

ABSTRACT

This research was a qualitative approach in the using social definition paradigm with the topic "Pattern of child care among ethnic Javanese migrants and ethnic Mandar (site culture study with ethnomethodological approach, symbolic interaction approach, and analogical model by Kasper). This study was located in Polewali-Mamasa, South Sulawesi, Indonesia, conducted from 1994 until 2000.

The difference infant mortality (2,716 each 1000 infant inhabitant for ethnic Javanese migrants and 4,215 each 1000 infant inhabitant for ethnic Mandar) was the caused of the problems and child care is the main problems in this study and were discussed as follow: (1) How mothers construct social reality of pattern of child care? (2) How mothers react towards the fact of child care based on her own inquiry and based on her social inquiry? (3) What is the meaning of mothers behavior? The purpose of this research is to find out concept and proposition of pattern of child care specifically for ethnic Javanese migrants and ethnic Mandar who lived at the same environment.

The phenomenon indicated that ethnic Javanese migrants: (1) mothers gave breast feeding anytime and anywhere, (2) mothers feeding the child strictly, and (3) mothers strictly supervised the child while were playing. Facts showed that ethnic Mandar: (1) mothers gave breast feeding at certain place, (2) mothers let the child to feed itself, and (3) mothers gave less supervised while the child were playing. Mothers child care behavior as the norm that constructed pattern of child care. This study investigated: "Pattern of child care was influenced by mothers' culture and investigated that ethnic Javanese migrants with *stickly child care* and ethnic Mandar with *freely child care*.

Tentative conclusion was stated: First, *Child care was influenced by mothers' culture*. Second, *Child care as the mothers' ethnic product culture*. Third, *Child care was influenced by mothers' interaction with society where mothers lived*.

Key words: Child care

Ethnic

Culture