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# The Impact of Fatherlessness on Children's Ability to Control Their Emotions

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#### **Abstract**

In the development of children, the role of a father is very important. In addition to being the head of the family, the father figure is a protector for the child. Fathers are expected to be protectors and givers of security. The absence of a father figure will have an impact on the child's personality and psychological condition. It can also affect other aspects of the child, especially problems controlling emotions. This condition is then referred to as fatherless. Indonesia currently ranks 3rd as a fatherless country. Using a qualitative approach, this study aims to describe how fatherless impacts children's emotions. The research was conducted at Bagja Mandiri Housing, Tasikmalaya City. Data collection techniques using observation, interviews, and documentation studies. The key informants in this study were 3 children who experienced fatherlessness. The criteria used are divorced, divorced and dead, and the physical absence of the father. The results of the study revealed that the emotions that arise due to fatherlessness are self-harm, lingering sadness, and the compulsion to become independent individuals. **Keywords:** Fatherless, Self Emotion



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#### INTRODUCTION

One of the main things in a child's success is the provision of education from the family, in this case the family is the smallest unit consisting of father, mother and children. A father is the head of the family, a leader who is tasked with educating and protecting his family, not just a breadwinner, but a father also needs to be involved in paying attention to children's development, especially in the ability to control children's emotions (Maryam, 2022). A child who feels the direct loss of his father's role is usually caused by divorce, this death can be said to be fatherless. And children who experience the physical absence of a father are not said to be fatherless. Because the definition of fatherlessness itself is the absence of a father's role in a child's development and also not having a harmonious relationship with his child so that the child does not feel the love given by his own father (Fitroh, 2014; Smith, 2011).

The lack of father's love that is felt for the child will affect his psychological growth and development, where the child will usually feel easily jealous, difficult to persuade, often angry, so that he will not be able to control himself, especially controlling his emotional feelings towards the environment. The absence of a father also causes a child to have to live with his mother, where the new environment given by the mother to the child when the mother remarries may not necessarily be able to provide or create goodness and improvement to fill the void in the father's role for the child. (Sundari: 2022) This condition of fatherlessness is actually rarely realized by children, until finally they will ask questions and also feel the impact that is happening to them, which ultimately returns to their own self-awareness that the emptiness of the father figure felt by the child is not actually present. direct.

In our culture, we see that a father's job is only to earn a living and also provide for the needs of his small family, while educating and paying attention to a child's development is not



something that can be given to children. Indonesia itself is the third country in the world affected by a Fatherless Country or it could be said to be a country without a father. This was conveyed by the Indonesian Minister of Social Affairs Khofifah Indar Parawansa, according to whom most people think that a father is only responsible for earning a living and does not need to enter and also participate in development a child (Maryam, 2022). When a father is able to enter into a child's development, a father will be able to pay attention to his child regarding how the child is able to have a sense of responsibility, a sense of caring, not get angry easily because he thinks he has a father, sometimes children are afraid of their father when he is angry, having feelings of self-confidence, especially at home or at school (Mulyana, 2017).

A child's ability to manage or control their emotions can be said to be emotional self-control, where emotional intelligence is the child's ability to process, explore and control their emotions to be able to respond to every condition that makes the child emotional (Mashar R , 2011). What can affect the condition of a child who is unable to control his emotions because the father's role is less close to the child which causes the child to have excessive anger, the discipline given by the father to his child will have a positive impact on the child because there is an emotional bond that gives it its own color. for life and also in the formation of children's characteristics (Mashar R, 2011).

Research conducted by Maryam (2022) regarding the Emotional Self Control of children who experience fatherlessness shows the results that a father only cares, to educate is only a mother's job. This research also states that this husband is only tasked with earning a living and also sometimes always does violence against their children when their children's wishes cannot be fulfilled. Children who experience the absence of the father's role, both physically and psychologically, will make the child unable to control his emotions in the environment. later it will make children reflect on the characteristics of their own parents (Mashar R, 2011). Therefore, the problem that occurs is a father's full self-awareness of a father's sense of responsibility towards his child, where the father's idea of only earning a living needs to be paid more attention because a father is also a parent who has a good role in the future of his children. his son. By writing this research, it aims to see how children's ability to control their emotions in a fatherless environment.

#### RESEARCH METHODS

This research method uses a qualitative approach with a case study method starting from determining the topic of the problem, collecting data and also analyzing in terms of the topic as well as certain symptoms and issues (Raco, 2010). This method aims to gain understanding in ongoing research and cannot be separated from the background subject to be researched (Darmalaksana, 2020). This research uses qualitative research which requires the researcher to go directly into the field to get to know the research subject personally or use an intermediary between the researcher and the subject (Herdiansyah, 2010).

This research also uses sources where these sources are mothers with the initials R, and N of children who experienced divorce, death, life, and also the physical absence of their father, then the subjects themselves were children who experienced these problems from the age of 6 to 14 years using 3 children with the initials N, S, A. And stated that they were willing to openly express their feelings about their lives to researchers.

The data collection techniques used include observation, documentation, and also interviews with direct communication using face to face or face to face contact with the interviewer and the information source. Next, summarize some data and also focus on several important and necessary things, then summarize the data and also summarize the data to make it easier for researchers to increase understanding of the object being studied (Sugiyono, 2017).



Finally, the researcher carried out a triangulation technique to obtain appropriate data using triangulation techniques in the form of triangulation of sources, data collection techniques, and also time. Researchers compare the results of interviews and observations with triagulation of previous research sources to test the credibility of data related to research problems with existing sources and results (Sugiyono, 2017). Next, summarize the results using verification conclusions from research results in the field and also results from various sources that have been provided (Sidik, 2014).

## RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION Description of Research Location

The research location taken by researchers in this writing is at the Griya Bagja Mandiri Housing Complex, Tasikmalaya City, which is located at Jl. Sukaratu, Sukamaju Kidul Village, Indihiang District, Tasikmalaya City. The residents are dominated by workers (mostly private sector employees and ASN) and there is rarely any social interaction between neighbors in the neighborhood. This location is close to the Indihiang bus terminal and also Sindangpalay 2 Elementary School which is strategically located in the city center.



Figure 1. Location of Bagja Mandiri Housing

## The Impact of Fatherless Divorce on the Ability to Control Self

Fatherless divorce is the condition of a child who experiences a deep separation because the father is no longer there or has died, which allows the child to only live with the mother because the father is no longer there, divorce, divorce and death itself has an effect on the child's development, especially in controlling emotional self in the child where the child does not have a father figure who is difficult to find anywhere and can only survive with the mother. Based on the results of this semi-structured interview, the researcher obtained information which was conveyed by the child informant/key informant with several informants involved, namely the deep longing he felt when he remembered his father who was no longer there. The informant felt sadness when he recalled the figure of a father in his life, because the informant had not been with his father since he was 4 months old. At this age, a father figure should be present in the involvement of a child's development to be able to produce a good psychological and cognitive development process as well. In the results of the observations, the researcher saw from the informant who experienced a divorce because his father had passed away, which can be seen from the emotions felt by a child, it can be seen that this informant cries easily and can communicate with his mother as a parent who is present at this time, when he feels the frustration he feels. whether at school or outside school, the informant could only cry and also tell his mother about this condition.



The results of interviews with the informant and also with his mother, show that this child seems more patient in facing the many problems he experiences at his current age, especially with his ability to learn at school. The informant also said that he likes learning Sundanese and is also able to master learning. given by teachers at school. How does he deal with difficulties, this informant only relies on his mother because in his life the closest thing to him now is only his mother, especially with his older brother, the informant admits that he doesn't feel close to his older brother because he is busy with school and has their own lives when they are at home. House.

How children can control and express themselves when they feel anger, in the results of observations and interviews, the mother said that informant S, when she felt angry, just kept quiet and cried, never hurting herself or even hurting someone. On the other hand, the treatment given by the mother also only listens to annoyance when the child tells stories and also gives advice to the child. He felt this ability where he was able to control his emotions even in an environment outside the home, with the results of an interview where at that time the informant admitted that he had been treated badly at school, he only cried when he came home from school and told about the incident he experienced at school.

Even when playing with friends, the results of the observations showed that the informant was very active and was also able to make good friends, he had a sense of being able to give in to his friends when playing and could also control his emotions that he expressed towards his friends when playing. The results of the observations also show that the informants are very happy to be able to gather with their friends at home compared to playing outside the house, therefore from the results of observations made by researchers it is clear that a good environment will also provide good treatment for a child's growth and development. From the results of observations and interviews, regarding school assessments, researchers obtained documentation in the form of photos of school report cards from informants who attended SDN 2 Sindangpalay.

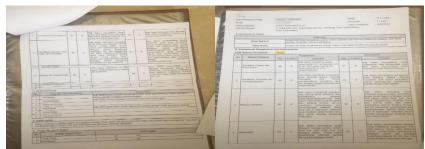


Figure 2. Results of Informant "S" Report Card

Based on the results of the study report at school belonging to informant "S", it can be seen that the informant is still relatively active and is also able to master the learning given by the teacher at school, and also with the results of grades above the KKM this does not make the informant influential because there is no father in the family. As a child, he would definitely see his friend being accompanied by his father, but the informant himself did not feel jealousy towards his friend who still had a father. With the results of this report card, it can be seen that his academic development is still above the average school score and the informant is still able to be active when studying at school.

## **Results of Informant Data Analysis**

From the results of this interview, it was discovered that the informant had a disturbance in his consciousness. There are several indications that emerged when making observations, namely: The informant admitted that he was often sad when he remembered his father and also



felt a deep longing for his father; When he felt sadness, the person he was looking for was his mother; He only plays at school, when he gets home he rarely plays with his friends in his home environment; When you're angry you just cry. Even though during the interview process the informant showed a shy attitude, it was shown that he missed his father's presence and also the loneliness felt by the informant was seen during the observation process where he was just

silent and did not interact much with his friends or other people around him. around the house.

## The Impact of Fatherless Divorce

Fatherless divorce is a condition of a child who does not have a father's role in life, especially in the child's emotional development, so that the child in this development process does not receive enough attention from a father figure. Regarding the problem of divorce, death itself is usually caused by problems in the parents' marriage so that the child's parents separate, which usually often occurs when the child participates in the care of the mother and experiences a period when the child becomes estranged from his father. The results obtained through data collection in the form of semi-structured interviews conducted by researchers, can be seen that the impact of fatherless divorce makes children often feel insecure, embarrassed, and also unable to control their emotions.

From the results of interviews, observations and also his own documentation carried out by this researcher, informant N (child N) admitted that he really had feelings of hatred and resentment towards his father because his father no longer wanted to recognize him as a child, these emotions and the way he he was able to control his own emotions from observing the informant carrying out actions that were not appropriate, especially at the age of 16. When he was feeling emotional, sad, disappointed, crying, the informant said he immediately injured himself by using a sharp object such as a razor to injure his hand, he felt that when this was done he would feel satisfaction with what he had done. Based on the results of the interview with the mother, there were also clear differences between informant N and informant S's younger brother, informant N was difficult to persuade, informed, difficult to be able to communicate with the mother, and also difficult to give attention because the mother felt she was always right and the words given by her mother were not always heard and were not always good, moreover what was said by the mother in the results of this interview was that when she was angry she took sedatives or sleeping pills to calm her mind.

The influence exerted by the father when the father was still around and the child already understood the treatment that the child felt was unfair could provide negative energy, especially for the child's growth and development. Developments that were only noticed by one person, namely the mother, without any intervention from the father, made the informant's mother feel annoyed and sometimes emotional, which in the end the child could not pay attention to. Likewise, from the results of this observation, the informant, child N, always does something to attract his father's attention, but because his father no longer wants to communicate and even recognizes him as his son, the informant hates his father and also hates himself. Based on indicators of the ability to control emotions and also express oneself in this environment resulting from observations, interviews, it appears that the informant was not able to control his emotions until finally he had the courage to hurt himself. The researcher also conducted an in-depth interview with the informant regarding his abilities, socialize at school and also outside school, The informant said that he currently has friends who are close to him, where these friends always play together either outside of school or within the school environment. The informant also said that when he feels the emotions he feels when facing a problem, he tells his friends. his friends regarding the problems he is facing. His ability to control his emotions can also be seen in the way he tells things to his friends in his environment.



From the results of the interview with informant N's mother, it was also said that N rarely came home on time when it was time to go home from school, the treatment carried out by N could also be seen from his friends where he wanted to follow what his friends were doing, for example he dyeing the hair color that his mother had reminded him not to do, but because N's environment was like what N did, therefore N often felt angry when his mother reminded him. Likewise with the report card results of child N who is at SMP 13 Tasikmalaya City, to see the learning abilities produced by N during school, namely:



Figure 3. Informant Report Score "N"

Based on N's learning results, it is still considered quite good because he was able to get scores above the KKM even though there were scores that were still below the KKM. From the results of the interview, the informant said that he did not like any learning at school and what was conveyed by his mother also admitted that he was confused regarding the grades produced by N at this time because when he was still in elementary school he was able to enter the ranking and also the grades that exceeds the current value. N's abilities are still quite good because he is still able to understand the learning material provided by his teacher and still likes to do his own schoolwork.

## **Results of Informant Data Analysis**

Based on the results of the informant's analysis during the interview, the informant experienced changes in himself and also liked to hurt himself, with several indications during interview observations, namely: Hurting himself by slicing his hand; Alone in the room and not wanting to tell anyone; Cannot communicate with the mother. The statements made by the informant himself related to his liking for hurting himself and also the resentment he felt towards his father with several statements made to him regarding his father not loving him anymore resulting in him often hurting himself, not being open with anyone, unable to communicate with anyone, and also often being alone. in the room.

## The Impact of Fatherlessness in the Condition of a Physically Absent Father

The problem that occurs in the role of a father who is not physically present is the presence of a father who is far away or a long distance relationship, namely the father is present and still united with the mother, but does not participate in the child's development, which usually happens because the father is far away. the child lives because he works outside the city, or the father is busy working so he doesn't pay attention to the child in his development.



As the researcher did during the data collection process using interview techniques with existing informants, the role of the father is indeed far from the child, but this does not rule out the possibility that the father always cares about the child. As a result of observations, interviews and documentation carried out by researchers, this informant or informant said that he was close to his father even though he was quite far away, The presence of a father who works outside the city usually makes it difficult for a father to care about his child, but interviews and observations show that the father's closeness to the child is closer than the child's closeness to the mother, even though the mother is at home every day where she can directly interact. directly, but it turned out that this closeness was not very harmonious with the child when informant S (child) admitted that he was afraid to be close to his mother, especially to talk about the problems that had occurred because he felt that his mother was a fierce figure compared to his father.

Having his father far away made informant A often feel sad, and it was also difficult for him to express himself in the environment. The informant himself admitted that he often asked his father about when his father would come home and be able to gather with his family. Even though his father's presence is far away, it does not rule out the possibility that the father still cares and pays attention to his child's development, as stated by his mother, that his father always asks how his child is currently, his success, development and also what things his child has done from day to day.

From the results of the interview with the informant, he also admitted that he always communicated via cellphone, with difficulties such as school assignments, the person his child looked for was his father rather than his mother. The informant himself said that when he was feeling sad, the problems that occurred both at school and outside school he always telling stories to his father even though distance hindered him, the informant admitted that he felt more comfortable telling stories with his father than with his mother. This recognition of closeness and comfort was said directly by the informant, even though the father does care about the child's development, this is still said to be fatherless because the child does not feel the closeness experienced directly as a father should be able to be present in his life which can be seen directly and also feel comfortable naturally.

Based on the indicator of the ability to control emotions, this indicator is how the child's ability to express himself in the environment and also how the child is able to control his own emotions in the environment. Based on the results of observations and interviews regarding children's emotions, the informant said that he could still control his emotions when he was feeling angry at the problems that had occurred, which ultimately resulted in him crying and complaining to his father over the telephone. Even though he always talks to his father over the telephone, the father can still give good advice to his son and also help in solving problems that occur. The way he was able to express himself during the interview, the informant cried when talking to his father because he felt longing and also wondered why his father had to be far away and rarely came home. The informant was still able to overcome this because he still received attention from his father and mother, which could be said to be fatherless because his father was far away. Because child A has a close relationship with his father, and when he has difficulties in learning his father usually likes to help him, the results of the learning report for child A who attends SMP 13 Tasikmalaya City are:



| Marie | Mari

Figure 4. Informant "A" Report Card Score

The report card results produced in learning at this school are still above the KKM above average. The resulting academic ability is still considered good because one of the factors for enthusiasm for learning is the support and love given by his father even though he is hindered by quite a long distance.

#### **Results of Informant Data Analysis**

From the results of the data during the interview with the informant, the informant experienced closeness with his father but unfortunately was separated by distance which made the child feel sad when his father was far away, with several indications from the interview results, namely: Often cried when he was away from his father; He didn't dare to talk to his mother because he thought her mother was fierce. This is felt by the child, whose father is far away from town for work and can only interact via cellphone, but even though he can still interact via cellphone, the child often experiences deep sadness when his father does not come home.

#### Discussion

## The Impact of Fatherless Divorce on the Ability to Control Your Emotions

Based on the findings on the impact of fatherless divorce, namely the sadness felt by the child due to the lack of closeness felt by the child due to the death experienced by his father, the sadness felt by the child causes the child to feel insecure and only has a role. his mother alone in his life. The absence of the father's role is indeed very difficult because the child's life will feel comfortable if there is a complete parental role, especially that given by the father, but in cases of divorce like this, the child finds it difficult to regain the father's role that is expected in him.

#### **Ability to Control One's Emotions in the Environment (Death Divorce)**

As stated by Farah (2013) regarding the closeness of a father to his child, there is a point that says that the child will feel luck and comfort when he is close to his father. From the results of observations and interviews regarding children who lost their father, it is not clear about the child's difficulties in managing emotions or controlling emotions, because the data obtained shows that the child can still hold back his emotions and can only tell his mother. In relation to existing theories and also the results of interviews, observations and documentation carried out by this researcher from the presentation of the results above, children are still able to control their emotions in an environment where, for example, problems found in the field are when children are teased by their friends at school. can still hold back his emotions and not let



them out in front of his friends, but he immediately told his mother about the problem that had occurred. What Mashar (2011) said was that a child's ability to control emotions is the child's way of responding to a condition that causes the child to feel emotions.

In previous research and also existing theories, it is true that a father needs attention in a child's life, but when the problem occurs in this case, where the child is abandoned by the father forever because he died, this problem is different, even though later he will receive attention from a man. - A man's attention will still be different from that of his own biological father. This is of course not easy for a child whose father left him dead, but the attention given by his mother makes the child able to control and express his emotions to the environment and family.

## Ability to Express One's Emotions in the Environment (Death Divorce)

In accordance with the results above, the absence of a father is a very bad factor for the child, especially if the child has difficulty controlling his emotions, which only ends up hurting himself. According to what Fitroh (2014) stated, the condition of fatherlessness is a condition where there is no father's role, both physically and psychologically, which usually occurs due to death, divorce, or also problems that occur with the parents during the marriage. From the results of interviews, observations and documentation, it is also clear that informant S feels the loss of his father, in accordance with what Farrar said (in Accocela, 1990: 43). Children will feel the loss of a father because they do not receive the touch of love and attention from their father.

Table 1. Trangulation with Data Collection Techniques on the Impact of Fatherless Divorce on the Ability to Control One's Emotions

Observation	Documentation	Interview
Based on the results of observations regarding		
divorce issues, the reality is that children are still	From the results	From the results of the interview,
able to control their emotions, especially their	of his own	the mother said that the child was
environment. From the results of his own	documentation,	an active child at school and also in
observations, the child was still able to talk about	he is an active	his environment, he often liked to
problems that occurred in cases where he felt he	child at school	cry, and also when he felt longing for
was being bullied by his friends, but he was still	and is also able	his father he could only talk to his
able to hold back feelings of anger and was still able	to communicate	mother and cry, but in this case the
to tell his mother. Moreover, even though his father	well with other	child also always prayed for the
had passed away, when feelings of longing arose he	people.	deceased his father.
could only pray for his father.		

Source: Data processed by researchers (2023)

## The Impact of Fatherless Divorce on the Ability to Control One's Emotions

Based on the results of interviews, observations, and also documentation carried out by researchers, the results show that a child will feel deep sadness so that he sometimes hurts himself without his mother's knowledge. The resentment felt by a child causes the child to become less confident and not open., and always blames the circumstances that happen on himself. As stated by Farrar (1990:43) A father who is not present in the child's life will result in the child lacking in the development of his child's life which can trigger factors such as being irritable, difficult to talk to, difficult to control his own emotions, and also to the point of hurting himself (Maryam, 2022; Lerner, 2011). Informant N's ability to manage his emotions was apparently uncontrollable because it resulted in him hurting himself by using a razor blade to tear his hands. What Moon (2015) said regarding self-emotional abilities is that a child cannot control his emotions if he is not paid attention to by the people who are expected to be present, this self-emotional factor will be influenced by a person, especially internal factors provided by the family environment, namely parents.



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## **Ability to Control One's Emotions in the Environment (Divorce)**

As stated by Yusuf (2006), the task of children, especially those who have reached adolescence, is to have the ability to strengthen self-control, especially in making decisions and also to defend their lives. From the results of observations, interviews, which the researchers have conducted, the reality is that children who experience divorce apparently do not have the ability to control their emotions in the environment, which shows that they are still unable to make all decisions with long thought. As previously stated, children who experience divorce problems still like to hurt themselves with sharp objects which makes them feel satisfied after they do this. Moreover, when asked about his situation by his mother, he just remained silent and did not tell his mother and preferred to tell his friends.

## Ability to Express One's Emotions in the Environment (Divorce)

The ability to be able to control and express one's emotions in this environment is not an easy thing for children who are still going to school, especially if the situation in their home is no longer good, which can be said to mean that there are no complete parents who are united in the house and like it or not. want to separate. The child's ability to express his emotions towards the environment with the problem of divorce is also based on the results of observations and interviews conducted by researchers, which shows that he is still unable to control how to express his emotions, especially if he is feeling angry, it can be seen in the look on his face if he is feeling annoyed or angry, this was conveyed by the child's mother. Edi (2017) stated that regarding the types of emotions that exist in a child, namely positive and negative emotions, these emotions are how he is able to express himself when he is feeling happy, sad, angry, disappointed, jealous, and many more. However, in reality the child is still unable to choose and restrain what kind of expression to show in public or at home.

Table 2. Trangulation with Data Collection Techniques on the Impact of Fatherless Divorce on the Ability to Control One's Emotions

Observation	Documentation	Interview
Terkait dengan hasil observasi terlihat anak mengalami emosional diri yang belum mampu ia kontrol sampai akhirnya ia menyakiti dirinya sendiri, kekesalan yang dirasakan seorang anak pada ayahnya dikarenakan tidak ada peran dan juga sentuhan kasih sayang yang diberikan oleh ayahnya mengakibatkan anak menjadi mudah marah, sulit dibujuk, beranggapan bahwa tidak ada yang menyayanginya dan juga menjadi pribadi yang sulit untuk diajak berkomunikasi atau bahkan menutup diri dari keluarganya. Hasil ini terlihat dari sang anak ketika pada saat melakukan observasi dimana ia menangis menjabarkan kekesalan yang dialami pada kehidupannya.	Dari gambar yang tertera di hasil bahwa sang anak bercerita sekaligus menangis karena kekesalan yang dirasakan pada dirinya tidak bisa dicurahkan, apalagi kekesalan pada ayahnya yang dimana ia hanya merindukan kasih sayang dan juga kabar yang diberikan oleh ayahnya kepada sang anak, sang ibu pun sudah tidak bisa mengontrol emosi anaknya karena sulit untuk diajak untuk berkomunikasi.	Dari hasil wawancara semi terstruktur secara mendalam informan memberikan pernyataan bahwa ia merindukan sosok seorang ayah dan hanya ingin dilihat oleh ayahnya bahwasannya anak N ini ada hidup di dunia ini, ketidakpedulian yang diberikan oleh sang ayah pada sang anak mengakibatkan anaknya menjadi menyakiti dirinya sendiri dan juga merugikan dirinya sendiri. yang disampaikan oleh sang ibu pun bahwasannya sudah sulit untuk mengajarkan kesabaran yang diberikan pada sang anak karena sang anak sulit untuk diberitahu.

Source: Data processed by researchers (2023)

With the results of the data above, the informant admitted that he really felt the loss of a father figure whose father was indirectly there but no longer cared about him at all. The role of the father, which should be a place of protection for the child, in fact cannot be given by the father to the child, which in the end is what Lerner (2011) said: losing the father will result in



the child feeling lonely, having excessive feelings of jealousy, especially when he sees his friends. close to his father, and also has difficulty controlling himself. Likewise, the way informants are unable to control their own emotions can usually be caused by factors that influence the child, as stated by Ghufron (2011) that the factors that can influence a child on how he is able to manage his own emotions are internal factors, external factors. This factor can provide several examples that children will later see and apply in their lives. How a child is able to hurt himself because of the annoyance that occurs at his father is due to the child's lack of ability to manage his own emotions which results in the child feeling angry so that he is able to hurt himself and also harm the environment.

## The Impact of Fatherlessness: The Physical Absence of the Father on Children's Lives in the Ability to Control Their Emotions

Based on the results of interviews, observations and documentation carried out by researchers regarding the absence of a father figure in the child's life, this is usually caused by the father being busy at work and rarely coming home because his job is in a different city. Like the results above, the informant admitted that he missed his father even though there were no problems in his parents' marriage, which was because his father was out of town working and rarely came home to spend time with his family. What this informant conveyed was that the child only interacts with the father via cellphone without any direct physical contact. This is not said to be fatherless because there is no direct interaction between the child and his father at home, but in reality the father can still play his role. by giving attention and affection to children so that children feel they are close even though they are hindered by distance.

The absence of a father who is far away also causes the child to always feel deep sadness where he is unable to talk to his mother. What was said by Lamb, et al (in Sakinah, 2022) that there are indicators that indicate the direct presence of the father physically or psychologically for the child which must be provided because a small example of helping with school work directly will provide comfort for the child, it is different if the child asks for some school work via cellphone, which is not the case. direct interaction felt by the child. Despite the above theory, the informant admits that he is very close to his father even though he can only interact with his father via cellphone, the treatment given by his father is also very caring, as his father always provides help with assignments at school, and also when the child feels sadly, he always looked for his father to tell stories and his father did not hesitate to give good advice to his father, but this could be said to be fatherless because there was no direct interaction felt by the child given by the father.

## Ability to Control One's Emotions in the Environment (Father's Physical Absence)

Mashar R (2011) said that the ability to manage one's own emotions in children is a situation that can be adapted to the child's personal situation in carrying out positive behavior for children, where children must be able to reject and also postpone their feelings, especially those that arise in their own environment. From the results of interviews and also observations regarding the problem of his father not being physically present, he answered that the child was more dominantly close to his father even though he was hindered by distance compared to his mother who was present in person. From the results of interviews conducted by researchers with informants regarding this problem, the child can still be given more attention by his father even though his father cannot be present in person every day, but with various directions and understanding given by his father through intense communication, the child can be successful. control and also have self-control when he is feeling problems within himself as to where and what he has to endure and also show in front of many people.



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## Ability to Express One's Emotions in the Environment (Father's Physical Absence)

From the explanation above regarding how children control their emotions in this environment, this occurs because they still have good direction from a father even though the father cannot be present in person and only contacts through communication. However, Mashar (2011) also said that children must have self-defense in dealing with misfortune or problems in their children, which is what attitude the child will take towards a problem. After obtaining the results of interviews and also observing children who experience the physical absence of their father, it turns out that this child is still able to choose and restrain himself so as not to be seen directly in public if he is feeling disappointed or angry, sad and other feelings. This ability was apparently given by his father, who always gave good guidance to the child when he had problems that he could not solve by himself and chose to ask his father for help.

Table 3. Triangulation with data collection techniques on the impact of fatherlessness on the physical absence of fathers on children's lives in terms of their ability to control their own emotions.

absence of fathers on children's rives in terms of their ability to control their own emotions.			
Observation	Documentation	Interview	
From the results of observations made by researchers, it can be seen how the child talks about his deep sadness related to his longing for his father who is far away due to work which makes it difficult for his father to leave the family. The father's absence directly has an impact on the child, who ultimately feels sad, lacks self-confidence, and also finds it difficult to interact with the surrounding environment, especially the mother, because the child feels comfortable with his father.	With the documentation data, it can also be seen how the child talks about his sadness when remembering his loved one who is far away, the child is not shy about telling the feelings he has experienced for himself all this time, the child also feels a deep longing, and always wonders about the child returning home to can reunite with family.	Interviews produced by researchers regarding how the father pays attention to the child's development and the result is that the informant (mother) admits that the father really pays attention to the child's development, he even helps with school work even though it is hindered by distance, sometimes the child feels deep sadness related to his father's absence. directly at home where you can interact directly and also help children directly. Regarding how the child controls his emotions, informant A admitted that when he felt sadness or anger, he could only cry quietly in his room without telling anyone, when his feelings were fine, the first person he looked for was his father.	

Source: This data was processed by researchers (2023)

From the results of the data collection above, it is clear that in previous cases where there was a father's absence regarding the child's development, the child would not be close to his father, but with the results in the field from interviews, observations and also documentation, the informant admitted that he was very close to his father. The mother also explained the closeness given by her father and also the attention given by her father even though this was hindered by distance. Long distances cause children to always feel sad and emotional about how they feel when their father is absent. As stated by Hurlock (in Gunarsa, 2010) A father must be able to understand a child's condition, the father's job is not only to be a father, but he must be able to be a good friend or companion for the child, able to provide care in doing things together. The father's closeness must be given to the child where according to Allen (2007) the father must be able to provide time to spend together to be able to establish warmth with the child, a father must also be able to think about closeness and also be able to provide time to play together and this can provide good feedback for children.

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From the explanation of the results and discussion above, there is a difference between the problems that occur when a child experiences a death divorce, a live divorce, and also that

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the father is present but far from the child's life or it could be said that the father has physically disappeared. This is related to the results carried out by researchers through interview techniques, observation, and also documentation itself. There are visible differences between the three children who experience different problems.

- 1. The first problem for children who experience divorce, live divorce, and their father is there but far away or in a long distance relationship is related to what the child feels, both of them feel deep sadness because there is no father figure that is felt within them, p. This is because his father is far away, especially because his father is no longer there or has died. The sadness felt by the child is that the child himself always feels a sense of jealousy regarding his friends who are with his father in every activity, the feeling of controlling his own emotions is clearly different because for children who experience divorce in their own lives, they feel deep emotional feelings so that they unable to stop himself from hurting himself, there is always a way for him to hurt himself when he is feeling angry, sad, disappointed, especially if this is influenced by his own father.
- 2. Conditions for children who experience divorce are related to controlling their emotions. They are still able to control themselves in every problem that occurs, where they are still able to control their anger and not hurt themselves. When they feel angry or sad, they can only cry. without hurting himself, he is different from a child who experiences a divorce because he feels hurt by the presence of his father who no longer wants to take care of him.
- 3. The problem for children who experience problems with their father is there but not physically, which is due to the long distance so that there is no direct closeness due to their father working. This is in accordance with the results of observations, interviews and also their own documentation, namely recognizing that in the child he often felt sadness related to what he felt because his father had gone far away to work and was rarely at home, even though communication with his father was still quite smooth, this did not make the child feel comfortable, safe and calm, because the child's desire was that his father was close to him. himself directly, not just through virtual communication. Likewise with the condition of fathers who still care about their children and always help them with anything related to problems at school or problems outside of school, however, the children still feel longing and also sadness at the direct presence of their father.

## Ability to Control One's Emotions in the Environment

In accordance with the first indicator of controlling self-emotions in children, namely how children are able to control their emotions in the environment, according to the problems that occur and also the results of observations, interviews and documentation.

- 1. Children who experience death divorce, related to the results of interviews, observations and also their own documentation with the problem of how they are able to control their emotions in the environment, the result is that they are still able to control their emotions in the environment, according to the facts during observations and interviews, which were conveyed his son directly said that when he had problems at school he was still able to control his emotions when he was being teased by his friends at school, he was able to do this because he thought it was better not to fight his friends at school and it was better to tell his mother about this problem. House. Usually, when he feels angry, sad and disappointed, he can only cry and complain to his mother until he finally feels calm within himself.
- 2. Children who experience divorce. With the results of interviews, observations, and also documentation related to the problem of how children are able to control their emotions in the environment, the result is that they are still unable to control themselves when they feel angry, sad, and also disappointed, especially if this problem occurs because of their father.

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Alone. According to the results of the interview, the child said that he felt very hurt towards his father which caused him to be able to hurt himself by tearing his hand with a razor or sharp object. This was done so that he felt satisfaction with himself. He still can't control his emotions in his own environment because with his friends, he often talks about problems that occur either at home or because of his father, which could result in him being instigated by his friends to become like this or cause changes in himself.

3. Children who experience problems with their father, but their father is far away due to his father working, from the results of observations, interviews, and also his own documentation, it shows how he is able to control his emotions in the environment, namely that the child can still control his emotions in the environment related to problems that occur when he is feeling angry, sad and disappointed. How he is able to control himself in the environment is in accordance with the results of the interview that he is better off keeping it to himself and when he can no longer hold it in anymore he is only able to tell his father, even via cellphone. Compared to his mother who was always there with him, the child chose to tell his father. However, the problems that usually occur are also caused by longing for his father who rarely comes home so he can be together at home. However, the child can still control this so that he does not affect anyone and also does not hurt himself.

## Ability to Express Yourself in the Environment

In accordance with the second indicator of the ability to control one's emotions in children, namely the child's ability to express oneself in the environment. With the results of interviews, observations, and also their own documentation regarding different problems felt by children, namely.

- 1. Children who have experienced a death divorce, from the results of interviews, observations, and also documentation related to their ability to express themselves in the environment, namely children who have experienced a death divorce themselves can still restrain themselves regarding problems when they are feeling sad, angry, and also disappointed. From the results of his own interview, the child also said that he was still able to restrain himself from looking sad or angry when he was outside the house/school. However, when he was home he immediately couldn't hold back all the conditions that were happening and immediately told his mother. Because he only has his mother who is able to understand all conditions and situations, therefore he can only tell his mother about all his conditions.
- 2. Children who experience divorce are in accordance with the results of observations and interviews as well as their own documentation regarding how they are able to express themselves in the environment when they feel sad, angry and also disappointed, that is, in this child, when there is a problem, he will easily angered, where it is difficult for his mother to persuade him, when he is feeling angry he will usually go out with his friends or lock himself in his room and is also difficult to ask questions, even when he is outside the environment he is difficult to control, he is often carried away by the atmosphere, especially if he is angry. on him is appearing. What he usually does is create a WhatsApp story to express his emotions so that all those who come into contact with him will know what happened to him. Apart from that, the way he is able to express himself will be seen, especially if he is feeling annoyed with his mother which can be seen where he suddenly likes to knit which usually likes to appear in the environment.
- 3. Children who experience that their father is present but their father is not physically close because their father is far away from work. With the results of interviews, observations and also documentation related to the ability to express oneself in this environment, that is, with the results of the interviews themselves, the child can still control himself when he is feeling

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angry, sad and also disappointed. As the results of his own interview, the child said that he was only able to holding back when he is feeling angry or sad without having to talk about it and also expressing an angry or sad expression towards the environment. Because his father's presence is far away and he is very close to his father, sometimes this sadness and anger usually occurs because of his longing for his father who rarely can gather at home with his child to play and spend time together. However, in this case, the child can only express sadness, anger and disappointment only to his father rather than to the environment because what the child himself has said, he is better off choosing to tell his father, even via cellphone, rather than telling other people. other. This is not included in the problem of fatherlessness because the distance is only long, but in reality the father can still give good attention and affection to the child so that the child feels that the father is taking care of his development.

## **CONCLUSION**

From the results it can be concluded that the absence of a father, especially if the father is still able to meet the child, will result in the child being less able to overcome problems that occur, especially in his ability to control emotions. The lack of a father's role, especially in a child's development, will make the child feel a loss which causes deep sadness, lack of self-confidence and also makes it difficult to give attention, but the ethic of a father being able to be present in a child's life will give a special feeling and color to the child. make children feel comfortable in their lives because of the father's direct role even though there is a certain distance that limits them. Child "N" is more dominant in hurting himself because his father is still living with divorce problems, while child "S" because his father has passed away means he is able to understand the real situation and is also able to control the emotions he feels, while child "A" is sadness occurs, but these feelings can still be controlled because of the attention and advice from a father.

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