

Psychological insights into parental guidance for grassroots football players Perspectivas psicológicas sobre la orientación parental para jugadores de fútbol base

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Abstract. Grassroots football is the foundation for young children's football development process. It emphasizes several aspects that are necessary for children's psychological well-being, such as excitement, encouragement from coaches, and parental support. In the process of developing grassroots football players, parents have a very big role in the child, not only in providing support for the child but must be in accordance with the child's needs in the path of football development. This research aims to provide information regarding appropriate parental support for grassroots football players according to coaches' views. A qualitative approach toward grounded theory was used to formulate the research with 25 coaches from Indonesia and Malaysia who have a coaching license in football and at least five years of coaching experience. The participants were selected using purposive sampling. The research data was obtained through a semi-structured interview model, field observations, and document analysis, which were analyzed using N-Vivo 14 software. The research results show that parents should have wisdom in supporting players. Parents need to understand that grassroots football is early childhood football development and should avoid becoming obsessed with making their children professional players. They must provide support for the training program provided by the coach, always be positive by giving appreciation to children, monitor their children's eating times and sleeping patterns, update their children's learning at school/learning with coaches, limit and monitor their children's use of gadgets at home, and most importantly, be the primary fans of their children. Collaboration between coaches and parents will positively contribute to increasing achievement in grassroots football, and children who are coached from an early age will continue to pursue their dreams of professional football.

Keywords: Grassroots, Football, Parent, Support, Sport Psychology.

Resumen. El fútbol base es la base del proceso de desarrollo del fútbol de los niños pequeños. Hace hincapié en varios aspectos que son necesarios para el bienestar psicológico de los niños, como el entusiasmo, el estímulo de los entrenadores y el apoyo de los padres. En el proceso de desarrollo de los jugadores de fútbol base, los padres tienen un papel muy importante en el niño, no solo al brindarle apoyo, sino que deben estar de acuerdo con las necesidades del niño en el camino del desarrollo del fútbol. Esta investigación tiene como objetivo proporcionar información sobre el apoyo parental apropiado para los jugadores de fútbol base según las opiniones de los entrenadores. Se utilizó un enfoque cualitativo hacia la teoría fundamentada para formular la investigación con 25 entrenadores de Indonesia y Malasia que tienen una licencia de entrenador en fútbol y al menos cinco años de experiencia como entrenadores. Los participantes fueron seleccionados mediante un muestreo intencional. Los datos de la investigación se obtuvieron a través de un modelo de entrevista semiestructurada, observaciones de campo y análisis de documentos, que se analizaron utilizando el software N-Vivo 14. Los resultados de la investigación muestran que los padres deben tener sabiduría al apoyar a los jugadores. Los padres deben comprender que el fútbol base es el desarrollo del fútbol en la primera infancia y deben evitar obsesionarse con convertir a sus hijos en jugadores profesionales. Deben brindar apoyo al programa de entrenamiento que ofrece el entrenador, mostrarse siempre positivos y dar reconocimiento a los niños, supervisar los horarios de comida y los patrones de sueño de sus hijos, actualizar el aprendizaje de sus hijos en la escuela/aprendizaje con los entrenadores, limitar y supervisar el uso de dispositivos electrónicos por parte de sus hijos en casa y, lo más importante, ser los principales fanáticos de sus hijos. La colaboración entre entrenadores y padres contribuirá positivamente a aumentar los logros en el fútbol base, y los niños que reciben entrenamiento desde una edad temprana seguirán persiguiendo sus sueños de ser futbolistas profesionales.

Palabras clave: Base, Fútbol, Padres, Apoyo, Psicología del Deporte.

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Introduction

The quality of the relationship between parents and children significantly impacts the child's future development outcomes, especially in achieving achievements in both sports and academics (Smokowski et al., 2014). In sports, parents often act as coaches and managers for their children and are willing to do anything to help them achieve their sports achievements, especially football (Hurley et al., 2019). Even though the support given by parents is a positive thing for children, it is not uncommon for excessive support to be harmful to coaches and other children. Parents' ambition to make their children stand out is a form of negative support detrimental to many groups. It is considered to have violated the rules of fair play, especially in football. Football is a positive, unifying aspect with high fan

enthusiasm (Eker & Akdeniz, 2022). Despite the high risk of injury associated with participation, football is still among the most popular sports in the United States (Whalen, 2020). It is reported that although millions of young people are treated in emergency rooms yearly for football-related injuries, this does not affect their interest in playing or practicing football (Nation et al., 2011). The popularity of football among schools occurs because football is considered a prestigious event between schools in improving sporting achievements, so it is not uncommon for many schools to offer extracurricular football programs (Dejonghe, 2007). The enthusiasm for football among young people invites parents' interest in supporting their children in learning this sport, hoping their children can become professional football players one day.

Parents consider the concepts of passion and interest

very meaningful because they reflect sporting opportunities for the adolescent generation (S. Elliott et al., 2020). Thus, supporting children to participate in football becomes an alternative to directing children's achievements and potential. However, several studies have shown that although parents have great potential to influence the exercise experience positively, they can also have a negative influence by engaging in a range of unwelcome and inappropriate behaviors (S. K. Elliott & Drummond, 2017). Grassroots football is one of the sports development activities for early childhood football. Grassroots football is an essential foundation in training basic football skills for young children, so parents must understand how grassroots football works and not make it an obsession to make their children become professional footballers.

Grassroots football is a fundamental part of top-level football and all aspects related to football (Sugiyama et al., 2017). Grassroots football is usually dominated by junior football players who are usually involved in a dual career, i.e., combining school and football into a process that makes them dependent on a holistic talent development journey (Solhaug et al., 2021). In England, grassroots football has become popular among children, although its implementation has caused much controversy (Lusted & O'Gorman, 2010). Parental involvement in grassroots football makes it difficult for coaches to develop their children's potential. Parents rely more on their ambitions than recognizing their children's abilities.

Parents do not understand the realm of grassroots football, such as asking about the standings, getting angry when their child is mistreated by an opponent or referee, cursing when their team loses, arranging coaches for their child's position, getting angry if their child does not get enough playing time, let alone not playing, are some examples of negative behavior—parents in guarding their children in the realm of football (An & Zhang, 2021). Concerns about parental behavior are increasing at football sporting events as one of the consequences of grassroots football (Palou et al., 2020). A study states that parents' efforts to make their children become reliable players are a form of social consequence commonly occurring in grassroots football (Kirk et al., 1997). Allowing children to contribute to sports is one way to develop children's potential; however, involving parents in team sports can hinder the team's development from improving (O'Gorman & Greenough, 2016).

Parental behavior has become an important issue in understanding the role of parents in youth sports. However, parents often ignore the social context that occurs in the sport of football (Clarke & Harwood, 2014). Studies explain that bad parental behavior often occurs due to personal perceptions that do not follow applicable sports rules (S. Elliott & Drummond, 2015). This perception becomes a misconception both with coaches and with other parents. Thus, parents must add information about values, principles, integrity, fair play, and essential ideas to support children while improving social relations among parents and coaches (Jaenes et al., 2017). Scholarly interest in this area

has proliferated in recent times, making an essential contribution to understanding the influential role of parents in various areas of youth sports. Parental behavior can be a source of negative influence, yet appropriate treatment of these sociocultural practices still eludes the attention of sports service providers and policymakers (S. Elliott & Drummond, 2015). All these situations can potentially damage the image of sport and pose reputational risks for various stakeholders in the field of sport (Ioannidis, 2019).

When parents use a deliberate approach to support young players' psychosocial development, this allows them to implement their psychosocial skills outside of the football academy. Strengthening communication between parents and coaches in sports programs can help parents better support their child's psychosocial development inside and outside the sports program (Kramers et al., 2023). The study results show that parents with good socio-educational skills can control themselves, avoid negative comments, and increase positive comments during grassroots football matches (Sampol et al., 2019).

Parental involvement in grassroots sports is one of the social supports for developing into a professional football player (Mills et al., 2012). Apart from that, positive parental behavior is also a significant factor in developing and retaining young players in developing their potential in football (Rossing et al., 2022). Football is a team sport involving cooperation with teammates and feedback from peers; football teams provide an essential venue for young people to experience camaraderie and engage in bonds of sportsmanship (Tjomsland et al., 2015). A study states that parental involvement in sports requires appropriate information and education about parenting styles in sports achievements (Clarke, 2016).

Management of parents' expectations for their children at the academy and the ability to communicate with coaches and other parents is one way to support children in sports achievements, especially football (Harwood et al., 2010), because parents are essential in supporting their children's achievements in sports (White et al., 2017). The results of a study state that there are four aspects of positive parental behavior in supporting their child's achievements at the football academy, such as being enthusiastic and amazed at each stage of their child's development, being aware of the reality of what is happening to their child, accepting and rationalizing, and focusing on the future (Newport et al., 2021).

Parents are children's first educators and motivators in developing their talents and achievements. Therefore, parents need to understand the concept of behavior in providing support to their children. Parents and the sport of grassroots football are two of the determinants of the success of young football players in moving towards professional football. Football coaching has essential phases in the development process, such as physical development, tactics, strategy, motivation, and psychosocial abilities of players (Cooper, 2021). Motivating young players to develop in the realm of football is one way to increase the regeneration

of football in the future. A study stated that football players in Norway considered their efforts to develop and implement strategies to stimulate their intrinsic motivation to involve fun to encourage players to continue participating in football in the long term (Larsen et al., 2015). Coach motivation and positive parental behavior in grassroots football are essential pillars in improving the achievements of young football players.

Materials and Methods

This research uses qualitative methods, which are intended to reveal the appropriate form of support that parents can provide to their children in coaching football at the grassroots level. As explained in qualitative research, it will be used for several reasons, including first, adapting qualitative methods is more accessible when dealing with various realities; second, this method presents a direct relationship between researchers and respondents; third, this method is more sensitive and more adaptive to various sharpening influences and shared patterns of values encountered (Thurmond, 2001).

Participants

In this research, the purposive sampling method was used to determine the number of participants, which means that sampling in this qualitative research is not purely random but purposefully selected by an individual and is intended to answer relevant questions in a research title (Boddy, 2015). Therefore, the criteria of the participants were given as follows: have a minimum of coaching experience of 5 years and a coaching license. Based on the requirements given and the perspective determined, 25 coaches, 15 from Malaysia and ten from Indonesia.

Procedure

The main objective of research procedures is to ensure that this research is carried out fairly and systematically to produce reliable findings in an effort to answer the research questions raised and provide structured guidelines to researchers in collecting data, analyzing, and producing relevant findings. Trustworthy and relevant to the research context. This research involved ten experts evaluating the draft questions prepared by researchers, which were then analyzed using the Cohen-Cappa index. Researchers carried out the procedure before the data collection to obtain approval from the primary supervisor before applying to human study participants from the Research Ethics Committee of the UPSI Management and Innovation Center (RMIC). After fulfilling the administrative requirements regarding data collection procedures and obtaining a certificate of completion of ethical studies with the letter number obtained UPSI/PPPI/PYK/ETIKA(M)/Vol. 15(50) - 050-2023.

The researcher contacted the research participants by sending a permission letter from Sultan Idris Education University to ask for their willingness to participate as

research participants in this study. After the research participants agreed to the researcher's request, the researcher then asked them to state the appropriate time to hold the interview session, where the research participants determined the place and time to avoid discomfort and coercion from the researcher. Before this research was carried out, research participants were reminded that information regarding the aims, dangers, and prevention of the research had been prepared from the start so as to minimize the possibility of future threats. Participants were informed that if they felt stressed or uncomfortable during the data collection process, they could withdraw from it and contact a psychologist in either Indonesia or Malaysia. After that, the researchers conducted the data collection process by interviewing 25 coaches from Indonesia and Malaysia.

Data analysis

In the current grounded theory research, interviews were the primary method used to gather data for this qualitative research. The collected data were analyzed through several steps, including open coding, axial coding, and selective coding, to identify emerging themes. Additionally, the researcher utilized NVivo 14, a qualitative analysis program, to assist in data analysis. According to Williamson and Long (2005), steps such as selecting, abstracting, and modifying raw data should be followed when analyzing data in qualitative research. NVivo 14 software was also used to manage data obtained from interviews and document analysis, helping to categorize and separate data based on themes. In this study involving twenty-five U-17 soccer coaches, researchers analyzed 560 pages of interview transcripts meticulously, word by word, line by line, and sentence by sentence.

Results

Researchers spent at least ten months completing this research process, which began with the process of preparing questions for interviews, the interview process, data transcription to data analysis, which was carried out repeatedly to find themes that would explain the appropriate form of parental support for children as football players at this level. Grassroot. The researcher first explains the data collection process in this research, which has provided information regarding the research results.

Interview

For the interview section of the research, we used in-depth, semi-structured interviews. This method involves asking open-ended questions that were determined beforehand, and recording detailed answers (Lebar, 2021). This type of interview allows for the development of answers as well (Patton, 2002). In an in-depth, semi-structured interview, the interviewer asks questions to gather information from the interviewee. The interview sessions conducted in this research used the principle of data saturation or information saturation, where interviews cannot depend on the

number of participants but on the absence of new information from the participants so that the data can be said to be saturated so that the research can be stopped. The interview session conducted by researchers took approximately 1,643 minutes, or the equivalent of 27 hours and 34 minutes, for coaches in two countries, with an average of 65 minutes for one participant. The researcher tried to provide several examples of questions that have produced answers for this research.

Question 1

According to the coach, what is the role of parents in developing grassroots-level football players?

"If the players are more talented and supported by their families, they can go further than those who are not supported. Players must have strong support behind them, namely family; the challenges will be greater if they do not have parental support."

Question 2

According to the coach, how should parents support grassroots-level players?

"Family is also very influential; parents must provide education, and motivation to children is also necessary. Parents who have more time to monitor their children, such as their eating patterns, their children's sleep and rest hours, when to play and rest, and parents must tell their children"

"Parents also encourage their children when they lose a match, minimizing the child's guilt over a mistake because football is a team sport."

Question 3

What are the challenges of being a grassroots coach?

"If grassroots is usually with parents, that is the most critical challenge because these parents are afraid that their children will not be able to play if I let everyone play. However, we choose some who are not chosen sometimes because they are not ready, and we do not choose them. Sometimes, some parents do not accept and blame the coach because their child is not selected; the coach needs to handle it better, and the coach needs to be brave."

"I see that the parents are too excited and too passionate for their children; that is what I see. There are pros and cons, but we have to be good at controlling and managing; if we are not good at controlling, later the parents will arrange for us"

Observation

In qualitative research, observation is a data collection technique where the researcher makes field notes about the behavior and activities of individuals at the research site (Creswell, 2014). In our study, we combined observation with interviews. Researchers observed the activities at five football academies in Indonesia and Malaysia while conducting interviews with the coaches. The observations, carried out during the exercise and training sessions, provided a comprehensive view of the research site and confirmed the interview results. Apart from obtaining the primary data

from the interview results described above, researchers also carried out field observations by observing parents' behavior when the children were practicing and competing. The researchers aimed to carry out observations with a focus on observing parental behavior as a way for researchers to understand how positive parental behavior is and how negative parental character is in supporting their children to excel in the sport of football.

The observations showed that parents not only took on the role of children's fans in a positive sense, as explained above, but were also involved in the process of dissatisfaction with the decisions made by the coaches and referees on the field. The harmful impact of involving wrong support is that it will affect the child's psychological dynamics regarding the acceptance of the referee's decision, so the fear is that the child will think that the behavior shown by his parents is correct. Furthermore, this will disrupt the concept of the referee's decision in a match.

Document Analysis

Document analysis gathers information regarding the form and support of parents towards children at another grassroots level. Collecting these documents helps add to evidence from other sources, confirms new research questions that arise, and creates new categories. Researchers can collect documents supporting the player's research during the research process.

Some of the documents that researchers obtained were several training programs provided by each coach and books that were references for players, which provided players with knowledge about football itself, including documents containing appropriate forms of support from parents to players. From the analysis carried out by researchers, these documents come from sports academies and support the findings of the goals of football academies and the coaches' views regarding this matter.

Discussion

Organized youth sports programs provide fun and regular physical activity to millions of children annually in countries worldwide, and football is no exception. The popularity of football among children certainly increases parents' interest in enrolling their children in football academies. Grassroots football is a place of hope for parents in supporting their children's interests and talents. Parents need to understand children's development, especially in football. Parental behavior is an essential component in the sport of grassroots football. The results of a study show that reducing negative comments and increasing positive comments during matches is one of the socio-educational goals of parents in supporting children to stay focused and motivated during matches (Sampol et al., 2019).

Parents have the motivation to participate or develop talents for their children; the positive attitude of parents in the process of developing children's talents can stimulate the environment to provide an inclusive approach, not a

personal approach, and focuses on talent development and mass participation, making it possible to balance fair participation in early talent development (Rossing et al., 2022). Applied practice in the football environment is concerned with the development of attributes in the psychological and sociological performance domains (Reeves et al., 2018). So, parents need to pay attention to attitudes and behavior so that they do not negatively impact players' social and psychological impact.

Grassroots football coaching is close to developing FMS (fundamental motor skills), so the motivation to carry out coaching practices and good strategies are used to help grassroots football coaches develop their practice (Duncan et al., 2022). In this case, sports coaches have a support dimension, which includes positive reinforcement; an instruction dimension, which includes general technical instructions and technical instructions after a player makes a mistake; and a punishment dimension, which includes punishing behavior and punitive technical instructions (Ordeix et al., 2023).

Coaching philosophy is understood as the values and beliefs that underlie a coach's actions; however, many studies show that coaches need to gain awareness of their own behavior and philosophy. The results of one study showed that instruction was the most commonly used behavior among coaches in observed training sessions and that coaches generally showed a lack of awareness of their behavior (Duggan et al., 2021). Coaches are an essential pillar in developing grassroots football. A coach must understand well, especially in developing young football players. A coach's understanding of instructions is one of the crucial things in encouraging the achievements of young football players, as well as a way for coaches to recognize and explore the potential of players personally.

Grassroots football coaching does not only involve coaches, but the role of parents has an essential impact on improving player performance. Parents are critical in supporting and developing their children's potential, so understanding parents and coaches is expected to be in line with and mutually respectful. A study stated that an agreement between coaches, players, and parents not to be present during training sessions and matches with parents on the other side of the field was proven to help improve players' performance and focus (Søvik et al., 2017).

This statement proves that although the role of parents is vital in supporting players' achievements, parents need to pay attention to the zones when parents can be involved. According to Sampol et al., (2019), there are essential guidelines for parents in supporting the achievements of grassroots football players, namely not putting the results of sports matches before the child's development process, not creating tension and false expectations before the match, not providing technical information from the stands when young players compete, supporting the players after the match, regardless of the score obtained, and recognizing the opponent's superiority when the expected result was not obtained. Grassroots football is a place for young

children to socialize. Social skills are essential for children to have at an early age to prepare them to have good character. Playgrounds are a place for children to improve their social skills, including the ability to communicate with friends. Children's play facilities can also increase self-confidence, independence, and friendship. Apart from that, children learn to work together, share, be responsible, and love peace through play.

However, this will be difficult for children who live in big cities (Marheni et al., 2019). Positive behaviors include parents focusing on their children's holistic development at home, motivation, and constructive evaluation during training, and limiting player demands through providing practical support, reading and understanding the situation and their child, and supporting the development of a growth mindset in all domains (Knight et al., 2017).

Talented football players are expected to have high motivation to develop into elite-level players in the future (Nerland & Sæther, 2016). Players' perceptions of the talent development environment are in line with the academy classification carried out at school, so keeping the player's environment conducive can help children focus more on the coaching process (Gangsø et al., 2021). Parental concern for children's needs for comfort, entertainment, help, or attention can help strengthen players' psychology, especially their competitive mentality (Rohner et al., 2012). Parental support positively impacts football players' performance; support can be an external motivation for players to try to win in a match.

Parents' attitudes towards winning are also influenced by their own philosophical beliefs related to the age group of the competition. Most parents consider winning in U12 competitions less significant than U14 competitions because U12 football focuses on skill development, inclusion, and fun (S. Elliott & Drummond, 2016). So, it is not uncommon for many parents to think grassroots football is only entertainment for young children. Grassroots football is a way to build relationships between children and parents through sport. Family relationships (measured during adolescence) are associated with self-acceptance and positive relationships, and families create a primary reality for their children (Bell & Bell, 2009).

A good relationship between children and parents positively impacts children's growth and development and inspires children to make their parents proud. Children's participation in football allows parents to negotiate complex medical information, warnings from experts, local community support for football, and their child's desires in making decisions that can impact their child's health in the short and long term (Boneau et al., 2020). This means that parents not only support their children in the world of football but also need to understand what things are involved in developing football players.

Football matches cannot be separated from enthusiasm and fanaticism. According to S. K. Elliott & Drummond, (2013), there are still many parents who are bystanders, verbally abusing children, giving excessive instructions, and

emphasizing competitive results. Negative parental behavior creates individual mental representations about oneself, others, and the world around the child that tend to encourage children to seek out or avoid certain situations and types of people (Rohner et al., 2012).

Understanding the relationship between children and parents reduces anxiety and becomes a psychological control of parental parenting (Stone et al., 2015). However, speaking about abstract football concepts, football coaches often provide a series of coaching methods and football concepts that are isolated and unrelated (Vaughan et al., 2021). So, it is quite a dilemma for parents to understand their children because there is little access to information about the process of coaching their children, so coaches are expected to be able to improve interpersonal communication skills (not just coaching skills), especially with parents. Coach communication skills are part of the training program in evaluating player abilities through information obtained from the players (Purnomo et al., 2021).

The performance of young players is always related to self-confidence. Young players (junior players) often experience the term stage fright or excessive anxiety when competing against players who have a track record or senior players who are superior to them (Marheni et al., 2018). The interaction of psychological factors on the performance of football players and highlighting the differences between players based on their category (age and level) emphasizes its importance in understanding the player profile and enabling targeted interventions aimed at increasing the psychological resources of players for competitive scenarios (Domínguez-González et al., 2024).

Self-confidence is a feeling of confidence or having a level of certainty about an ability to be successful in sports. Self-confidence focuses on what can be done with a player's abilities (Purnomo et al., 2020). Sport is widely considered to improve the lives of individuals and communities and generate positive social impacts in society. According to Benítez-Sillero et al., (2021), self-confidence is positively correlated with controlling negative energy, controlling attention, controlling level of motivation, controlling attention, and positive energy. The research results explain that sport has moved from a strategic position to become essential evidence in several fields, including health, crime, education, and subjective well-being (Purnomo et al., 2024).

A player's achievements in a sports competition are a collection of the results achieved by the player in completing a match. One of the things that is very important to pay attention to is the psychological development of players before the match and during the match, especially mental health, because if mentally healthy and ready, there will be a significant chance of achieving good performance (Donie et al., 2023). The coach's communication skills influence players' performance on the field; communication between the coach and the players is one of the crucial messages from the instructor in understanding the form of training being carried out.

According to West, (2016), Motivated athletes perform

well if they experience more positive communication with their coaches. The coach's understanding of the science of coaching becomes an administrator for parents, setting expectations and helping ensure the principles of positive youth player development (Kerins et al., 2017). Educated coaches provide good information to parents so that parents understand the forms of coaching their children are undergoing. The contribution of parents in the realm of football is often debated because sportsmanship is increasingly deteriorating due to the emphasis of parents and coaches on winning at all costs and an overemphasis on success, as occurs in the sport of professional football (Jaenes et al., 2017).

To reduce the potential for such negative developmental trends, coaches can utilize the organization of games and competitions as practice and learning experiences. Thus, parents can take a break from unnecessary competitive pressure (Yngvar Ommundsen et al., 2013). Common explanations for poor parental behavior include the notion that it reflects parental involvement and investment in sports. Although most parents strongly understand appropriate and inappropriate behavior in a sports environment, problematic parental behavior is, to some extent, a normal aspect of children's and youth sports. This is because sport is part of a social phenomenon with advantages and disadvantages.

Parents' understanding of the realm of sports is always linked to their children's desire for a healthy life. There is a widely held belief that sports participation inherently improves adolescent health. Such perceptions often motivate parents to encourage children's early and continued involvement in organized sports and physical activity. While exercise is essential to obtaining physical activity, the exercise environment may not necessarily enhance other health-related behaviors, including dietary practices (S. Elliott & Drummond, 2016).

All parents should understand the rules of competitive youth football games to create conducive match conditions and promising young players with solid spirits (Firmansyah & Yusuf, 2023). Parents need to work with the football coach regarding what needs to be done and what should not be done during coaching. Parental wisdom in supporting the achievements of grassroots football players provides positive opportunities for the development of children's achievements in professional football in the future.

Conclusions

Grassroots football provides football training for early childhood players. Involving children does not mean not involving parents in the coaching process. Parents act as managers who manage their children's needs during the training and competition process. Researchers investigated the complexity of parental management in supporting their children to excel in football and discovered that parents have various versions of supporting their children to excel. Parental involvement in the sport of football is very complex and has various consequences of involvement, so

it requires various strategies to handle it.

Parental behavior during training and matches is vital in supporting players' achievements on the field. Parents should have wisdom in supporting football players, such as respecting the coach's performance and the referee's decisions on the field. Parents also need to understand that grassroots football is an early childhood football development, so parents are expected to avoid becoming too obsessed with turning their children into professional players.

One of the limitations of this research is related to research participants; the limitation of this study is the absence of participants who hold an A Pro license from AFC. The variation of coaching license in this research includes one trainee with a D license, nine trainees with a C license, eight trainees with a B license, and seven trainees with an A license, which can influence their views and contributions to this research. This research is limited to trainees working in Indonesia and Malaysia. The research results may need to be more generalizable to the context of other countries with different cultures and football development systems. By considering these limitations, it is hoped that the results of the research can be interpreted carefully and used as a basis for further research that is more comprehensive.

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