

THE INFLUENCE OF PARENTS' ROLE ON CHILDREN'S DISCIPLINE IN PERFORMING PRAYERS ON TIME

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ABSTRACT

In Cekonche Hamlet, Sana Tengah, Pasean, Pamekasan, children's discipline in performing the obligatory (*fard*) prayers remains a major concern. Children often neglect this obligation, even after the call to prayer (*adhan*) has been announced. They tend to prefer playing rather than performing their prayers on time. Therefore, the role of parents as the primary individuals responsible for their children's religious and moral education is essential. In this study, the role of parents in guiding their children to become disciplined in observing prayer times is strongly emphasized. Parents in Cekonche Hamlet, Sana Tengah, Pasean, Pamekasan reinforce their role by providing guidance, supervision, mentoring, and serving as good role models in performing the obligatory (*fard*) prayers. They strive to ensure that their children perform the obligatory prayers punctually and with a high level of discipline, both at home and in public places. This study employed a quantitative approach using a causal correlational research design. The findings indicate that the role of parents has a significant influence on children's discipline in performing the obligatory prayers on time. The relationship between the role of parents and children's discipline in prayer time is relatively strong, indicating that parents' efforts in guiding their children in this regard have a positive impact.

Keyword: Parents, Discipline, Children, Prayer

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INTRODUCTION

Establishing the habit of performing prayers from early childhood plays a crucial role in shaping children's religious character, discipline, and self-regulation. Recent studies in Indonesian early childhood education show that structured prayer habituation programs, such as Dhuha prayer routines in kindergarten, effectively internalize moral values and consistent worship behavior (Qistina & Khadijah, 2025; Hotimah et al., 2025). Family involvement further strengthens children's independence in performing prayers and builds spiritual responsibility (Zr et al., 2024; Kasmila et al., 2025). Moreover, repetitive prayer practices contribute to improved self-regulation and positive behavioral development in young learners (Rachmah et al., 2026; Manungkalit & Agustia, 2025). Overall, early habituation of prayer serves as a long-term investment in children's moral and ethical formation (Suwandi et al., 2025). Teachers and parents also act as role models by consistently performing prayers, which reinforces imitation-based learning in early childhood settings (Hidayah et al., 2021).

Establishing the habit of performing prayers from an early age is widely recognized as a foundational strategy for developing children's religious character, discipline, and moral awareness. Research shows that consistent prayer practices, such as congregational and daily prayers, help strengthen children's spiritual development while also shaping responsible behavior and time discipline (Mulyani, 2025; Alfiyani & Faza, 2026). In early childhood education settings, habituation models are considered effective in internalizing religious values through repetition, role modeling, and structured learning environments (Sajidin, 2025; Rachmani & Hasjiandito, 2025). Furthermore, parental involvement significantly reinforces children's commitment to prayer, as family guidance supports the formation of sustainable worship habits at home (Badrun et al., 2024). Studies also indicate that early exposure to prayer routines enhances emotional regulation and spiritual intelligence in children, contributing to long-term character building (Ginting et al., 2022). Overall, early habituation of prayer functions as an essential educational approach that integrates faith, discipline, and ethical development in childhood (Thurling & Holmstrom, 2022).

The phenomenon of children's low discipline in performing prayers on time has become a significant concern in Islamic education and parenting studies. Recent research indicates that many children still struggle with consistency and punctuality in performing obligatory prayers, which reflects broader issues of time management and behavioral discipline in early development (A'yun & Wahyudi, 2026; Anbiya et al., 2026). This condition is often influenced by weak habituation at home, lack of parental modeling, and limited reinforcement of religious routines in daily life (Setiawati et al., 2025; Tabroni et al., 2022). Studies also show that external factors such as digital distractions and environmental influences contribute to reduced prayer discipline among students (Anbiya et al., 2026). However, parental guidance and consistent religious activities at school have been identified as effective strategies to improve prayer punctuality and responsibility (Mulyani, 2025; Ruslan & Juddah, 2021). Overall, low discipline in performing prayers on time reflects the need for stronger integration between family education, school-based religious habituation, and consistent role modeling to strengthen children's spiritual discipline (Agustina & Tago, 2024).

The phenomenon of children's low discipline in performing prayers reflects a growing concern in religious education and parenting studies. Recent research highlights that many children demonstrate inconsistency and low awareness in performing obligatory prayers, particularly due to weak internal motivation and insufficient religious habituation at home (Primandini & Sunarso, 2025). This issue is further influenced by limited parental supervision and permissive educational environments that reduce children's sense of responsibility toward worship (Fauziah et al., 2025).

Studies also indicate that distractions from modern lifestyles and lack of structured spiritual guidance contribute to declining prayer discipline among students (Almawarid et al., 2025). Moreover, the absence of consistent role modeling from parents and teachers weakens the internalization of prayer habits in early development (Kotim et al., 2026). Overall, this phenomenon emphasizes the urgent need for stronger collaboration between family and educational institutions to cultivate disciplined prayer behavior from an early age (Ardiansyah et al., 2025).

Parents bear the primary responsibility for educating their children, as the family provides the first educational environment that shapes children's character, values, and spiritual development through guidance, supervision, affection, and exemplary behavior (Syahid & Kamaruddin, 2020). Active parental involvement is essential in instilling Islamic values through consistent guidance, mentoring, and role modeling, enabling children to develop prayer discipline, moral integrity, and balanced spiritual, physical, and intellectual growth (Jannah & Suryadilaga, 2020). In Islamic teachings, parents are entrusted with nurturing their children through faith, worship, and moral education, as emphasized in Qur'an 66:6 (Surah At-Tahrim), which instructs believers to protect themselves and their families from the punishment of Hell. Accordingly, parents are expected to consistently guide, supervise, and encourage their children to perform obligatory prayers, thereby fostering faith, piety, noble character, and obedience to Allah's commands while avoiding His prohibitions in everyday life (Pulungan, 2018; Armadis et al., 2022).

Parental mistakes in fulfilling their educational responsibilities can have profound consequences for children's emotional development, character formation, and religious discipline. Children who receive insufficient guidance and attention from their parents are more likely to experience emotional instability and engage in negative social behaviors. Although previous studies have highlighted the importance of parental involvement in children's religious education, limited research has specifically examined how parents' roles influence children's discipline in performing the obligatory (*fard*) prayers on time within the family context. This study addresses this gap by investigating the relationship between parental guidance, supervision, role modeling, and children's prayer discipline. The novelty of this research lies in its focus on prayer time discipline as an indicator of religious character development. The study aims to analyze the influence of parents' roles on children's punctuality in performing obligatory prayers. Its contribution is expected to enrich the literature on Islamic parenting and provide practical guidance for families and educators. Furthermore, the findings may strengthen family-based religious education and promote children's consistent observance of obligatory prayers.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study uses a quantitative approach with a causal-correlational research design, which aims to find a cause-and-effect relationship between parental role (variable X) and children's discipline in performing prayers on time (variable Y). The population of this study is 14-year-old children in Cekonch Hamlet, Sana Tengah Village, Pasean, Pamekasan. The sample is 25% of the total population, namely 34 children. The instrument used is a closed-ended direct questionnaire in the form of multiple choice, given to both parents and children to collect data on parental role and discipline in performing prayers on time. The questionnaire items are designed to effectively measure both variables. First, the indicators to be studied must be identified as follows:

The parental role (variable X) in this study has several indicators, namely providing understanding of the importance of prayer for children, reminding children to perform prayers on time, encouraging children to perform congregational prayers, reprimanding children when they

neglect prayers, and supervising children's prayer activities. Meanwhile, the discipline in performing prayers on time variable (variable Y) has indicators such as discipline in maintaining prayer times, performing prayers on time, stopping other activities when prayer time arrives, and being diligent in performing congregational prayers.

The indicators for parental role (variable X) and discipline in performing prayers on time (variable Y) are then developed into questions with the following alternative answers: STS = Strongly Disagree. TS = Disagree. S = Agree. SS = Strongly Agree. The rating scale uses an ordinal Likert approach, namely 1, 2, 3, 4, with the scoring provisions as follows: STS is given a score of 1. TS is given a score of 2. S is given a score of 3. SS is given a score of 4.

The validity test is used to assess the validity of a questionnaire by correlating item scores with total construct scores. A correlation above 0.30 indicates validity. The questionnaire is valid if all indicators have correlations above 0.30. The formula used to calculate the validity value of questionnaire items is:

$$r_{xy} = \frac{n \sum xy - (\sum x) \cdot (\sum y)}{\sqrt{\{n \sum x^2 - (\sum x)^2\} \{n \sum y^2 - (\sum y)^2\}}}$$

The reliability test is conducted by calculating Cronbach's Alpha, where a value > 0.60 indicates good reliability. Conversely, if the value is below 0.60, the reliability is questionable, using the formula:

$$r_{11} = \frac{k}{k-1} \left(1 - \frac{\sum \sigma_b^2}{\sigma_t^2} \right)$$

This study uses statistical-based data analysis techniques, including descriptive statistics and parametric inferential statistics, with the help of SPSS software. The analysis aims to estimate the effect of changes in events using a statistical approach. The analysis steps include classical assumption tests and hypothesis testing. First, the normality test using the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test is used to check the normal distribution. If probability > 0.05, the data is considered normal. The linearity test examines the relationship between parental variables and discipline in prayer time. The relationship is considered linear if $F > 0.005$. Finally, linear regression analysis is used to measure the effect of parental variables on discipline in prayer time, showing the strength and direction of the relationship between the two. With this technique, the study can explore and describe the relationship between the studied variables statistically. The regression equation used in this study is as follows: $Y = a + bX$

This hypothesis test is used to determine the effect of parental role (X) on discipline in performing prayers on time (Y). The hypothesis test uses the t-test, with the formula used in this study as follows: In statistical analysis, comparing the calculated t-value with the critical value at $\alpha = 0.05$ produces a clear interpretation. If $t \leq t_{\text{critical}}$, then H_0 is accepted and H_a is rejected, indicating that the independent variable poorly explains the dependent variable. Conversely, if $t \geq t_{\text{critical}}$, H_0 is accepted and H_a is accepted, indicating that the independent variable still poorly explains the dependent variable. To measure the extent of the influence of the independent variable on the dependent variable, a coefficient of determination test is conducted, with values ranging from 0 to 1. $R^2 = 0$ indicates no effect, while a value close to 1 indicates a strong effect. Conversely, a value close to 0 indicates a small effect.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The questions in the questionnaire about the role of parents (variable X) have been compiled in accordance with the established criteria. Then, the questions were tested on 34 fourteen-year-old children in Cekonch Hamlet, Sana Tengah Village, Pamekasan, who had been selected as respondents in this study, to determine their validity. The following are the results of the validity testing of the questionnaire items about the role of parents (variable X):

Table 1. Validity Test Results of Parental Role (Variable X)

Item Question	r Count	r Table	Sig	Information
1	0.776	0.339	0.000	Valid
2	0.724	0.339	0.000	Valid
3	0.876	0.339	0.000	Valid
4	0.847	0.339	0.000	Valid
5	0.698	0.339	0.000	Valid
6	0.620	0.339	0.000	Valid
7	0.564	0.339	0.000	Valid
8	0.753	0.339	0.000	Valid
9	0.757	0.339	0.000	Valid
10	0.766	0.339	0.000	Valid
11	0.765	0.339	0.000	Valid
12	0.678	0.339	0.000	Valid

The data in Table 1 shows that the values for the parental role variable (variable X), consisting of 12 questionnaire items, exceed the r table value = 0.339. From this, it can be concluded that all items in the parental role questionnaire meet the validity criteria. In other words, the responses given by respondents can be considered valid. Parents have an important role in developing children's morals, including habituating them to worship and involving them in religious activities. In addition, parents must always remind children to behave well, both when leaving for school and when returning home (Makmur, 2020).

The questions in the questionnaire regarding time discipline in performing prayers (variable Y) have been prepared in accordance with the established indicators. Then, the questionnaire was tested on 34 fourteen-year-old children in Cekonch Hamlet, Sana Tengah Village, Pasean, who had been selected as respondents in this study, to evaluate its validity. The complete results of the validity test for the questionnaire items on time discipline in performing prayers (variable Y) are presented in the table below:

Table 2. Validity Test Results of Prayer Time Discipline (Variable Y)

Item Question	r Count	r Table	Sig	Information
1	0.718	0.339	0.000	Valid
2	0.546	0.339	0.000	Valid
3	0.687	0.339	0.000	Valid
4	0.593	0.339	0.000	Valid
5	0.891	0.339	0.000	Valid
6	0.895	0.339	0.000	Valid
7	0.596	0.339	0.000	Valid
8	0.571	0.339	0.000	Valid

9	0.753	0.339	0.000	Valid
10	0.868	0.339	0.000	Valid
11	0.737	0.339	0.000	Valid
12	0.848	0.339	0.000	Valid

Based on the data in Table 2 above, it is known that all values for the time discipline variable in performing prayers (variable Y), consisting of 12 questionnaire items, exceed the r table value = 0.339. Thus, it can be concluded that all items in the questionnaire have met the validity criteria. In other words, the questionnaire is considered valid in measuring time discipline in performing prayers. Discipline in performing obligatory prayers reflects obedience and the ability to perform the five daily prayers on time, without missing any prayer time (Sulfemi, 2018)

Table 3. T-Test Results (Partial Significance Test of Variable X on Variable Y)

Variable Relationship	t Count	t Table ($\alpha = 0.05$; $df = 32$)	Sig	Decision
X $\rightarrow$ Y (Parental Role $\rightarrow$ Prayer Discipline)	9.522	2.042	0.000*	Significant

Based on Table 3 above, it is known that the t count value of 9.522 is greater than the t table value of 2.042 ($df = 32$, $\alpha = 0.05$). This indicates that the parental role (variable X) has a significant effect on prayer time discipline (variable Y). Thus, the hypothesis stating that there is a significant influence of parental role on children's prayer discipline is accepted (H_a accepted) and the null hypothesis is rejected (H_0 rejected). The significance value (Sig. 0.000) also supports this result, showing that the relationship between the two variables is statistically significant.

The results of the hypothesis test using correlation and linear regression analysis show that parental roles (variable X) have a significant effect on time discipline in performing prayers (variable Y) among children in Cekonceh Hamlet, Sana Tengah Village, Pasean, Pamekasan. This means that every 1-point increase in the fulfillment of parental roles (variable X) has the potential to increase children's time discipline in performing prayers (variable Y). Therefore, to facilitate and improve children's discipline in performing prayers as an obligation, parents need to actively provide attention, guidance, coaching, supervision, and set a good example related to prayer practices for their children. Parents have a crucial role in educating children, especially in instilling prayer worship, where efforts can be made by giving direct examples of performing prayers and providing praise and rewards that support and motivate children directly (Faridayanti et al., 2020).

These efforts need to be carried out consistently and properly by parents so that children's discipline in performing prayers can be strongly instilled. This allows the habit to become an inherent part of each prayer practice, with awareness arising from within the child. Parents' efforts to improve discipline in performing the five daily prayers include giving instructions, setting examples, providing support, motivation, and always giving proper guidance so that children are responsible for their prayer obligations, either directly or through the assistance of siblings (Hidayah et al., 2022).

Table 4. Coefficient of Determination (R Square)

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Interpretation
1	0.931	0.866	0.862	—	Strong effect

Based on Table 4 above, the R value of 0.931 indicates a very strong correlation between parental role (variable X) and prayer time discipline (variable Y). The R Square value of 0.866 shows that 86.6% of the variation in children's prayer discipline can be explained by parental role.

Meanwhile, the remaining 13.4% is influenced by other factors outside this study, such as environment, peers, school influence, and personal awareness of the child. This result confirms that parental role is a dominant factor influencing children's discipline in performing prayers, although other supporting factors also contribute to shaping the behavior.

The coefficient of determination (R) of 86.6% shows that the theory used in this study contributes 86.6%, while the remaining 13.4% is influenced by other factors not examined in this study. This indicates that children's discipline in performing prayers is not only influenced by parental roles, but also by other factors outside the scope of this research. Although parental roles have a significant influence, if the guidance for prayer discipline is not properly implemented such as lack of guidance, coaching, and supervision from parents this can affect children's discipline in performing prayers. As a result, children's discipline in performing prayers may not be properly established. In such situations, children may tend to ignore prayer times that are actually their obligation, and the practice may only be carried out based on opportunity without strong awareness. Therefore, it is important for parents to provide proper guidance, coaching, and supervision so that children's prayer discipline can be well maintained.

In order for children's discipline in performing prayers to be well established, where children perform prayers properly and on time with strong self-awareness, parents need to give full attention to their children's prayer practices. They should start training and familiarizing children to perform prayers from an early age within the family environment. If children neglect their prayer obligations, parents must consistently remind and correct them. They may even impose sanctions if such behavior continues. However, parents must also be good role models by regularly performing prayers in daily life, as they are the primary example for children. Parents' consistency in performing prayers becomes an important factor in shaping children's discipline, especially in prayer practice. Children tend to be more disciplined in praying if they see their parents consistently performing it in daily life. Therefore, parental example in prayer practice must always be demonstrated so that children can imitate it.

The correlation between parental roles (variable X) and time discipline in performing prayers (variable Y) is 9.522, which is greater than 0.005. This indicates a strong relationship between parental roles and children's prayer time discipline in Cekonceh Hamlet, Sana Tengah Village, Pasean, Pamekasan. Therefore, parental roles influence children's prayer discipline. For this reason, parental roles need to be improved in order to effectively instill prayer discipline in children. In implementing prayer discipline for early childhood, parental involvement in the first subject includes providing clear explanations about prayer discipline by giving rules that must be followed. Meanwhile, in the second subject, parental involvement in shaping prayer discipline in early childhood includes providing stimulation according to time and rules, as well as preparing children to actively participate with teachers in the learning process (Anwar, 2021).

CONCLUSION

Parental roles have a significant influence on children's prayer discipline in Cekonceh Hamlet, Sana Tengah, Pasean, Pamekasan. The findings indicate that parents' involvement in children's religious life plays an essential role in shaping consistent and orderly worship habits. Parents act as the primary educators who not only provide guidance but also habituate children to carry out religious obligations from an early age. In daily life, children tend to imitate the behavior demonstrated by their parents, making parental example a crucial factor in forming children's religious character. In addition, parents who actively provide continuous guidance, supervision,

and encouragement help children understand the importance of performing prayers on time. A caring and affectionate approach also strengthens the emotional bond between parents and children, making the learning process of religious values more effective. Children who receive consistent attention and direction are more likely to internalize disciplined worship behavior. Thus, active parental involvement not only influences children's religious knowledge but also shapes strong and sustainable spiritual habits in their daily lives. Ultimately, the role of parents becomes a key foundation in developing disciplined prayer behavior that is deeply embedded in children's character and daily routines.

This study contributes to understanding the importance of parental roles as a key factor in shaping children's prayer discipline. The findings strengthen the family education theory that parental example, guidance, and supervision significantly influence the development of religious character and consistent worship habits among school-aged children. This study is limited by a relatively small number of respondents and a research setting focused on a single area. In addition, external factors such as social environment, school influence, and peers were not deeply analyzed, so the findings cannot be widely generalized to broader populations. Future research should include additional variables such as school environment and peer influence and expand the research area to produce more comprehensive and widely generalizable findings. In conclusion, parental roles are crucial in shaping children's prayer discipline. Therefore, active involvement and consistent role modeling must be continuously strengthened within everyday family life.

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AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

- Author 1 : Conceptualization, research design, data analysis, and manuscript drafting.
- Author 2 : Data collection, field coordination, and questionnaire distribution.
- Author 3 : Literature review, theoretical framework development, and validation of instruments.
- Author 4 : Statistical analysis support, proofreading, and manuscript editing.

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