

Chapter 23

The Child Rearing Roles and Responsibilities of Women in Terms of Gender

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ABSTRACT

The familial scene is one in which human emotions are displayed, and the child's role in this scene is to observe and experience human relations in all their complex aspects. This includes both positive behaviors, such as agreement, compromise, and loyalty and cooperation, as well as negative behaviors, such as disagreement, dispute, and conflict. In a healthy family, family members develop positive behaviors based on mutual respect and cooperation in accordance with responsibilities and roles of parents and children. Children learn about their roles and status in the society through the roles and responsibilities developed in line with basic family functions. Since individuals are born without any specific abilities, they need their families to acquire certain means and resources they need both personally and socially. Therefore, one of the most basic concepts for explaining the family's connection with society is that of gender and related processes.

INTRODUCTION

The family, in which individuals are connected to one another by means of kindred, marriage, birth, and adoption, and whereby these individuals live in the same environment, is the most fundamental building block of society and is committed to in order to ensure intergenerational continuity (Tekin Epik, Çiçek

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& Altay, 2017). The family, which has been considered the core of society throughout the history, is deemed as the insurance of social order especially in Turkey (Ülker, 2009: p. 9–10). The basic qualities of a family are love, respect, solidarity, loyalty, obedience, and the division of labor (Glazer & Creedon, 1980: p. 156). The familial scene is one in which human emotions are displayed, and the child's role in this scene is to observe and experience human relations in all their complex aspects. This includes both positive behaviors, such as agreement, compromise, and loyalty and cooperation, as well as negative behaviors, such as disagreement, dispute, and conflict. In a healthy family, family members develop positive behaviors based on mutual respect and cooperation in accordance with responsibilities and roles of parents and children (Geçtan, 1982: p. 25; Yörükoğlu, 2004: p. 126). Children learn about their roles and status in the society through the roles and responsibilities developed in line with basic family functions (Küçük Kurt, 1990: p. 83–94; Yıldırım, 2005).

Since individuals are born without any specific abilities, they need their families to acquire certain means and resources they need both personally and socially (Gökçe, 1996: p. 155). Accordingly, the concept of gender comes to the fore, especially in determining familial roles and responsibilities, as well as the roles and responsibilities of both men and women, which are formed as a result of social structuring and are shaped accordingly (European Communities, 2006). Therefore, one of the most basic concepts for explaining the family's connection with society is that of gender and related processes. Additionally, gender involves a number of complex relationships to which individuals are involved in various ways; and refers to femininity and masculinity at the individual level, as well as gender regime at the social level. This concept includes a dimension of subjectivity related to social structures and relationships beyond the personal characteristics to which gender belongs (Bora & Üstün, 2005: p.41).

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this study, literature review method was used. After determining the problem and sub-problems of the study, keywords were created. Due to ease of transportation literature are searched electronically. Science Direct, Web of Science, Google Scholar and Council of Higher Education Thesis Center were used as database. Relevant studies were recorded and reviewed.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The Concepts of Sex and Gender

Social structure is based on a system that includes human relations and is shaped by various categories due to the effects of the perceptions of individuals (Ersoy, 2009). Throughout the history, men and women have been positioned in opposition to one another; this has revealed the concept of gender, which is one of the most basic of social categories (Özdemir, 2009). Biological gender is defined as the genetic and physiological characteristics of an individual, which is either male or female (Kızılaslan & Diktaş, 2011). These characteristics do not create a gender inequality, but rather a gender difference between men and women. Regardless of culture and era, being born a boy or a girl is a fundamental characteristic of an individual's biological existence, just like being mortal (Dökmen, 2006; Staggenborg, 1998: p. 1–3). Comparatively, culture determines gender-specific characteristics that reveal expectations as to how

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