ABSTRACT


Keywords: Relationship, Stepmother, Peaceful Family

Marrying a widower or a man who has had children always gives big challenges for women, especially when they have to be involved taking care of his children. The story about the unkindness of stepmothers may have stuck a strong impression to the children, resulted unfair opinion, that stepmothers always do torture and cruelty. But unfortunately, many good stepmothers figure were never aired on television.

This research is conducted to know the patterns of relationship between stepmothers and their stepchildren which are applied in the family. It is also aimed at knowing the implication of the pattern of that relationship towards realizing a peaceful family.

The research method is by using qualitative approach, and for the type of the research, it is a kind of field research, in which the focus was on the result of data collection from the determined informants. The data sources used were primary data and secondary data or complementary data. While the data collection methods were observation, interview, and documentation. The analysis result of the discussed case is presented descriptively in the research result’s report.

Generally, the relationship patterns between stepmothers and the children which are applied by five families in Dampit Village have various patterns of relationship, those are: not discriminating, having good relationship with their stepchildren, being fair and teaching positive things to the family members. From the several patterns of the applied relationship, it gives some implications toward the effort in realizing a peaceful family, among others: the implication of the social perspectives toward stepmothers about their cruelty who always grab a father from his children, the implication of a conscious effort of the important role as stepparents, and the implication in which the children are able to love their stepmother as the stepmother loves them or in another word a child loves the stepmother same as he loves his biological mother, and vice versa a stepmother should have to be able to love her stepchildren as much same as her biological children. From the results of the finding in the field of the observation and the interview conducted by the researcher, there is no serious conflict which is faced by the informants. Even the stepmothers try to educate their stepchildren in order to become disciplined, independent, religious people and not discriminating among stepchildren and biological children. So that, by the applied relationship pattern, their family are well. Thus, there is an attempt from the stepmothers who acted as the informants of the researcher to realize the harmonious family that meets the principles of a peaceful family.