

ABSTRACT

Family or parents are the first and most important institutions to foster children's growth, good and planned treatment is very useful to help children become better. As a result, acceptance and loving behavior for autistic children is very useful for their development. This study aims to describe the dynamics of the affection exchange process carried out by parents who have children with autism. This study uses qualitative research methods, data from interviews with 8 (eight) mothers at the Indonesian Nature School. Data analysis used thematic analysis assisted by ATLAS.ti software version 8. The results showed that the dynamics of the affection exchange process carried out by parents with autistic children is carried out if there is a balance in verbal and nonverbal communication. The role of verbal communication emerges through verbal and written praise and expressions of affection. While the role of nonverbal communication appears through hugs, physical touch (direct). And relieve emotions, be treated equally, give attention, change habits, apply habits, apply rules, and involve children in daily activities (indirectly).

Keywords : *Affection Exchange Theory (AET), Interpersonal Communication, Autism*