

Summary

This article was written by Joan M.T. Walker, Andrew S. Wilkins, James R. Dallaire, Howard M. Sandler and Katleen V. Hoover- Dempsey from Vanderbilt University. It was published in The Elementary School Journal in 2005. This research paper discussed mainly about revising the theoretical model of the parental involvement process that had been proposed by Hoover-Dempsey and Sandler in 1995 and 1997. This model explained why parents get involved in their children's education and how their involvement makes differences in students' outcomes. The authors try to operationalized Hoover- Dempsey and Sandler's explanation and then revise their theoretical model. This article only discussed the first two levels from the original map because the investigation of the full model is on going and still in progress. The first two level focus on psychological and contextual contributors to form parent involvement. Their discussion of the processes underlying in this revision is organized in five sections. The first three sections focus on the broad psychological predictors at level 1 of the revised model and the fourth section describe the revised model of the second level of the theoretical model. The authors concluded this research paper with a discussion on how their work exemplifies the reciprocal relation between theory and measurement and suggest how their scales might be use to assess links between parents' psychological motivation for involvement and their involvement behavior.

Critical Review

The title of this research paper is Parental Involvement: Model Revision through Scale Development and the content of this paper sufficiently represent all the necessary information. This article is considered as recent because it has just been published three years back in The Elementary School Journal. The authors in this paper try to promote something fresh because they try to revise old material thus, it will be align with the current situation. This paper has good ways of collecting data since it use both the qualitative and quantitative research method and also use empirical work. Although they are similar research which has been published before but the author works is very useful because it is necessary to keep up to date the existing research, in order to make it valid through time.

This research paper is intended to introduce the revised representation of psychological factors underlying parents' involvement behaviors and describe the conceptual and methodological processes underlying their development. It is clearly stated in the introduction. The authors have expressed their limitation earlier that they will only revise the first two levels of the originals model. The authors' focus is mainly on the reciprocal relationship between theory and measurement. It is very interesting and it keeps my attention to continue reading this article because the researchers are trying to come out with a new and up to date information and data to revised the original model which proposed by Hoover-Dempsey and Sandler in 1995, 1997. From the first place, the authors managed to win my confidence because before this I have already read a lot of

other research papers that being conducted by the same authors and most of it study came under the same branch of study which is regarding parental involvement. Hence, it shows that they are the expertise in this field.

The paper is organized in a way that it is easy for the readers to follow it. The authors clearly stated earlier what they will include in this research paper and how they organize it. The authors include all the data that they had obtained from their survey and summarized it in a way that it is easier for the readers to understand it. In the first section, the authors have already makes it clear for the readers what are the differences between the original and the revised model. This is very useful and effective because it helps the readers for an easy understanding when they read further in the following section. This paper is arranged in logical sequence because for every stage that is being revised, it follows the same order in which they define each construct, describe how it was operationalized and if necessary explain how conceptual and methodological issues were integrated across empirical tests. Thus, the readers can expect the flow of this paper because basically it follows the same sequence and method. This paper includes all the numerical data that they had obtained, but somehow it makes the readers confuse because not all readers have the knowledge in analyzing data. The authors also use some terms that not every one familiar with. This will affect the readers' motivation to read it because when they can not understand what it mainly about they tend to loose their focus and motivation. Furthermore, this research paper is quite length and requires the readers to spend extra time and they need to concentrate in order for them to understand what this research paper is all about.

The authors managed to support their research with current survey that been conducted. The sampling is more reliable because it covers a larger number of participants. The intention of the authors is clearly stated under the discussion where they hope that other researchers will use their scale across a range of cultures and ethnicity and also in making adjustment when needed. The authors are being honest with the readers because they stated the importance of realizing the limitation in their measures such as they do not include several important parental beliefs.

This paper is to revise previous work hence they are little sources from others, only from the original theoretical maps and some quotation from others like Albert Bandura but mostly from Kathleen V. Hoover-Dempsey's works. It is some how awkward because most of the quotations and paraphrases are from the others authors work too. However, all the quotations use is appropriate to the topic. The authors clearly stated their resources and it has been properly integrated in this research paper. The authors also include the necessary document that being use through out the research especially the set of questionnaire that being used and the list of references. This is very useful for the future use and further exploration.

All of the authors are well known in research about parental involvement especially Kathleen V. Hoover-Dempsey. She is an associate professor which her research area mainly regarding development psychology and cognitive study. She had come out with many others works which have published by several journals like Journal of Educational Research and American Educational Research.

Conclusion and Review

From my opinion, what the authors trying to do are good and beneficial because when we revised something, we will manage to see the flaws thus we can make modification to the original one. At the same time, we make it current and practical in recent time.

This research should be employ as bases for other researchers to study the parental involvement. Furthermore, it is better to apply it in different kind of cultures and ethnicity. In Malaysia this kind of research are essential as it findings can be use to change our current situation since from my point of view most of parents in Malaysia are not actively involved in their children education.

As a conclusion, this research paper is very practical for those who are studying about the parental involvement in their children education. It also can be use by teachers and parents themselves in learning more about why parents get involved in their children learning. This will assist in improving the students' academic success as according to Rose, Gallup, and Elam (1997), 85% of the general public believes that support from parents is the most important way to improve the schools.