

The influence of loneliness and absence of father's role on aggressive behavior in adolescents

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Abstract

Purpose: Negative behavior is a picture of individual development experiencing problems, adolescents who develop will certainly show positive behavior. In fact, today many teenagers show negative behavior, one of which is aggressive behavior. This study aims to determine the effect of loneliness and the absence of father's role on aggressive behavior.

Method: This type of research is quantitative research, researchers use an aggressive behavior scale, a loneliness scale, and a father's role absence scale. The sampling technique used *Non-probability sampling* with *accindental sampling* technique. The samples in this study were male and female adolescents throughout Indonesia, aged 10-24 years, unmarried, had complete parents, divorced parents, and the father died. The data analysis technique in this study used product moment for hypothesis analysis.

Result: The first hypothesis of Loneliness with Aggressive Behavior in adolescents obtained a *product moment* correlation value of 0.734 (p <0.01). Second hypothesis, the relationship between the Absence of Father's Role with Aggressive Behavior in adolescents obtained a *product moment* correlation value of 0.729 (p <0.01). The effective contribution of the Absence of Father's Role with aggressive behavior in adolescents is 53.2%. The results of multiple linear regression analysis data to prove the third hypothesis, have an influence between Loneliness and Absence of Father's Role together with Aggressive Behavior obtained F of 162.637 (p <0.05), the effective contribution of Loneliness and Absence of Father's Role with Aggressive Behavior is 62.3% while 37.7% is determined by other variables not measured in this study.

Conclusion: This study proves that there is a positive and significant influence between loneliness and aggressive behavior, stating that the first hypothesis is accepted, the higher the loneliness obtained by adolescents, the higher the aggressive behavior, and vice versa. The existence of a positive and significant influence between loneliness and the absence of father's role with aggressive behavior simultaneously, states the third hypothesis is accepted.

Keywords: adolescents; aggressive behavior; fatherlessness; loneliness

INTRODUCTION

Adolescence is the period when children become adults. At this time, they experience rapid growth and development physically and mentally. Adolescence is a pivotal period in later life, as it is considered the transition from childhood to adulthood, most teenagers consider this period to be the most exciting in their lives. However, being an adolescent is also not an easy period (Saputro, 2018). Erikson (Santrock, 2012) said that there are eight stages of human development, ranging from early childhood to old age, the development of an individual's personality occurs throughout life and at each stage of development has tasks that must be completed. According to



Gunarsa (2001) so that when there is a stage of development that is missed, it will greatly impact on his personality. It is not uncommon for many problems to occur in adolescence because adolescents often try to find self-adjustment, need a free life, and self-confidence. Juvenile delinquency occurs due to unresolved conflicts during childhood, which inhibits mental growth during adolescence. In addition, juvenile delinquency can occur in childhood and adolescence with rapid physical, psychological, and emotional development or traumatic experiences.

Negative behavior that arises as a result of the social relationship factors that influence it, both in the parent's environment and the family environment, is not a feature of good development, one of the aggressive behaviors shown by adolescents is aggressive behavior (Khaira, 2022). Aggressive behavior is still common everywhere, and many cases of aggression are reported on television and social media. This aggressive behavior occurs at various ages. Adolescents are an age group that is vulnerable to aggressive behavior, according to Lewin (Sarwono, 2007). According to Buss & Perry (1992) Aggressive behavior is behavior that is more likely to hurt others, both physically and psychologically. Aggression is an instinctive and automatic physical reaction to certain stimuli that occurs without conscious thought in the form of uncontrolled anger, attacks, acts of violence, and sadistic behavior (Kartono, 2011). Wiyani (2014) argues that aggressive behavior can be defined as actions taken intentionally or unintentionally with the aim of attacking others physically or verbally. Taylor, Peplau, & Sears (2009) also argue that aggressive behavior is an action taken to harm others or hurt others either intentionally or unintentionally. The same thing was also conveyed by Atkinson (2008). Aggressive behavior is an action that can hurt other individuals and can damage the objects it encounters (Atkinson, 2008). aggressive behavior is an action that tends to hurt others, both physically and psychologically. Aggressive behavior itself occurs because of a reaction to a certain stimulus so that aggressive behavior can be said to be an intentional or unintentional act even with the same goal of hurting, or hurting the people around it.

According to (Buss & Perry, 1992) there are four forms of aggressive behavior which are described as follows: 1. Physical aggression, examples of physical aggression are violence such as pushing, fighting, hitting, slapping, kicking, pinching, biting, etc.. 2. Verbal aggression, is an act of words such as bullying others mocking by using harsh and disrespectful words 3. Anger, a type of indirect aggression, occurs when someone feels hatred for someone else or something or because they cannot achieve their goals. 4. Hostility, the cognitive component of aggressive behavior, consists of feelings of wanting to hurt someone or something as well as feelings of unfairness towards something.

According to Kartono (2011) there are several factors that have an impact on individual aggressive behavior, internal factors, and external factors. Internally includes, Disorders of thinking, are unhealthy beliefs and ways of thinking that can lead to abusive language, insulting, arguing, mocking, and anger (Haslinda et al., 2020), Feeling Disorders, also known as emotional, are feelings that can cause individuals to speak harshly and angrily), Negative frustration reactions in adolescents are factors that include feelings of disappointment that can lead to verbal aggression. (Haslinda et al., 2020) In addition, external factors that can influence aggressive behavior include poor family relationships, adolescent dissatisfaction with the education and school system, and environmental factors. Disturbances in thinking, feeling, observation and frustration are internal factors that influence aggressive behavior, which is also part of loneliness.

According to Russell (1996) The concept of loneliness can be understood as a personality trait that constantly changes, influenced by an individual's psychophysiological structure, which



determines their behavior and thoughts, as well as their desire for social life and environment. Furthermore, depression is one of the natural emotional disturbances characterized by feelings of sadness, melancholy, lack of enthusiasm, and feeling worthless, focused on failure. According to Russell (1996), aspects of loneliness include: Personality, which is part of the psychophysiological system that determines behavior and thinking patterns, such as determining how an individual behaves and thinks in observing their surroundings, Social desirability, which is the desire to live socially that someone likes in their life environment, and there is a need for an individual who wants to be fulfilled in their social environment, Depression, which is selfpressure that causes depression, resulting in feelings of sadness, despondency, and lack of enthusiasm.

Individuals who experience loneliness will feel a bad feeling. Loneliness that occurs in adolescents is certainly a special concern, individual adolescents who experience loneliness become discouraged often experience sadness, because of an unattainable desire, an unsatisfactory relationship. The reason is that loneliness can lead to aggressive behavior, because the satisfaction in him is not fulfilled, making individuals form their own way of thinking and behavior. Research on the effect of loneliness on aggressive behavior has been carried out as a result of research (Robinson et al., 2020) there is a positive correlation between aggression and loneliness. So it can be interpreted that the stronger a person's aggressive behavior, the stronger the feeling of loneliness and vice versa, the lower the level of a person's aggressive behavior, the lower the level of loneliness.

Poor family relationships are an external factor in influencing aggression behavior. Adolescents who behave aggressively tend to be influenced by the absence of the father's role in nurturing the development of adolescent individuals. In accordance with research conducted by Musslifah (2021) The father's role in caring for children affects the way they see the outside world. Children who lose their father's role have slower psychological maturity and tend to be childish, they tend to avoid problems and get emotional when faced with problems, and they hesitate in many situations where quick and decisive decisions are needed, so aggressive behavior is likely to occur (Musslifah, 2021).

According to McBride (2002) A father has his own role in the development of his child's life, how a father participates in the care of his child's growth and development in a way that is different from others. Children who do not have a father who accompanies their growth are defined as *fatherless children. Fatherless* when a child does not have a father's role and identity in his life. This occurs in children who do not have a father or are orphans. (Lecklitner, 2022). Aspects of father involvement in parenting according to McBride et al, (2002) namely, responsibility for managing children and meeting children's financial needs to buy what they need, giving attention and care to children, doing homework with children, participating in activities with children, being children's friends, and supervising children. enforce discipline rules and protect from risk or danger.

In accordance with research conducted by (Handayani et al., 2022) Parenting is very important from an early age to determine the growth and development of the next individual because development has several stages that must be considered and fulfilled. They form a strong personality if they get the right education, and vice versa, if they get the wrong education, they will form a bad personality.

The objectives of this study are to (1) To determine the effect between loneliness and aggressive behavior in adolescents, (2) To determine the effect between the absence of father's role with aggressive behavior in adolescents, (3) To determine the effect between loneliness and the absence of father's role with aggressive behavior.

METHOD

This study uses quantitative research using a scale of aggressive behavior, a scale of loneliness, and a scale of the absence of the role of the father the dependent variable in this study is aggressive behavior (Y) and the independent variables are loneliness (X1) and the absence of the father's role (X2). The sampling technique used *Non-probability sampling* with *accindental sampling* technique (Sugiyono, 2019). The subjects used in this study are male and female adolescents throughout Indonesia, aged 10-24 years, unmarried, have complete parents, divorced parents, father died.

The method and technical analysis in this study is the product moment correlation statistical test and multiple linear regression to analyze the data. Product moment analysis and multiple linear regression serve to find the influence and relationship of two or more independent variables (independent variable or X) on the dependent variable (dependent variable Y). There are two things that are done in the way of quantitative data analysis, namely: first, assumption tests which include normality and linearity tests; second, research hypothesis testing with regression analysis to test hypotheses one and two, while for hypothesis three it is analyzed using multiple linear regression. The data collected entirely in this study were then processed using the SPSS 25.00 For MS Windows program.

RESULT

Before the research data was analyzed, an assumption test was conducted, which included linearity and normality tests. The results of this research data assumption test are as follows.

a. Normality Test

Normality testing tests the normality of data distribution. According to Azwar (2018), data is considered to have a normal distribution and is centered on the median and average. The normality test was carried out to determine whether the research data for each variable had a normal distribution. The normality test in this study used the Kolmogrov-Smirnov formula. Data is said to be normal if the P value> 0.05 indicates that the data is normal. A P value of <0.05 indicates that there is a significant difference or gap with normal data, while a P value of >0.05 indicates that there is no significant difference with normal data. This is called normal data distribution.

According to Sugiyono (2012), normality of the data is usually not met due to abnormal distribution of the analyzed data, where there are extreme values in the data obtained to determine whether the distribution is normal or not. It can be tested by examining the standardized residuals in the regression model, which can be considered normal if most of the standardized residuals are approximately greater than P = 0.05.

Based on data processing conducted by researchers using SPSS version 25 Windows, the results of the normality test of this research data are as follows:



Table 1

Normality Test

		Unstandardized Residual
		200
Normal Parameters ^{a,b}	Mean	.0000000
	Std. Deviation	19.82668113
Most Extreme Differences	Absolute	.053
	Positive	.026
	Negative	053
Test Statistic		.053
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)		.200 ^{c,d}

a. Test distribution is Normal.

- b. Calculated from data.
- c. Lilliefors Significance Correction.
- d. This is a lower bound of the true significance.

Based on the results of the SPSS version 25 output, it can be concluded that the significance value of the *Unstandardized Residual* in the *Kolmogrov-Smirnov* test used is 0.200. Thus it can be said that the *p-Value* (0.200) > α (0,05). Which means that the residuals of the three variables are normally distributed, and can continue to the next stage.

b. Linearity Test

The relationship between the independent variable and the dependent variable must be linear in any linear regression equation, according to the linearity assumption (Azwar, 2018). To measure the linearity of research variables, the general standard is that the relationship between two variables is considered linear if the significant value (linearity) is less than 0.05, or p < 0.05. The results of the linearity test can be seen in table 4.7 as follows:

Table 2

Linearity Test Results				
Variables Dependent	Variables Independent -	Value		Description
variables Dependent		F	р	Description
Aggressive behavior	Loneliness	302,231	0,000	Linear
Behavior Aggressive	Absence Father's role	412,471	0,000	Linear

Based on the linearity test results in the table above, the following results are obtained:

- 1) With an F value of 302.231 and linear significance (p<0.05), it can be concluded that there is a linear relationship between the variables of loneliness and adolescent aggressive behavior.
- 2) With an F value of 412.471 and linear significance (p<0.05), it can be concluded that there is a linear relationship between the fatherlessness variable and adolescent aggressive behavior.



c. Hypothesis testing

The results of the prerequisite analysis test, normality test and linearity test, showed that the research data were normally distributed and liner. For hypothesis testing 1, 2 and 3, product moment correlation analysis and multiple linear regression analysis can be used to continue analyzing research data. The results of the *product moment* correlation analysis are in table 4.8 as follows:

Table 3

Results of Product Moment	Correlation Analysis
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Variables Dependent	Variables Independent	r	р	Description
Aggressive behavior	Loneliness	0,734	0,000	Significant
	Absence Father's role	0,729	0,000	significant

Based on the results of the *product moment* correlation analysis, the following results are obtained:

- The results of testing the first hypothesis, the relationship between loneliness and aggressive behavior in adolescents, obtained a *product moment* correlation value of 0.734 (p <0.01). This means that the first hypothesis is accepted. The effective contribution of loneliness to aggressive behavior in adolescents is 53.9% while 46.1% is determined by other variables not measured in this study.
- 2) The results of testing the second hypothesis, the relationship between the Absence of Father's Role with Aggressive Behavior in adolescents, obtained a *product moment* correlation value of 0.729 (p <0.01). This means that the second hypothesis is accepted. The effective contribution of loneliness to aggressive behavior in adolescents is 53.2% while 46.8% is determined by other variables not measured in this study.

After doing *product moment* analysis to prove the first and second hypotheses, the next is to test the third hypothesis using multiple linear regression, the results of which can be seen in table 4.9 as follows:

Table 4

Multiple Linear Regression Analysis Results				
Value Correlation (R)	R Square	F	р	Description
0,789	0,623	162,637	0,000	Significant

Multiple Linear Regression Analysis Results

Based on the results of multiple linear regression analysis to prove the third hypothesis, there is an influence between Loneliness and Absence of Father's Role together with Aggressive Behavior obtained F of 162.637 (p <0.05), then the third hypothesis is accepted. The effective contribution of Loneliness and Absence of Father's Role with Aggressive Behavior is 62.3% while 37.7% is determined by other variables not measured in this study.

DISCUSSION

The first hypothesis is that there is a positive relationship, namely, a relationship between loneliness and aggressive behavior. The technique used to test the first hypothesis is product-moment correlation analysis, which shows a correlation coefficient of 0.734 (p < 0.01). These



results indicate that the first hypothesis is accepted, suggesting a significant and positive relationship between loneliness and aggressive behavior among adolescents. Specifically, as loneliness increases, aggressive behavior also increases, and vice versa, as loneliness decreases, aggressive behavior also decreases. Consistent with studies on the effects of loneliness on aggressive behavior (Robinson, 2020), this study also found a positive relationship between aggression and loneliness. Therefore, it can be interpreted that as aggressive behavior increases, feelings of loneliness also increase, and vice versa, as aggressive behavior decreases, feelings of loneliness also decrease.

According to Sun's (2021) study, there was a significant partial correlation between aggressive behavior and loneliness. When there is a mismatch between what an individual expects from their interpersonal relationships and what they actually expect, it is referred to as loneliness (Fitts, 2009). According to Reinhard (2022), individuals experiencing loneliness tend to exhibit unstable emotions and frequently engage in impulsive behaviors, such as uttering unsavory statements and displaying aggressive behavior. (Hemberg, 2022) also reported in his study that the loneliness experienced by adolescents and young adults is not a standalone phenomenon, but rather a subjective experience that is often complex and frequently interrelated with other experiences or phenomena, and is often motivated by one or more underlying reasons.

According to the explanation above, it can be concluded that loneliness becomes a special concern, particularly for teenagers, as many individuals in this age group experience physical, emotional, social, and other changes. The second hypothesis, which states that there is no relationship between father's role and aggressive behavior, is supported. The correlation result is 0.729 (p < 0.001), indicating that the hypothesis is accepted and statistically significant.

According to McBride (2002) A father has his own role in the development of his child's life, how a father participates in the care of his child's growth and development in a different way from others, each father has a different way of parenting but will still have the same role(Handayani et al., 2022). Also adding that parental care is very important from an early age to determine the growth and development of the next individual, because development has several stages that must be considered and fulfilled. If at that time they get the right upbringing, a strong and good personality base is formed and vice versa, if they get the wrong upbringing, a bad personality base will be formed. And the relationship shows if the individual has a high intensity of loneliness. The findings of Kim (2018) showed that paternal absence significantly contributed to differences among individuals in relation to child behavior.

Based on the explanation above, it can be concluded that loneliness is a special concern, especially for adolescents, because in adolescence individuals experience many changes both in physical, emotional, social and other aspects. Teenagers who experience loneliness will find it difficult to process and organize emotions, perceptions, and behavior. To deal with or prevent loneliness, it is necessary to know the personality of how individuals behave, think and observe things, then the individual's sense of social desire how individuals must understand that not everything they want or like can be applied or liked by their social environment, the last is *depression* being an aspect that controls the occurrence of loneliness that is because *depression* is a mental health disorder that triggers thinking disorders, moods as well as individual behavior. Then the individual will experience high aggression behavior and vice versa if the level of loneliness is low, the level of aggression behavior is low.



In line with research (Munjiat, 2017) the role of the father or father's involvement in parenting affects the way children view the outside world, children have slower psychological maturity and tend to be childish, children tend to run away from problems and are emotional when facing problems, less able to make decisions and hesitate in many situations. People who do not have a father's role or father's involvement will tend to experience inferiority and low self-esteem and have difficulty adapting to the outside world. as the results of research (Willybaldus et al., 2023) entitled "Aggression Behavior in Adolescents in View of Fatherless (*Father Absence*)" which shows a significant value of 0.000 (sig <0.05) which means that there is a significant effect of the absence of the father's role (*Fatherless*) on aggressive behavior in adolescents. The R *square* value which shows the result of 0.225 means that the effective contribution of fatherlessness is 25.5%.

Based on the explanation above, it can be concluded that the absence of the father's role can have an impact on the development of individual personality. In accordance with the results of research data by (Willybaldus et al., 2023) shows that the higher the absence of the *father's* role (*fatherless*), the higher the aggressive behavior and vice versa, the lower the absence of the father's role, the lower the aggressive behavior.

The distribution of aggressive behavior categories is low, followed by loneliness, which falls into the moderate category, and the absence of a father's role also falls into the moderate category. The results of this study show that the dominant subjects are women, as Bowirrat (2023) explains that women experience higher levels of loneliness compared to men due to genetic factors or personality disorders that make women more prone to experiencing loneliness. Wedaloka and Turnip (2019) also reported significant differences in loneliness levels between female and male adolescents. Female adolescents experience higher levels of loneliness compared to male adolescents, both in terms of overall loneliness and emotional and social loneliness, as revealed by research on male adolescents who are more likely to express their emotions through sports and better at forming friendships than females. Women are also more likely to experience significant effects from the absence of a father's role compared to male children, as a father's role is crucial in helping a woman make decisions related to various aspects of life, including behavior, education, relationships, and work, which require guidance from a father figure. (Wandansari et al., 2021).

The third hypothesis shows that loneliness and the absence of the father's role simultaneously affect aggressive behavior. The multiple linear regression test results show the r value is 0.789 with R square of 0.623, F value of 162.637 (p<0.05). These results indicate that loneliness and the absence of the father's role are factors that play a role in increasing aggressive behavior.

Based on the results of the analysis, it is known that the effective contribution of loneliness and the absence of a father's role in increasing aggressive behavior in adolescents is 62.3%, while the remaining 37.7% is influenced by other factors not examined by the researcher.

According to (Buss & Perry, 1992) aggressive behavior is behavior that is more likely to cause physical or psychological pain to others. Wiyani (2014) states that aggressive behavior consists of actions that intentionally or unintentionally aim to attack others physically or verbally.

Anggara (2016) also said that depression, loneliness, and interpersonal relationship styles correlate with maladaptive behavior, such as an increased tendency to aggression, behavior that



disturbs others, and lonely individuals experience symptoms such as sadness, anxiety, depression, hurt, anxiety, outcast, uncertainty, not understood, loss of contact, and not having intimate and special relationships with others, having no hope, in the end will quickly feel offended, so they want to fight and like disputes as a form of aggressive behavior. Loneliness and aggressive behavior have a positive relationship.

So that loneliness is also an important factor in increasing aggressive behavior and has an influence on aggressive behavior as explained by (Anggara, 2016). In line with the research results (Channitun & Soetikno, 2022) which shows that there is a significant difference between loneliness and aggression and problems, and there is a significant positive relationship between loneliness and aggression. This means, if the intensity of loneliness in a child increases, then his aggressive behavior will increase, and vice versa if the intensity of loneliness in a person decreases, his aggressive behavior will decrease.

Willybaldus et al. (2023) provides an explanation of the reasons why adolescents take risks and behave negatively due to the loss of fatherhood. Divorce, death of the father, or separation due to health or marital problems are some examples of the loss of the father's role.

In line with research conducted by (Syahputra, 2023) shows that one of the factors in the occurrence of aggressive behavior experienced by children is from parents. So that it is likely to cause the higher the absence of the role of parents, the higher the aggressive behavior and vice versa. So that children do not tend to behave aggressively, where one of the factors of aggressive children is inadequate parental involvement. Therefore, parents also play an important role in shaping children's character and behavior.

According to Bandura's social learning theory, self-efficacy, which is the belief that individuals have the ability to cope with problems and the environment on their own, causes aggressive behavior. Once people are in an unsupportive environment, a strong attempt to change the environment with violence arises (Bandura, 1986). According to Bandura (1986), aggressive behavior is formed from observations of others, direct experience, positive and negative reinforcements, and false beliefs. So that individual internal factors such as the existence of observation disturbances based on the definition of loneliness according to Russel (1996) are important factors in shaping aggressive behavior, besides that the family environment based on the definition according to Bandura also plays an important role in the formation of aggressive behavior.

Overall, the variables of loneliness and the absence of the father's role are very influential on aggressive behavior in adolescents. Both variables simultaneously become important factors that can increase aggressive behavior.

CONCLUSION

This study demonstrates a positive and significant influence between loneliness and aggressive behavior, confirming the first hypothesis. The effective contribution of loneliness to aggressive behavior in adolescents is 53.9%, while 46.1% is attributed to other variables not measured in this study. Furthermore, the study shows a positive and significant influence between the absence of paternal role and aggressive behavior, confirming the second hypothesis. The effective contribution of the absence of paternal role to aggressive behavior in adolescents is 53.2%, while 46.8% is attributed to other variables not measured in this study. Moreover, there is a positive and



significant influence between loneliness and the absence of paternal role on aggressive behavior simultaneously, confirming the third hypothesis. The effective contribution of loneliness and the absence of paternal role to aggressive behavior in adolescents is 62.3%, while 37.7% is attributed to other variables not measured in this study. In general, the variables of loneliness and the absence of paternal role play a crucial role in increasing aggressive behavior in adolescents.

Both variables simultaneously serve as important factors that can increase aggressive behavior. Parents can see how big a father's role is in child development, so fathers may be more involved in childcare. Alternatively, mothers can ensure that their husband's role is fulfilled even if he is unable to fulfill it.

Based on research conducted by child researchers, children who grow up without a father tend to exhibit verbal aggression such as threatening, speaking impolitely, unstable emotions, followed by physical aggression such as hitting or physically harming others. Parents can take several steps to address aggressive behavior in adolescents, such as remaining calm when adolescents express their emotions, helping adolescents express their emotions, helping adolescents understand and encouraging them to express their emotions, praising good behavior with positive reinforcement, knowing the triggers of aggressive behavior in adolescents (Molina, 2023).

This study can help adolescents understand themselves and how loneliness and the absence of paternal role affect their personal development, especially their aggressive behavior. Results from research conducted by child researchers indicate that adolescents who experience loneliness and lack of paternal role tend to exhibit aggressive behavior such as verbal aggression, threatening, speaking impolitely, unstable emotions, followed by physical aggression (Molina, 2023). It is suggested that addressing aggressive behavior in adolescents can be done using various therapeutic methods such as cognitive behavioral therapy, psychodynamic therapy, and interpersonal therapy.

For future researchers, other factors such as school environment and depression can be used as additional variables. To achieve better results, this study uses not only scales but also extended methods such as direct interviews and observation at schools or local environments to obtain more accurate results that support the research findings.

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