

ABSTRACT

This study focuses on the interpersonal communication of fatherless adolescents due to parental divorce in building social relationships within their surroundings. The purpose of this research is to explore how adolescents who experience the absence of a father figure communicate in their social environment. This study employs a qualitative approach with a case study method. Data were collected through in-depth interviews, observation, and documentation involving eight adolescents aged 13–21 years in Bandung Regency, along with one expert informant. The findings reveal that the absence of a father's role significantly affects adolescents' patterns of interpersonal communication, as reflected in tendencies to withdraw from social interactions, emotional instability, and difficulties in establishing interpersonal trust. Nevertheless, some adolescents demonstrate strong social adaptability, supported by their surrounding environment. The communication patterns formed are closely related to the type of emotional attachment they have developed since experiencing fatherlessness. Social environment and emotional support from family, peers, and the community play a crucial role in helping fatherless adolescents develop healthier and more positive interpersonal communication.

Keywords: *Interpersonal Communication, Adolescents, Fatherless, Divorce, Social Environment*