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RESEARCH ARTICLE

Challenging gender norms in parenting styles and their impact on children's socialization and identity formation

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Abstract

This study came to emphasize the necessity of researching the major role of parenting approaches that challenge traditional gender norms. It also aims to explain and explain the role and major impact they have on raising children and improving and building their personalities. This is built through research and research into existing literary reviews and theoretical frameworks that preceded and discussed this title before. Thus, through careful research and analysis, this study aims to discern approaches that support previous research, identify conclusions drawn, and reveal the multifaceted impact of parenting practices in the context of broader social norms and norms. By critically examining these aspects, this study aims to contribute to a nuanced understanding of how parenting practices that challenge gender norms shape children's socialization processes and contribute to their identity formation journeys. Additionally, by highlighting the complex interplay between parenting practices and social expectations, this research aims to illuminate pathways to promoting inclusive and equitable environments where children can thrive without the influence of gender stereotypes.

Keywords: Gender norms, Parenting styles, Children, Socialization, Identity formation, Challenging, Impact, Gender roles.

Introduction

Recently, it has been pointed out that gender standards have a large and effective role in influencing societal expectations of parenting behaviors, and this has made the trend move towards deeper stereotypes and limiting individual expression. Despite this, there are arguments, opinions, and viewpoints that work to reduce the importance and feasibility of these standards and have even begun to call for the discovery and existence of more flexible and equal standards and principles in raising children. On the other hand, it was found that the methods used in education have a major role in influencing the development, construction, and formation of children's identities (Eagly AH *et al*., 2007).

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Gender education is considered one of the most important factors that play a major role in the maturity, building, and advancement of the personality and its knowledge of what is around it. A person's knowledge of education, identity, and sexual knowledge can be formed according to this logic. It has been pointed out that sexual practices, teachings, and standards play a major role in forming social concepts and orientations among children at the beginning of their lives.

Since the components, standards, and traditions that depend on values and beliefs have a role in people's view of gender roles, therefore, work to address and develop this thought faces many difficulties and challenges. It is necessary to work to understand and know how these standards influence the construction and formation of children's social identities, as well as how their social and personal development can be enhanced or hindered in the future (Mesman J & Groeneveld MG 2018).

Materials and Methodology

Drawing on literature reviews and theoretical aspects, this research seeks to use a systematic literature review approach and rely on previous studies discussed and expanded in this title. This is done by relying on the keywords related to the title, gender norms, parenting techniques, socialization, and identity development, where references, studies, and all data and information that other scientists and researchers have previously discussed are searched, where reliance was placed on the use of PsycINFO, PubMed,

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and Google Scholar. By searching previously published studies and references, the focus was on experimental studies that had an applied aspect and that investigated the relationship between education techniques and child growth, upbringing, and formation. Therefore, it was found that by reviewing previously published studies and the data and information reached by previous researchers, we can reach a deeper understanding of the theory and practice of gender education. The results and data provided by these sources are also evaluated, analyzed, and examined so that we can understand and interpret the methods and methods by which gender norms operate in schools to influence students' social identity development.

Results

Previous studies and the literature reviews that were adopted indicated the need to reconsider and think again about reconfiguring and arranging the roles and obligations of parents in non-traditional environments. Many scholars and former researchers have pointed out more than once that families in which only fathers are responsible question gender stereotypes, are more egalitarian, and open to new ideas. This is largely due to making more balanced and fair decisions and providing the necessary care, and the need to emphasize the importance of both parents actively participating in the development and upbringing of children. Many studies and literature reviews have also concluded that non-traditional parental actions can develop and advance the social and emotional development and sound upbringing of children through a more stable home environment, stronger family ties, integrated family understanding, and a healthy relationship between parents. Of course, cultural background has a major role and influence on parents' ability to challenge gender norms and face the difficulties they may encounter.

Another theme that emerged from the research was gender misalignment in parenting and how this affects family communication. Many previous researchers and scholars have indicated that children whose parents adopt a more egalitarian style of upbringing are more likely to grow up in homes where parents encourage all family members to express their opinions openly and honestly and thus become normal people. On the other hand, traditional parenting methods may suppress freedom of expression and unintentionally reinforce gender stereotypes. Furthermore, research shows that if parents actively work to break down gender stereotypes, children are more likely to grow up to be more open and creative in communication. It is important to provide children with flexibility and the ability to think critically because they may face obstacles when faced with cultural norms and pressures outside the home. As analysis of the results shows, more research is needed on families coping with non-traditional parenting dynamics because of the complex relationships between challenging gender norms in parenting, parental roles, communication styles, and children's social and emotional development and support.

The data and information collected also confirmed the significant role that simple parental questioning of gender norms plays in the development of children's gender identity. Research and studies have also shown that children who question gender norms from an early age may be more likely to express themselves and build a gender-appropriate identity. Young people who are free from gender stereotypes tend to have diverse interests. It was found that young people who grow up in non-traditional families are more likely to have their needs met and feel more confident in their sexual expression. However, the presence and role of parents are only one factor in the construction and development of the child's sexual identity and socialization. Media, peer interactions, and cultural norms are also important. Although questioning gender norms in parenting can create an enabling environment for children to explore their gender identities, relevant aspects that influence children's sexual experiences and attitudes need to be recognized and managed. This highlights the importance of providing a welcoming and supportive environment for young people to determine their sexual identity, build their social personality, and form their healthy structure.

Discussion

Families with all their members, including parents and children, can gain many positive aspects from adopting non-traditional parenting techniques, as shown in the results of studies that emphasize parenting practices. The relationship between creating and achieving equality and flexibility in parental responsibilities has also been analyzed, with increasing emotional intelligence and flexibility in children and building a normal and fair personality in them. Many studies have confirmed that parents who question gender norms instill independence and self-confidence in their children, and this is done by opening a safe path for them where they can be themselves, more comfortable and spontaneous. In addition to this, Perry DG *et al*., (2019) the modern and alternative methods and methods used in raising and raising children aim to create stronger bonds between family members through the establishment of healthy dialogue and consideration of other opinions. It has been emphasized that the formation of cooperative parenting is considered an effective model for children by teaching them the importance of working together, taking turns in making decisions, working in groups, and the necessity of helping others and their participation. Therefore, this contributes to creating healthy interactions between all members of society and thus developing skills.

Strong in dealing with others. In addition, heads of families can provide and display positive examples for their children by adopting non-traditional parenting methods, which in turn works to create and achieve the desired development, the emergence of a sense of social justice and empathy, and taking positive measures towards gender equality.

Despite all these positives, we cannot ignore the challenges and obstacles faced by families who question society's gender standards. Research shows that social rejection and blaming parents who do not conform to traditional gender norms is quite common. Socialization, discrimination, and great pressure to conform to gender norms are some manifestations of this phenomenon. When parents venture into uncharted territory to reimagine their parenting, they may encounter internalized biases and self-doubt. Overcoming these barriers requires flexibility and support from a larger social network, such as advocacy groups, community organizations, and allies. Suppose there is a desire to create inclusive spaces where all parents can be themselves without fear of bias or criticism. In that case, cultural shifts that promote gender equality and address institutional differences are crucial. If these barriers are identified and addressed, community support for parents to break gender norms and provide an environment for children to grow will be strengthened (Hoominfar, 2019).

We also discussed how stereotypes of parenting impact society. In addition to supporting families in need, non-traditional education promotes social justice and gender equality. Sahithya BR *et al*., (2019), questioning gender norms and stereotypes is one of the best ways for parents to change gender roles and expectations in our world and the society in which we live. By confronting the idea that gender controls certain behaviors or characteristics, they work to create more inclusive and diverse interpretations of human identity. Non-traditional parenting also enables children to be themselves without worrying about their sexual identity or interests, which helps foster inclusive and supportive communities. Therefore, this discussion highlights the necessity of directing attention to the major role and impact that rethinking gender stereotypes has on families and societies and the building and raising of children (Garcia OF, & Serra E, 2019).

Conclusion

In conclusion, it can be noted that the results of this study highlight the need to repeatedly reflect on traditional gender norms and call for more diverse and inclusive parenting practices free of challenges and barriers. To provide an environment in which children can develop socialization and self-identity and create children with healthy personalities who understand fairness and equality, caregivers must adopt a flexible and inclusive parenting style. Cultural and social barriers prevent the widespread use of non-traditional parenting methods, although they have many advantages. There is a need for more research by other researchers to overcome these challenges and promote just parenting that is free of injustice and infringement by one party on the rights and duties of the other party, as well as achieving justice in different cultural contexts. In addition to this, there must be many different treatments and solutions, as well as programs that help parents face the difficulties and challenges of gender-related traditions and create comprehensive, together environments that enable children to be in a pure society free of complexities and difficulties imposed by values, customs, and traditions, and thus create prosperous children in thriving environments.

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