

INDONESIAN PARENTS' PERCEPTIONS OF THE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF YOUNG CHILDREN USING DIGITAL MEDIA

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Abstract

Indonesian parents have different views related to the advantages and disadvantages of young children's use of digital media. For many, however, this is a worrying issues because children are too young to understand the use of media in a positive way. Also, parents are uncertain of how to support their children in gaining benefits from digital media use while avoiding risks. This can be seen from how parents mediate their children's use of digital media. Therefore, this study aims to investigate parents' perceptions of the advantages, and also the disadvantages, of early years' children's use of digital media with a view to understanding the factors and experiences that parents take into account when deciding upon their parenting strategies in this area.

This research uses a qualitative-descriptive approach with data collection via interviews and observation. The researchers' key informants are parents who have early years' children who are allowed to use digital media. Information gathered was analysed to exposure parents' views about their children's use of digital media in accordance with parents' understandings of their children's experiences.

The results of this study are expected to identify parents' perception of the advantages and disadvantages of digital media use in early childhood. The findings of this research will provide useful information for parents who wish to support their children's positive use digital media.

Keywords: advantages, disadvantages, digital media, early years children, parents.