

## Effects of parent-child relationship on child development

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There have been two distinctive shifts in the conception of the parents role in socializing children. The first shift was from a unidirectional to bi-directional approach, and the second shift from a bi-directional approach to a relationship approach. According to the relationship approach, the entire parent-child relationship is the most important determinant of child development. This study defines the parent-child relationship with both sides having constructed a reciprocal expectancy and stereotypic interpretation about the other's behavior and responses over the long term. This definition has three key points: (1) it concerns the process of parent-child interaction; (2) it focuses on the entire parent-child relationship as a new analytic unit; and (3) it creates a new factor by combining the effects of parenting skills and affection on child development. Following the analysis of 298 in-depth interviews with fathers or mothers of varying education levels and demographic characteristics, this study finds that: (1) reciprocal relationships engender a more positive effect than non-reciprocal relationships; (2) a guidance style has a more positive effect than a coercive style; and (3) adopting a child-centered guidance style produces a more beneficial effect than that of a parent-centered guidance style; (4) parenting skills are combined with parent-child affection has a more interpretation power than simple using parenting skill factor, on child development. These findings have created a new direction in the study of family socialization.

**Keywords:** Family Socialization; Reciprocal relationship; Responsiveness; Parenting Skill; Interaction Process