and who are expertise's on related fields have authority and opportunity to offer their opinion on families. In this approach, most obvious matters are taken for granted and there is no need for research and inspection. Taking for granted issues such as family crisis, perversion from women and girls, disobedience from girls and boys against their families, increase in divorce rate, on one hand and family health, mutual respect between parents and children. On the other hand, it comprises two differing judgments about Salon Sociology point of view related to family, those with bitter and unsuccessful experiences, talking about problems associated with family and those with pleasant experiences on marriage and family regarding it as healthy (Nelson and Izreayil, 1997 : 56). In the year 2002, public media and newspapers reflected that society is facing a new phenomenon called street women and girls and it was so reflected that all women and girls living in cities were seen as perverted (Fingerman, 1996:55).

The third is a professional and scientific approach. Systematic and scientific researches on families in Iran started since 1958 with the establishment of social research and studies center of *Tehran University*, college of Social Studies, and they have continued throughout more than four decades. Focusing on family, in a scientific way, an establishment of a research center on family sociology was led, offering courses on: *Family sociology*, *Family Pathology* and issues in Iranian Family, establishment for Women's Counseling Center in the Presidential Office, introduction of an academic course titled 'Family Studies' in the 1990s and an establishment for Women's research Center [3, 56]. Education, research, critiques and

examinations performed in such situation, have provided suitable grounds for compiling various books, articles, and magazines. The current tradition in Iran for studying families is more concentrated on identification in the kind of relationships among family's internal elements. Against this background, numerous researches and studies have taken place and have given out books, research reports, thesis and articles (Emery, 1992 :34).

Hershon and Rosenbam (1985) noted in their investigations such conflicts, behavior problems, dissatisfaction of parents from each other, coarseness circumstances, weeping of the women influences to the morality of children negatively. The implications for parents are straightforward. Children need not be shielded from parental conflict per se, as long as the conflict style is not aggressive and the adults behave lovingly towards each other once the dispute is resolved. Parents of young children should reassure the child that he or she is not responsible for anger caused by others (Esalter, Haber, 1986). Additionally, for children of any age, parents should be aware of the special significance and impact of arguments about the child. As we know from the researches the families in Iran have been considered as one of the most basic institute from a historical and social point of view and it is of a high importance compared to other social institutions. Identification of Iranian Society is not possible without identifying a family. Historically, and on day-to-day conversations, family has been made synonymous for terms such as tribe, clans, government, a social and political system, and the society. But in the modern time, family has been considered as an independent institution and part of society. But when is happened the harsh conflicts in the families, it is caused being sociological and psychological injured. For example, the scientists show that children during the conflict in the families begin to go away from the conflicts, because they are affected from these injured positions [Forhend and others, 1986]. Work on family conflict has led to some important findings relevant to prevention and treatment. One is that the form of the conflict is as important as how much of it occurs. Some families have a lot of conflict but still function well. This is possible because conflicts are embedded in the context of other behaviors. One significant factor is whether or not the conflicts are resolved (Cummings and Davies 1994). High rates of conflict may not be damaging if most of the episodes are resolved. Another key factor is how much positive behavior is exchanged when the family is not fighting. John Guttman (1995) has reported that if there are five positive behaviors for each negative behavior, then relationships are still healthy (Alexander, 1973 :12).

As a result of such findings, family conflict is not always considered to be a problematic pattern. Four main problems are taken account during the destroying of the attitudes of parents: connection with friends including opposite gender, alcohol, closing to religion prays and finally depression (Foster, Rubin, 1988; Hal, 1978).

#### **Developmental Risks of Separation**

Marital conflict and separation and divorce create risks for all children, and higher risk for those already vulnerable through other factors. Unresolved parental conflict and diminished emotional availability impact children's psychological growth. Children and adolescents of divorced families are more likely to experience greater economic, social and health difficulties through childhood and early adulthood (for example, more likely to use alcohol, cigarettes and drugs; to give birth as a teenager; to drop out of school early; to receive psychological treatment; and to have earlier marriages, with increased propensity to divorce). Co-parenting conflict is a significant predictor of ongoing distress for adolescents and adolescent antisocial behavior (McIntosh, 2003).

#### **How Does Conflict Impact Children?**

Children's development is profoundly influenced by the quality of their care giving relationships. Children soak up their parents' conflict by directly witnessing it and by bearing the brunt of how the conflict impacts their parents' emotional availability. The developmental tasks most vulnerable to 'stressed' parenting are the establishment of core trust, the development of attachment, regulating emotions, beliefs about oneself, understanding the social world, and learning (Crockenberg & Langrock, 2001). Children who witness intense/frequent marital discord exhibit higher levels of emotional and physiological reactivity, associated with poor outcomes. For example, children of conflicted separation are more susceptible to stress-related health problems (Fabricius & Luecken, 2007).

#### **Managing The Risks**

Children's distress is diminished as a direct function of whether separation conflicts are resolved, and the degree of resolution. Parental warmth, supportive and responsive caretaking and overall 'emotional scaffolding' of the child play vital roles in buffering the impact of conflict, as does an environment that reduces daily stress for the child, through consistency of rules, routines and expectations within the household, and quality of parental monitoring. When parent conflict post separation is low, increased father involvement appears to be associated with better child outcome (Medina et al., 2000; Finkelhor & Kendall-Tackett, 1997).

#### **Conclusion**

An important current issue facing practitioners, courts and policymakers is whether shared physical parenting can be beneficial to children when there is high parent conflict. Transitions between warring parents unable to conceal their feelings require children to use considerable energy to ensure their emotional safety, actively and constantly monitoring their allegiances, loyalties and the general 'emotional weather' they encounter in each parent's home. The potential developmental difficulties for infants and young children who do this on an ongoing basis may be far reaching. The presence of active and unresolved conflict may require a cautious approach to shared arrangements, and significant support to enable parents to build and maintain the necessary foundations for substantially shared co-parenting (child magazine, 2010:1). Good communication between the parents has the added benefit of allowing the parents to develop similar routines in their homes, and use similar methods of child rearing. Finally, by observing their parents communicate in a co-operative manner, children learn communication skills that will be of benefit for them for the rest of their lives. If they witness high levels of parental conflict, children learn that aggressive attitudes and behaviors are an effective and accepted way of interacting with other people.

However, if conflict occurs in forms that are physically or psychologically damaging, then intervention is necessary. Family conflict often involves more than two individuals. A third family member can be drawn into dyadic conflict to take sides in disputes. Multiple members may join forces and work as a team to win or settle disagreements. Such coalitions may be short-lived or become a permanent part of family life. They are common and can be beneficial. For example, parents typically side with each other in disputes with their children. This helps parents maintain order and is especially useful in large families (Emery, 1992 :54). Coalitions add a complex dimension to dispute dynamics and strategy. Skill in forming alliances can be especially valuable to individuals with little power. As with other features of conflict, coalitions can be carried to extremes. *Scapegoating*, a recurrent, excessive alliance between parents against a child or children, is known to be damaging to development. Certain coalitions disrupt healthy family functioning. An ongoing strong alliance between one parent and a child against the other parent can threaten the inter parental relationship. The conflict in the families is caused always with the coarseness, hopelessness senses, and antisocial problems and is resulted with the creating

antisocial attitudes amidst of the children towards their parents.

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