

## **INFLUENCING FACTORS ON MOTHERS' AND FATHERS' PARENTING IN EARLY AGE CHILDREN: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE**

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### **ABSTRACT**

A parent is the first teacher to children. Parenting affects a child's self-esteem, health and overall wellbeing in his life and later success. The purpose of this systematic review is to investigate the influencing factors on mothers' and fathers' parenting of children in their early ages (0 to 8 years). To be able to present the best available evidence, seven databases were explored and used to evaluate 20 research papers. NVivo was also applied to analyse the qualitative data. The analysis disclosed five themes such as social context, parents' psychological status, cultural context, gender influence and the child's personal characteristics. This study emphasizes gaps in the literature by exploring influencing factors not only on mothers' but also fathers' parenting. Future research could assist education in the area of parenting to improve practices and help parents and early childhood intervention programmes.

**Keywords:** Influencing factors, caregivers, parenting styles, early age children, early childhood education