



## The Role of Parents in Motivating Students in Writing Their Thesis

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Date of Submission: 01-06-2024

Date of Acceptance: 13-06-2024

**ABSTRACT:** During the process of writing a thesis, students experience ups and downs in their motivation, so they need support from those closest to them, namely their parents. This article discusses the role of parents in motivating students in the thesis writing process. This research aims to review the extent of the role of parents in motivating students to write their thesis. This research is qualitative research with 22 FIK UNP students as respondents who are working on their thesis. The research instrument used was direct interviews with respondents. The research data was analyzed using data triangulation which was summarized into a sentence. The research results reveal that parents play a very important role in the student's thesis writing process. Parents always provide motivation, advice and guidance, moral and material support. Apart from that, parents also always control the progress of the student's thesis writing process. The role of parents in motivating is certainly very much needed by students who are in the process of working on their thesis. By going through the long process of writing a thesis, students will of course need motivation from their parents. In conclusion, the role of parents in motivating students is one that students need in the thesis writing process. The aim of motivating parents to students is to have enthusiasm for learning, especially in carrying out the student's thesis writing process to achieve the expected goals.

**KEYWORDS:** Role of Parents, Motivation, Thesis

### I. Introduction

Education is a learning process that takes place throughout life through various environments and situations. Education focuses on the cognitive, emotional, social, and moral development of individuals to help them become quality individuals and contribute positively to society (Prabowo et al.,

2023). In this case, education aims to create quality, innovative, and creative individuals.

Education can be obtained through the formal education process obtained from schools and universities. Different levels of education will of course have different goals. Higher education is the level of education after secondary education which includes diplomas, bachelor's programs, master's programs, doctoral programs, and professional programs as well as specialist programs organized by universities based on Indonesian culture. At the tertiary level, the goals to be achieved are following Law No. 12 of 2012 concerning Higher Education, namely developing student potential, producing graduates who are competent in their knowledge, and realizing community service and research work that is useful in advancing the general welfare and making the life of the nation intelligent (Law No. 12, 2012).

In higher education, every student should complete a final assignment, either in the form of a project or a thesis, which is one of the requirements for student graduation at the tertiary level. Final assignments are often used as difficult assignments for students. It is not uncommon for students to experience difficulties, anxiety, loss of motivation, and even stress when working on their final assignment or thesis which causes students to take a long time to work on their thesis. In this case, students need the support of those closest to them, colleagues, and also supervisors to always motivate students.

Students need social and moral support in the thesis writing process, this support can be obtained from the people closest to them, namely parents. Parents play an important role in every process of their children. The role of parents is very necessary for children in various life processes, both in material and psychological terms. In the process of writing a thesis, students need both moral and material support. Moral support that



parents can give to their children is in the form of motivation for the child. Parental support is related to academic success, positive self-image, self-esteem, self-confidence, motivation, and mental health (Puspitaningrum, 2018).

Social support comes from family, partners or relatives, and friends, as well as the social community (Alawiyah, Alwi, Lilis, & Selvi, 2022). Social support from people closest to them, especially parents, can motivate students to complete their final assignments (Susilo & Eldawaty, 2021). Parents are an extrinsic motivation, where parents are the first people outside the student who make many very important contributions and give the greatest attention to the student.

Motivation is a conscious effort that originates from within or outside a person who has the power to move him to act to do something he wants to achieve (Arianti, 2023; Idham, Neldi, Komaini, Sin, & Damrah, 2022; Seto, Wondo, & Mei, 2020; Suprihatin, 2019). Motivation becomes a strength for students in completing their thesis (Yusuf, 2020). This is because students will face various challenges in the process of writing their thesis or final assignment.

The motivation provided by parents is of course aimed at ensuring that children experience changes for the better, and in this case, parents play a role in providing motivation, encouraging virtue, and encouraging students to be able to complete their thesis. Motivation is divided into 2, namely intrinsic motivation and extrinsic motivation. Motivation that comes from within the individual is called intrinsic motivation which encourages students to carry out an activity without any influence from outside. Meanwhile, extrinsic motivation is motivation that plays a role and functions because there are impulses from outside the student. Whether from family or parents, teacher examples, rules, praise, friends and the environment are part of extrinsic motivation (Sembiring & Nura, 2022).

Providing motivation is the driving force behind positive behavior change. Focusing on goals and carrying out activities that support the student's thesis completion process. So, the triggering force that comes from within the individual to outside the individual when carrying out activities that foster enthusiasm to achieve these goals is called motivation.

A thesis is a final assignment that every undergraduate student must complete. The process of writing a thesis requires strong effort. When

writing a thesis, students must work on themselves, gain their knowledge, and be accountable for what they have created (Sepriadi & Pratiwi, 2020). Students need to think quickly and be responsive and sensitive to what is happening in their surrounding environment (Rahadiansyah & Chusairi, 2021). It is not uncommon for students to lose motivation in the thesis writing process due to several factors such as loss of motivation, anxiety, personal or family problems, economic problems, stress, boredom, environmental factors, social factors, lack of reading, lack of reading sources, difficulty communicating with lecturers, lack of mastery of thesis writing techniques, language mastery, writing habits, difficulty finding problems, limited funds and even fear of meeting supervisors (Barus, 2022; Sepriadi & Pratiwi, 2020).

In the process of completing the thesis writing, students are required to work on and understand the thesis independently and of course with the guidance of a supervisor who can direct the students in the thesis writing process. However, not all students have adequate academic motivation and good independent learning processing skills. Especially in managing time, which is starting to become very loose because the lecture assignments are over. It is during this time that parents, as the people closest to students, are the most appropriate people to be able to supervise, control, and provide advice to students so that they can complete their thesis well and on time. Parents also have a role in motivating students to be able to work on and complete their thesis well. The role of parents is very big here, apart from supporting material needs, parents also have a role in motivating students in writing their thesis.

For this reason, the role of parents in motivating is very much needed in the student's thesis writing process. With the various problems experienced by students in the thesis writing process, the role of parents in the thesis writing process is very much needed. Therefore, this research aims to review the extent of parents' role in motivating students in the thesis writing process.

## **II. Methods**

This research used a qualitative method with research instruments in the form of interviews with 22 sports education students who were writing their theses and were used as respondents in this research. Research subjects were randomly selected incidentally, this research data was collected in April – May 2024. Data analysis used Miles and Huberman data triangulation (combined). The



sampling technique used is Disproportionate Stratified Random Sampling, which is a technique used to determine the number of samples if the population is stratified but not proportional (Sugiyono, 2012).

### **III. Result and Discussion**

#### **1. What is the Role of Parents in the Student Thesis Writing Process**

Based on the results of interviews conducted with 22 students who were working on their thesis, the majority of all students stated that parents played a very important role in the student's thesis writing process. The role of parents here is to help with students' material needs such as fees, and study support needs, providing encouragement and motivation, as a reminder for students to be able to utilize their time and focus on the thesis writing process, as a place to tell stories and exchange ideas.

#### **2. Parents Often Ask About the Thesis Writing Process, and How to Explain It.**

Based on the results of interviews, the majority of students' parents often ask about the student's thesis writing process. Students explain to their parents according to their parents' understanding of the thesis. Some parents understand the process of writing a thesis because the parent's level of education has been to college, while for parents of students with low levels of education who have not reached college, the students explain simply in sentences that are easy for the parents to understand.

The explanation given by students to parents is how the student's thesis writing process is, they should look for literature that is relevant to the problems raised by the student, explain the progress of the thesis being carried out by the student, the student also explains the stages they will go through in the thesis writing process starting from guidance, conducting research proposal seminars, conducting research, analyzing research data, presenting research results, and the final hearing. With the long process of writing a thesis carried out by students, of course, students need support from the people around them, especially parents and family.

#### **3. Students Complain about the Thesis Writing Process**

Of the 22 students who conducted interviews in this research, 8 students said they had never complained about the thesis writing process, while 14 other students said they had never

complained about the thesis writing process. Students complained about several problems experienced by students during the thesis writing process, such as a lack of literature material, many revisions given by the supervisor, lack of understanding of the material received, difficulty in arranging guidance time with the PPL schedule because the thesis was done at the same time as the PPL at school.

#### **4. Parents motivate students in the thesis writing process**

From the results of interviews with 22 students, the majority of students received motivation from their parents in the process of writing this thesis. The forms of motivation given by parents to students are, providing encouraging sentences, controlling the development of students' thesis writing, providing advice, and supporting all necessary student needs.

Motivation is a driving force that comes from oneself or from other people to do something. With motivation, someone can do something they want to achieve with a certain goal. When writing a thesis, of course, students need motivation both from within themselves and from the people around them. During the thesis writing process, the role of a parent is very important for students. Parents are not only obliged to provide facilities and tuition fees but children or students also need guidance and motivation from their parents (Wahidin, 2019). Therefore, parents must have time to accompany their children so that the goals they want to achieve are met.

Parents are not only fathers and mothers for their children, but also educators who are responsible for their children's education. Providing motivation is one of the obligations that parents must give to their children. Without motivation, a person's efforts will not achieve good results, and vice versa. Thus, when writing a thesis, the thesis will be better if it is always accompanied by serious motivation.

### **IV. Conclusion**

Parents have a very important role in their children's education, one of which is being a motivator for their children. In this case, parents always provide motivational encouragement to children or students in the process of writing a thesis that is being carried out by the student. The aim of motivating parents to students is to have enthusiasm for learning, especially in carrying out the student's thesis writing process to achieve the expected goals.



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