

ABSTRAK

Fenomena pasangan *dual career* menimbulkan tantangan dalam pembagian waktu, peran, dan tanggung jawab pengasuhan anak, sehingga pasangan perlu membangun komunikasi yang efektif dalam menentukan alternatif pengasuhan yang sesuai. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan komunikasi interpersonal pasangan *dual career* dalam membicarakan pengasuhan anak melalui *daycare*, mengidentifikasi proses pengambilan keputusan dalam memilih *daycare*, serta menganalisis aspek komunikasi pasangan. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif deskriptif. Data diperoleh melalui wawancara mendalam terhadap lima pasangan suami istri *dual career* yang menggunakan *daycare*, serta didukung oleh observasi dan dokumentasi. Teknik analisis data menggunakan model Miles dan Huberman yang meliputi pengumpulan data, reduksi data, penyajian data, dan penarikan kesimpulan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa komunikasi interpersonal pasangan berlangsung secara terbuka, dua arah, dan kolaboratif. Proses pengambilan keputusan dilakukan secara bertahap, mulai dari munculnya kebutuhan pengasuhan, pencarian informasi, evaluasi kualitas dan keamanan *daycare*, pembentukan kesepakatan, hingga evaluasi setelah anak menggunakan *daycare*. Kelima aspek komunikasi interpersonal menurut DeVito tampak dalam proses tersebut, terutama keterbukaan sebagai faktor dominan dalam mencapai kesepakatan. Penelitian ini menyimpulkan bahwa komunikasi interpersonal berperan penting sebagai ruang negosiasi, pemahaman bersama, dan kerja sama pasangan *dual career* dalam menentukan pengasuhan anak melalui *daycare*.

Kata kunci: komunikasi interpersonal, pasangan *dual career*, pengambilan keputusan, pengasuhan anak, *daycare*

ABSTRACT

The phenomenon of dual-career couples creates challenges in managing time, roles, and childcare responsibilities, requiring couples to build effective communication in determining appropriate childcare alternatives. This study aims to describe the interpersonal communication of dual-career couples in discussing childcare through daycare, identify the decision-making process in choosing daycare, and analyze the aspects of couples' communication. This research uses a descriptive qualitative approach. Data were collected through in-depth interviews with five dual-career married couples who use daycare, supported by observation and documentation. The data analysis technique follows the Miles and Huberman model, consisting of data collection, data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing. The findings show that interpersonal communication between couples takes place openly, reciprocally, and collaboratively. The decision-making process occurs gradually, beginning with the emergence of childcare needs, information seeking, evaluation of daycare quality and safety, agreement formation, and post-use evaluation. The five aspects of interpersonal communication proposed by DeVito are reflected in this process, with openness appearing as the dominant factor in reaching mutual agreement. This study concludes that interpersonal communication plays an important role as a space for negotiation, shared understanding, and cooperation among dual-career couples in determining childcare through daycare.

Keywords: *interpersonal communication, dual-career couples, decision making, childcare, daycare*