



Research on the Causes of Children's Conflicts

Ziwei Li*, Qing Lu, Xiaoya Zhou

School of Education, China West Normal University, Nanchong, Sichuan, China.

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Corresponding author: Ziwei Li, School of Education, China West Normal University, Nanchong, Sichuan, China.

Abstract

Children's conflict is a malign consequence of children's anxiety. Due to the immaturity of children's physical and psychological development, the anxiety generated by their psychological conflicts cannot be released by appropriate language expression and practical actions, thus resulting in accumulation. Compared with adolescents and adults, children's behavior is easier to change. Early guidance and intervention can quickly restore children's lives to a normal state. Therefore, it is very crucial to actively and effectively alleviate children's anxiety. In terms of classification, children's conflict is mainly divided into the parent-child conflict, teacher-child conflict and peer conflict. Separation, neglect and inappropriate family rearing way will lead to the accumulation of children's anxiety. When the anxiety of children exceeds a certain level, it will bring serious negative effects on the follow-up development of children, and even irreversible harm. Therefore, this study specifically analyzes the causes, adverse consequences and importance from the three types of children's conflicts.

Keywords

Children's conflict, Children's anxiety, Parent-child conflict, Teacher-child conflict, Peer conflict

1. Introduction

Compared with adults, children's psychology and physiology are immature, so children are more likely to suffer anxiety. Although to some extent, appropriate anxiety and pressure can promote children to solve problems and overcome difficulties, and it is also conducive to children's self-improvement and learning progress. With the rise of anxiety when it exceeds a certain level, which generates serious negative impacts on the follow-up development of children, and even causes irreversible harm. Research in recent years also found that compared with young people and adults, children's behavior is easier to change, and early guidance and intervention also can quickly restore children's lives to normal track. Therefore, it is crucial to actively and effectively alleviate children's anxiety.

2. Causes of children's conflict

2.1 Parent-child conflict

Children's attachment to their parents is far greater than that of adolescents and adults, so the impact of parent-child conflicts on children is far-reaching and difficult to estimate. For teenagers, parent-child conflicts may come from parents' excessive neglect or control, whether in school, entertainment or life, and most cases are caused by academic conflict (Cao Ge & Tam C. W. Vicky, 2021). For children, the influence of rebelling is not the main factor of parent-child conflict. In contrast, the sense of belonging in family is more closely related to children's anxiety under the parent-child conflict.

2.1.1 Parental rearing style

Children will develop disharmonious characters under unbefitting training mode. Children who grow up in excessive

indulgence will cry and complain once their requirements and desires are not satisfied. Besides, under excessive and strict control, their personal emotional depression or anxiety caused by long-term command and restraint are also the catalyst for the intensification of parent-child conflict. These parenting styles that promote children to develop anxiety and intensify conflict belong to the negative styles for kids. Scholars' research shows that the negative parenting behaviors from mothers have a wider influence than fathers (Liang Zongbao, Wu Anlian, & Zhang Guangzhen, 2022). If parents do not pay attention to their own education and upbringing model, children's socialization and social adaptation will be adversely affected, including low self-esteem, anxiety and aggression (Liang Zongbao, Wu Anlian, & Zhang Guangzhen, 2022).

2.1.2 Excessive neglect of parents

The parents' excessive neglect of children in attitude is the cause of the weakening of the parent-child relationship between children and parents. Children are highly sensitive to emotion, so they can quickly catch the indifference, impatience and violence in adults' words and behaviors. **Montessori** repeatedly stressed that children are victims of adults' emotional venting in *The Secret of Childhood*. "*The consequences of the parent-child conflict between children and adults are almost limitless extended into the lives of adults*" (Montessori, 2010, pp. 217-219), so it is difficult for adults to stop their own work and adapt to children's life style and spiritual vision. However, the incomprehension between parents and children further makes parents' emotions explicit and aggravates the anxiety under children's sensitive perception.

2.1.3 Status quo of parent-child separation

Long term parent-child separation aggravates the weakening of parent-child relationship, which is another important factor for children's separation anxiety. The problem of left-behind children in China's mountainous areas has always been concerned by society, at the same time, parent-child communication and positive guidance are the most easily ignored problems for those parents (Wang Chuanyan & Chu Zuwang, 2019). The long-term separation between parents and children not only hinders the emotional cultivation between parents and children, but also aggravates children's dependence on their grandparents. In addition, most elderly people's lack of knowledge and methods of scientific child-rearing will lead to neglect or overindulgence.

2.1.4 Insufficient social support

Some scholars pointed out in their research on the relationship between the degree of mother's anxiety and the possibility of child-abuse that good social support for mothers will significantly reduce the pressure and anxiety of mothers in work and childcare, thus reducing the possibility of mothers' depression and the risk of child-abuse or cold violence (Xi Chunyuan & Wang Lingyan, 2021). If the society sets up social support projects and economic and policy support for families which suffer from difficulties in lives and child-rearing, under the pressure of life, parents have spare time to learn scientific child-rearing and knowledge of education, and accompany children to grow up. In terms of emotional support, parents can also form mutual support groups to provide emotional and methodological help for parents who have difficulties with their children (Xi Chunyuan & Wang Lingyan, 2021).

2.2 Teacher child conflict

2.2.1 The development of Children's character

The formation of children's character depends not only on the influence of family education, but also on the education of children once they enter the kindergarten or school. Therefore, the communication between teachers and children is an important part of school life (Chen Shaoxian & Li Jungang, 2018). Children will be spoiled with the indulgent rearing style of parents for children before admission, and then children might take for granted that regard others as service roles in school, including teachers and classmates. However, once the arrogant and paranoid character has been initially formed, it is very difficult for teachers to guide and correct them subsequently. In the *Secret of Childhood*, Montessori defined the "normalization" of problem children as "conversion" (Montessori, 2010, p. 171), although conversion can be achieved in terms of possibility, it is hard once the negative character has been formed.

2.2.2 The educational mode of teachers

Due to the strong plasticity of preschool children's mental development (Li Yanfang, Liu Lijun, Lv Ying, Luo Fang & Wang Yun, 2015). There is a great possibility that the young children who have just come out of their family might have internal anxiety when they do not adapt to teachers or the teaching methods, leading to the initial formation of teacher-child conflict. Some teachers believe that they should serve the development of children, so the teaching and education programs are child-centered and can be adjusted with the physical and mental changes of children. However, there are also some teachers who believe that their teaching methods and models have been quite effective in previous

way, so students should grow and be educated according to the fixed teaching plan within their teaching modules. The contradiction between teachers and children is mainly about the cultural conflict between adults and children and the contrast between the atmosphere of kindergartens or schools and families (Li Qi, 2021).

2.2.3 Individual professionalism of teachers

The professionalism of teachers also determines to a large extent the children's acceptance of teachers and educational methods. The skills that a qualified preschool teacher should have are improved through years of theoretical study and practice, including the knowledge of children's physical and mental development laws, children's learning tendency, psychological state, trouble solving, and personality development. From the perspective of children's psychology, whether in the classroom or in life, they fail to get the understanding of the adults, nor can they meet their own needs. It is way too boring, so they would rather cry than go to school. Besides, pre-class encouraging and communicating, and after-class sharing and reviewing with children will help promote communication between teachers and children in a natural atmosphere (Lei Yufan, 2021).

2.3 Peer conflict

2.3.1 Children's parenting style

Peer conflict is a normal communication phenomenon in children's social development (Zheng Wei & Huang Yujiao, 2022), and the causes of peer conflict are also closely related to children's parenting styles. The negative personality development will not only affect the parent-child relationship, leading to parent-child conflict, but also affect children's social interaction thus leads to a series of peer conflicts. For example, if the children gathered in the kindergarten are self-centered, and unwilling to sharing with and tolerating others, they will adopt the withdrawal and aggressive strategy when getting along with classmates (Xiang Haiying & Sun Wenjie, 2014), and refuse to share the teacher's kindness and patience with other children, which leads to a state that quarrels and crying will happen all times and places.

2.3.2 Children's own personality characteristics

Children's own personality and developmental characteristics will cause peer conflict. Although the parenting style can greatly affect the development of children's personalities, children's physical and mental development still remains unknown and independent. People's temperament can be divided into four types, but some people may be born with depressive and phlegmatic temperament type, while the other part of people may be born with sanguine and choleric temperament type. Therefore, from the perspective of children's own personality characteristics and development level, they are likely to choose kids with similar preferences, and alienate the children with special appearance, personality or different interests.

2.3.3 Degree of socialization of children socialization

Children socialization is one of the criteria to measure children's peer communication ability. In adult groups, "introvert" is often used to describe individuals who are not good at social communication. However, in children's groups, "introvert" and "shy" children are easily fail to participate in collective and socialized communication activities. Long-term independent activities are not conducive to the good personality, and healthy physical and mental development of children, nor conducive to integrating to the group and finding a sense of belonging in the campus.

3. The Harmfulness of Children's Conflict and the Necessity of Comfort

3.1 Characteristics of children's conflict

Children's conflict is characterized by directness, concreteness, brevity and abruptness.

3.2 The Harmfulness of Children's Conflict

Children's conflict is characterized by directness, concreteness, brevity and abruptness. And Children in early childhood are more active, and prefer games, so playing games is one of the main ways for children to conduct social interaction, and have important significance and value for children's growth. However, as they are transiting from "egocentrization" to "de-egocentrization", children may not always be close to each other, even worse, they often conflict with peers for some reasons. At this point, it is very important to analyze the negative impact of children's conflict and propose reasonable methods to avoid it. Individuals are likely to be led astray by small things which are disguised as love and help without knowing it (Montessori, 2010, p. 181). Therefore, if children's conflicts cannot be resolved timely and properly, their feeling of "unfair" and "dissatisfaction" will be aggravated, and eventually lead to an uncontrollable situation.

4. Conclusion

Children are the hope of the future and also related to the national rejuvenation. Although some scholars believe that kindergarten conflict can also exercise children's ability to resist pressure and socialize to a certain extent (Zhang Lanxiang, 2019), however, it is also very likely to become a stumbling block on children's health and affect their development. Therefore, parents and teachers need to work together to curb excessive anxiety or reduce anxiety. Teachers and parents should let children discover the joy of learning in the kindergarten, and pay more attention to their living conditions. In addition, teachers and parents should communicate more frequently. It will come true that with the joint efforts of parents and teachers, children can enjoy their lives and lay a good foundation for future.

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