SHARENTING IN THE PERSPECTIVE OF ISLAMIC EDUCATION

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Abstract: This article discusses "sharenting" (sharing representations of one's parenting or children online) in the perspevtive of Islamic education. The term "sharenting", coined from "share" and "parenting", When parents share information about their children online, they do so without their children's consent. Lack of legal regulations regarding the protection of children's privacy online was also pointed out. sharenting has become a subject of research by increasing numbers of scholars worldwide, but the knowledge of this phenomenon is still meagre. This Article explores potential legal solutions to this issue and offers a set of best practices for parents to consider when sharing about children online in the perspevtive of Islamic education that Sharenting must be done by parent by maintaingin four principles : Maintain the nature of children (*al muhafazoh*), Develop childrens potential (*at tanmiyah*), With clear directions (*at taujih*), and Gradually (*at tadaruj*).

Keywords: sharenting, parenting, Islamic education

INTRODUCTION

Today, many children acquire a digital identity before they can speak, or even have left the womb, as parents' share the joys and challenges of parenting with family, friends and peers on e.g. Facebook, Instagram or blogs. Consequently, sharenting has attracted attention from the general public and from researchers, often focusing on the risk of misuse or abuse of information shared about children online, particularly photos.[1] Other interests concern the dilemmas associated with balancing the privacy rights of children against parents' right to self-expression and free speech, which constitutes a legislative challenge and an evident ambivalence among "sharents" [2]

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[1] Stacey B. Steinberg, 'Sharenting: Children's Privacy in the Age of Social Media', *Emory Law Journal*, 66.4 (2017)

[2] Alicia Blum-Ross and Sonia Livingstone, '"Sharenting," Parent Blogging, and the Boundaries of the Digital Self', *Popular Communication*, 15.2 (2017), 110–25

The C.S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll on Children's Health In December 2014 asked a national sample of parents of children aged 0-4 years about their benefits and concerns related to sharing parenting information on social media. Most parents of young children (84% of mothers, 70% of fathers) report using social media like Facebook, online forums, or blogs. Over half of mothers (56%), compared with only 34% of fathers, discuss child health and parenting topics on social media. When sharing parenting advice on social media, common topics include getting kids to sleep (28%), nutrition/eating tips (26%), discipline (19%), daycare/preschool (17%), and behavior problems (13%).

Parents rate social media as useful for making them feel like they are not alone (72%), learning what not to do (70%), getting advice from more experienced parents (67%), and helping them worry less (62%). In contrast, about two-thirds of parents are concerned about someone finding out private information about their child (68%) or sharing photos of their child (67%), while 52% are concerned that when older, their child might be embarrassed about what they have shared on social media.

The majority of parents who use social media (74%) know of another parent who has shared too much information about a child on social media, including parents who gave embarrassing information about a child (56%), offered personal information that could identify a child's location (51%), or shared inappropriate photos of a child (27%)

Parents of young children have numerous social media channels to communicate about the joys and challenges of parenting. Some types of social media (e.g., a Facebook group) provide a way to connect groups of relatives or friends, while others (e.g., parenting blogs, comment sections to online articles) bring together opinions and experiences around a specific topic.

Parents in this national poll cite many benefits of using social media to seek and share parenting advice, most notably around feeling that they are not alone with parenting concerns. Sharing photos and anecdotes helps distant relatives and friends stay in touch. Connecting with another parent who is awake in the middle of the night can help to counteract feelings of isolation. Asking for other parents' recommendations can facilitate the choice of a new childcare provider. Hearing about strategies used by other parents can offer practical tips to deal with a toddler's behavior problem.

Parents also recognize that there can be downsides to sharing too much information about children on social media. For example, "oversharenting" may occur when details shared on social media are too personal, or are potentially embarrassing to the child when he or she is older. Although there are no hard

and fast rules about what is appropriate to share, this poll found that three-fourths of parents think another parent has shared too much information about their child online.

Other concerns about social media use pertain to fears that postings could be used to identify a child's home, childcare or play locations. In certain situations, such as child custody disputes or domestic violence cases, disclosure of identifying information could pose a significant risk. Many parents employ privacy settings on social media to control who can see their personal information; however, privacy settings are not well understood by all users. Moreover, privacy policies of social media can change, which may reclassify certain types of information, so what is shared privately today is not necessarily guaranteed to be private in the future.

The federal Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) limits the collection or release of information via the Internet prior to 13 years of age; ironically, by that age, many children have a lengthy "digital profile" based on their parents' social media use. Parents need to be thoughtful about their use of social media to discuss parenting issues, and are encouraged to be diligent about understanding privacy policies that could impact the way their child's information is shared.[3]

The question of who is being represented takes on a new urgency. Where does the parental self end and the child's self begin online? For instance, when parents are invited to imagine a future in which their child calls them to account regarding their sharing practices, the implication is that they have shared information belonging to someone else. Yet, from the first ultrasound scan onward, parents are encouraged to share images and stories of their own experiences as parents. Related tensions arise regarding privacy in the digital age: Is sharing a child's image publicly a violation of that child's privacy? What if the parent's purpose is to reveal and reflect on their own parenting? Who should decide when to share a family photo? Can and should a child even assert their privacy or independence from their parent, and at what stage might a parent consider this transfer of control (e.g., Bartholet, 2011)?[4]

Social media sharing should be investigated. A vast amount of the participants of this study mentioned that they shared about their children, on other social networking sites rather than Facebook. For future research, the potential benefit and also the potential abuse of 'sharenting', should be studied. The parents'

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[3] Children's Hospital C.S Mott and National Poll on children's health, *Parents on Social Media: Likes and Dislikes of Sharenting | National Poll on Children's Health*, 2015

[4] Blum-Ross and Livingstone, 111.

share, show a wide range of varieties and diversities. Although, there are results on the content of the shares by parents, there may be deeper studies revealing the content is needed. [5]

Undoubtedly, defining terms is one of the most thankless tasks in science, because a few always will have a different view on a given problem or find the definition in some way wanting. However, clarification of a term is of considerable value in avoiding confusion among scholars investigating the same, or similar, phenomena and is necessary in the development of theory, as well.

Taking into account the term "sharenting," researchers attempt to establish parents' motives or range of activities connected with disclosing information about children, rather than focus on the true essence of the phenomenon being defined. Moreover, they usually rely on dictionary definitions or do not define it at all. It must be emphasized that in dictionaries the term "sharenting" is defined so generally that no element indicate directly what this phenomenon actually is. For example, in Collins Dictionary "sharenting" is defined as "the habitual use of social media to share news, images, etc., of one's children" (Collins Dictionary online).

Urban Dictionary defines "sharenting" in a similar way: "When parents share too much of their children's information, pictures and private moments online, mostly on Facebook" (Urban Dictionary online). In fact, sharenting does not refer to communication between family members or friends, even if parents share with them an enormous amount of information or pictures connected with their children. Sharenting does not also deal with anonymous sharing of information or photos concerning children, because in this case the recognition of the child is impossible. One more important factor should be taken into consideration during defining the term "sharenting" – the possible risk for children. What is more, by posting news about their child online parents lose their ability to control its future fate.

Taking the above into account, the term "sharenting" should be defined as: Making public by parents a lot of detailed information about their children in the form of photos, videos and posts through social media, which violate children's privacy [6]. Understanding the significance of "sharenting," a shorthand term denoting when parents share information about themselves and their children online, concerns both parents and the wider public. Despite the widespread

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[5] Muge Marasli and others, 'Parents' Shares on Social Networking Sites About Their Children: Sharenting', *The Anthropologist*, 24.2 (2016), 399–406 (405)

[6] A. Brosch, 'Sharenting – Why Do Parents Violate Their Children's Privacy?', *The New Educational Review*, 54.4 (2016), 75–85 (72).

popularity of posting images of and stories about children online, urgent questions have been raised as to whether parents are infringing their children's "right to privacy" (Wayne, 2016). A new French law allows adult children to sue their parents for such infringements (Chazan, 2016). "Sharenting" is decried in the mass media as exploitative, narcissistic or plain naïve (A. Webb, 2013).

Information shared on the Internet has the potential to remain long after posting it without senders' control. Therefore, disclosures made during childhood may have a potential influence on the children's future lifetime. As pointed out in this paper, parents are obligated to protect their children's privacy online, but in many cases their online activity has an opposite effect. While existing research provides some valuable insights into specific determinants of sharenting, parents still seem to be unaware of the consequences of their openness online. So, in the absence of other protection, also the media have a responsibility for publishing material that could damage a child's long-term personal or professional prospects. Although significant progress has been made in the scientific studies on the phenomenon of sharenting so far, it is not enough and the question of why parents exhibit their children online is still open. Therefore, research planned within the project will partially fill in this gap and make a useful contribution to the field of social science. [7].

FIND AND DISCUSSION

This Article offers the prespective of islamic education about ssharenting. As a normative basis of parenting that the role of parent is very important for children. (QS. At Tahrim : 66 ayat 6) : *"O you who believe, protect yourself and your family from the fires of hell whose fuel is man and stone; guardians of angels who are rude, hard, and do not disobey God for what He has commanded them and always do what they are commanded."*

In the other side, parenting from the basis of sociology its about parents in interacting with their society are influened by personal inclinations, both in behaviour, speech style and lifestyle [8].

Islamic education is an attempt to care for children or student in order to understand the theachings of Islamic relihion as a whole.

In the perspective of islamic education, Sharenting (share and parenting) must be done by parent by maintaingin four principles :

1. Maintain the nature of children (*al muhafazoh*)

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[7] Ibid, 82.
[8] Ngalim Purwanto, *Psikologi Pendidikan* (Bandung: Remaja Rosda Karya, 2003), 5.

Maintaining the nature of children is the responsibility of parent because every children is born in the nature, the nature can be interpreted as potential. So in the view of islamic education about sharenting, its should be done by maintaining the potential at the risk of children.

2. Develop childrens potential (*at tanmiyah*)

In Islam, children are recognized as the trust of allah who was born with the potential to need the help of parents or guardians in developing their potential to grow up so they can develop naturally and become servants of God who are devout Muslims.

Children's education in general in the family occurs naturally without the parents realizing it, but the consequences are severe, especially in the first years of the child's life or in infancy (under five years). at that age the growth of children's intelligence is still related to the five senses and logical thinking or meaninglessness has not yet grown, or it can be said that the child still thinks senses [9].

3. With clear directions (*at taujih*)

Parents play a role in generating instinctive spiritual forces in childhood through good religious guidance, teaching children about religious teachings and ways of worship, providing religious knowledge for children and knowledge of Islamic culture in accordance with their age so that children can he directed to practice the Islamic Shari'a and understand its obligations as adherents of the Islamic religion.

4. Gradually (*at tadaruj*)

Stages that need to be considered by parents in caring for their children are in accordance with the hadith of the Prophet about the obligations of parents towards their children:

a. Age 0-6 years, at this age the child is in the care of parents
b. Aged 6-9 years, at this age children begin to get formal education
c. Ages 9-13 years, at this age children begin to receive a moral education and independence education
d. Aged 13-16 years, children get an evaluation of the education that has been studied previously

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[9] Zakiyah Darajat, *Pendidikan Islam Dalam Keluarga Dan Sekolah* (Jakarta: Ruhama, 1995), . 74.

e. Age 16 years and so on, according to Islam at this stage a person has been considered an adult and all his behavior have value before God. [10]

The proposed model reflects the importance of a parent's right to free expression but also encourages parents to consider sharing only after weighing the potential harm of the information. Indeed, these best practices should not be seen as rules but as suggestions for parents inclined to use the Internet in a way that will foster healthy child development. Parents Should Familiarize Themselves with the Privacy Policies of the Sites with Which They Share, Parents Should Set Up Notifications to Alert Them When Their Child's Name Appears in a Google Search Result, Parents Should Consider Sometimes Sharing Anonymously, Parents Should Use Caution Before Sharing Their Child's Actual Location, Parents Should Give Their Child "Veto Power" over Online Disclosures, Including Images, Quotes, Accomplishments, and Challenges [11]. Parents Should Consider Not Sharing Pictures That Show Their Children in Any State of Undress, Parents Should Consider the Effect Sharing Can Have on Their Child's Current and Future Sense of Self and Well-Being.

Parents must consider that one day their children will likely come faceto- face with their parents' past online disclosures. Even when parents limit the audience of posts, the full reach of the Internet is far greater than many users consider. Deleted posts might have been saved before deletion. Moreover, "friends" today can later intentionally or inadvertently share information with the child or third parties even when the information was originally intended for a small audience. Parents must consider the overall effect sharing has on a child's psychological development. Children model the behavior of their parents, and when parents constantly share milestones, monitor their social media accounts for likes and followers, and seek out recognition for what was once considered mundane daily life, children take note. One study found that by "[e]nacting the value of fame, the majority of preadolescent participants use online video sharing sites (e.g., YouTube) to seek an audience beyond their immediate community." Children absorb messages from many sources, including the media and their parents, and are likely to mimic observed behaviors in adolescence and adulthood. When children see their parents sharing personal information in the public sphere, they will likely get the message that a public approach to sharing personal details about their lives is expected and appropriate. Oversharing in adolescence can

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[10] Abidin Rusn, *Pemikiran Al Ghazali Tentang Pendidikan* (Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar, 2009), 95.

[11] Lisa Belkin, 'Humiliating Children in Public: A New Parenting Trend?', *HUFFINGTON POST*, 2013

create issues for the child's reputation on into the future. Parents should be,aware of their children's feelings when sharing things about them. Adolescents like to have control over the image they are trying to build, it might thus be a good practice for parents to think and discuss before they post [12].

CONCLUSION

children are mandates that are entrusted by God to parents, therefore parents are required to look after, care for, and educate children. Parents need to know how to educate children that are good and right so that children are formed who have Islamic character in accordance with the objectives of Islamic education.

Sharenting phenomena currently carried out by parents should pay attention to the goals of Islamic education for children because educating children requires a long process and through stages since early childhood. Sharenting must be done by parent by maintaingin four principles : Maintain the nature of children (*al muhafazoh*), Develop childrens potential (*at tanmiyah*), With clear directions (*at taujih*), and Gradually (*at tadaruj*).

In the perspective of Islamic education, parents are central to children's education, therefore, everything done by parents to their children should be in accordance with the teachings of Islam.

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