"DADDY DON'T LOVE ME?" REVEALED HONESTLY IN CHILDREN'S DRAWING

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ABSTRACT

A children's problem remained a secret. Thus, this multiple case study design explored the children's drawing by considering an in-depth qualitative approach. Triangulation methodology was employed to have more meaningful results. The study used Kinetic Family Drawing (KFD) as a tool for data collection. Children had to draw his or her family doing some activities on a white piece of paper with color pencils or even color marker pens. All drawings must avoid stick figures. The KFD was collected from a convenient sampling of two postgraduate Asian student's children. The results focused (1) on between family members, and (2) on just one child. The children involved in total was three and including a mother and a father. An in-depth open-ended interview was done to (1) one children with extreme drawing and her mother in between family members, (2) and to only the mother for just the children. Meanwhile, short-structured interviews were done to all children involved. This interview was just to confirm the activities done and the family members involved in the drawing. NVivo and KFD Rubric was used to further analyze the data. This in-depth of the qualitative study reveals children emotional problems. Results showed that children felt being isolated and neglected by the father. Interestingly, they felt that the father did not love them, but love their other siblings more. Therefore, KFD can help screen the children's problem. The interviews brought serious attention to further studies, which suggested more samples for venturing more information.

Keywords: Kinetic Family Drawings, NVivo, and KFD Rubric.

INTRODUCTION

In 2017, Malaysia was shocked by a fire incident, which was one of the country's worst fire disaster in 20 years. The tragedy involved Tahfiz Darul Quran Ittifaqiyah Center which claimed the lives of 23 people: 21 students and two warden teachers. The victims were killed, after being trapped on the third floor of their hostel at the center of the building. Investigators established that the fire, which started at the entrance to the third-floor dormitory, occurred under suspicious circumstances. It was later established that the teenagers had torched the building as a form of revenge, after being embroiled in an argument with some of the tahfiz students. In part, two 16-year-old boys were charged with murdering the 23 victims and will face a death sentence, if found guilty, under Section 302 of the Penal Code, read together with Section 34 of the same code.

After doing some document analysis on this cruelty motives of murdering, the teenager's characters are related to callous-unemotional (CU) traits, which have no mercy on others. According to a report by the News Straits Times (NST), the teenagers did not show any sign of guilt or remorse for committing the heinous act. For instance, from the NST sources, the teenagers did not cry and felt sorry even by the young ones. Therefore, this calls for an investigation.

This investigation involves revealing children's' internalizing and externalizing problem through art therapy Kinetic Family Drawing (KFD), and a qualitative approach. The KFD is one of an assessment test called the projective test (Hilsenroth, & Segal, 2004; Salkind, 2007), which help to reveal children's secret (Burns, 1970; Burns, 1972; Furth, 1988). The secret from children's drawing yields meaningful information, which often quite dramatic in depicting family problem. Children may rebel and been heartbroken by people surrounding them such as by parents, teachers, siblings, friends, and others. However, have the children's voice been heard? Does adult understand them well? According to Sullivan (2013), as Hoshino summarized, "I have long felt that verbal therapy alone is limiting those who hold the least power may not have a voice in the therapeutic setting". Also, "art balances the power differential inherent in families and provides a nonverbal voice through the art process" (p. 119). Thus, children's voice could be heard through drawing (Furth, 1988).

The researchable problem relates to a qualitative approach to help improve the KFD rubric. According to Backos and Samuelson (2017), in their study of 43 mothers who experienced intimate partner violence and 56 children who witnessed violence between parents, found that there were no differences between participants with and without posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) from a quantitative analysis of drawings. However, they concluded that a qualitative interpretation of drawings is a useful tool with trauma clients. The qualitative analysis of drawings captured themes differentiate mothers and children with and without PTSD, which raters documented large numbers of indicators of a family disturbance in participants that were not captured by Burns (1982) system.

Qualitative research yielded an in-depth result in drawing (McLeod, 2001). For example, a projective test using pictures such as the Kinetic Family Drawing (KFD) is useful to understand children's thoughts and feelings (Kim, & Suh. 2013). Thus, the main aim of this study is to explore children's drawing by considering an in-depth qualitative approach.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The findings of this study will benefit from a society that KFD help to screen children with behavior problems, which is very important for children's development. The greater demand for the KFD rubric to be psychometrically sound justifies the need for more reliable and valid KFD administration and scoring rubrics. Thus, school counselors that apply the recommended rubric

will be able to identify students with problems. For the researcher, the study will help to improve the scoring of KFD rubric. Thus, a better KFD rubric will be developed.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Art captures information, joy expression, openness communication, enhance creativity, and reveals children's secret. Thus, through art researches gain valuable information about children.

Sutton-Smith (2009), in the study of students, explores identities, internal and external behaviours, found that visual arts with depicted family activities help to capture meaningful information. In this sense, art offers positive impact on children's behaviour (Wilkinson, & Chilton, 2013). This study is similar to Hartig (2011), who found by using art along with art therapy yielded strength to reveal problems of family, and foster open communication. In part, Linesch, Ojeda, Fuster, Moreno, and Solis (2014), in their study of immigrant children, explores art therapy process, found that children felt more comfortable to be open and share their stories with others by drawing. The children also felt more confident by doing so. This indicates that joy of doing art brings success to many objectives.

In similar ideology of using art to achieve goals, Kamarudin, Ab. Jalil and Abdul Rahman (2017) in their study of students, had used a bamboo crafting in science curriculum learning during a field trip, found that the activity helped students learn better and be more creative. Thus, art help to enhance creativity. This creativity had urged researches from several fields to use projective testing as a screening or diagnostic tool. In spite of art as an enjoy activity and enhance creativity for children, art gives meaningful information in research. For example, drawing techniques, such as the Draw-a-Person Technique (DPT), the House-Tree-Person (HTP), and the Kinetic Family Drawings (KFD) are popular for assessing children due to drawing as a simple and fun activity for children (Frick, et al., 2009).

Other than giving meaningful information, positives impact, and create an excitement activity, Lee (2013) in his study of immigrant children, found that art helped to reveal children's anxiety, fear, boredom and social isolation. This behaviour problem concern is related to Goldner and Scharf (2012) study of boys and girls, examined internalizing and externalizing problems from drawing, found that children with internalizing symptoms were prone to sadness, low attentional regulation, and low impulsivity. Meanwhile, the externalizing problem involve higher anger of ill patients. The externalizing problem is related to Bohlin, Eninger, Brocki, and Thorell (2012) study, who found that the Callous- unemotional traits (CU) is one of the major external problem, and is being the vital concern involves children. Therefore, art reveals children internal and external behaviour problems.

Parents can help children from having behaviour problems. This is because parents plays an important role to child's development (Muris & Maas, 2004), that their parenting skills are important for children happiness (Sullivan, 2013). According to Bhattacharya (2000), in her study of children, examined manifested disciplinary problems that caused rebellious actions due to parent's financial hardship, found that Asian children felt stress, burden, low self-esteem, and disappointed. This study is similar to Callender, Olson, Choe, and Sameroff (2012), in their study of children's behaviour, examined the factors of increase risk of externalizing problem from parents' action towards children behaviour and physical discipline, found that parents is the factor of such externalizing behaviour action. Therefore, a family drawing method is appropriate to assess disturbances related to attachment representations during childhood (Howard et al., 2017).

Other than that, the interpretation of the drawing yielded better results using qualitative approach. According to Ebersöhn, Eloff, Finestone, Van Dullemen, Sikkema, and Forsyth (2012), in their study of children of HIV-Positive mothers, investigated drawing on resilience, found themes and rich information regards to the possible causes of adaptive and maladaptive functioning behaviours using KFD as a visual method. This is similar to Yasui and Wakschlag (2015) study, through a qualitative approach found emerged theme of parent awareness is important in families of children with disruptive behaviour problems. Therefore, qualitative venture children's behaviour problem with meaningful results.

RESEARCH METHODS

Design

The study used a multiple case study design with a qualitative triangulation methodology approach. The triangulation involves interviewing, observation and document analysis. For each family it was treated as a case study. Therefore, qualitative measures more preferable to evaluate the KFD drawing.

Participants

Data were drawn from a convenient sampling of two female Asian postgraduate students' family. The participants for the current study involved three children children and a mother and a father, both Asian postgraduate students. The children

Instrument Kinetic Family Drawing

The Kinetic Family Drawing (KFD) by Burns and Kaufman (1970, 1972), was chose, as a tool for the data collection, which requires children to draw his or her family doing some activities on a white piece of paper with colour pencils or even colour marker pens. All drawings must avoid stick figures, yet looks as human figures. All stationaries were given including a white piece of drawing papers, colour pencils, colour markers, pencils and erasures. The KFD is also one of assessment test called projective test (Hilsenroth, & Segal, 2004; Salkind, 2007). The KFD drawing represented as an instrument and KFD rubric focusing on four key elements to interpret children's drawing. Those elements are (1) action, (2) physical characteristics of the

figures, (3) distance, barriers, and position, (4) styles. Each key elements have several numbers of the sub elements, which consists (1): (a) showed by what the family is doing, (b) actions in different activities; (2): (a) represent formal aspects of the drawing: (i) inclusion of essential body parts, (ii) size of each figure, (iii) size of other parts of the body, and (iv) facial expressions; (3): (a) number of barriers between mother and father, mother and child, father and child, child and child, (b) the distance from each other, and (c) the direction faced by each one another figure; (4): (a) refers to the organization of the figure, (b) variables that indicate emotional disturbance i.e. compartmentalization, edging, encapsulation, bottom lining, top lining, underlining individual figures, folding compartmentalization, and bird's eye.

Data collection procedures

Before the start of the study, the children, mother and father received written information about the study and parents provided written informed consent. Researcher provided verbal instructions in addition to the written instructions that accompanied the KFD test. The study started with document analysis of the KFD and KFD rubric developed by Burns and Kaufman (1970,1972) for the first phase. All written documents were compiled and analysed using NVivo software.

In the second phase, the KFD drawings were collected in a private location in Malaysia chosen by the two, mother and father. The third phase required the researcher to do an observation during the drawing until it was completed. Later after the drawing in the fourth phase, participants were interviewed via open-ended questions to have an in-depth understanding of the situation and to confirm the family members in the pictures. Then the study continues with the fifth phase to start the data analysis.

Data analysis

In the data analysis, the fifth phase starts back at analysing documents and drawing. In this sense, researcher analysed the KFD drawing. All drawings were analysed manually using traditional methods by using sticky notes and writing memos. During this analysis, bracketing and member checking were employed in order to have more meaningful results. Bracketing requires the researcher to refer back to the transcripts, and drawings to find related information that the researcher was referring to. In the meantime, member checking was only done to the mother that allowing her to comment, clarifying and adding the gaps of what she said during the interview. In this phase the drawings were scored qualitatively and manually with the guidance of the KFD rubric. Interestingly research done by Tharinger and Stark (1990) found that qualitative measures made more sense to understand the KFD drawing. They indicated that "the clearest sense of these characteristic can be gained through placing oneself in the drawing, preferably in place of the child" (p.370-371). Thus, the drawings were scored by a single rater using Tharinger and Stark (1990) approach in placing oneself in the drawing while using the KFD rubric as a guidance, yet still done in qualitative manner.

RESULT

The NVivo and KFD Rubric was used to further analysed the data. This in-depth of the qualitative study showed that that children felt being isolated and neglected by the father. Interestingly, they felt that the father did not love them, but love their other siblings more. Table 1 shows the existence of disturbance behaviour problem between family members from the KFD drawing. The behaviour problems were found from barriers element from the father; barriers and underlining figures from the mother; and barriers and edging from the daughter as visualized in Table 1 as below.

TABLE 1. Results of the Drawing and Interview between Family Members of Father, Mother and Daughter

Person	KFD elements	Descriptions	Interview from the mother	Reflections	
Father	Action	Father consoling mother	"long time ago he used to lie to me and he had cheated on me before. From that point, I felt sad and heartbroken"	Wondering what is going on? Seek explanation through an interview.	
	Size	Size normal		NA	
	Facial expression	The mother looks sad, the daughter looks angry and sad	"I don't trust him and I felt so sad"	Not just the facial, but sitting with cross legs shows extreme anger, which seeks further interview	
	Position/ distance	Father is facing mother, but mother is facing down; brother facing the father, but the daughter is sitting in other direction	"my daughter is angry to the father because long time ago she was left and lived with my mom in the village. Then, recently we took her and stayed with us together"	Seems like rebel. Thus, need interview	
	Barriers	The brother is the barrier, which sits between the daughter and the father.	"the father always play and read books together with the son. He often plays with my son, but rarely with my daughter. My husband loves to hug my son, but seldom hugs my daughter. I also feel that theres a huge gap between them"	Seek in-depth interview, as this element pictures the existence of disturbance behavior problem	
	Underlining figures/ edging	NA		NA	

Mother	Action Size	Looks like walking in a park Size normal		
	Facial expression	Everyone smiles	"Actually I hope to have a happy family and feels to always be happy"	Odd elements: there's a barrier and underlining consistent line only below the mother. Thus, seeks an in-depth interview
	Position/distance	Everyone is side by side to each other. Mother is holding hands with father. The daughter is holding hands with the younger	"I love my husband. However, I wish he loves me more" "I really hope that my daughter will get along well with her brother and loves him too"	
	Barriers	brother. Father is standing between the mother and daughter. The mother is being as the barrier to the daughter.	"sometimes I seek attention from my husband. Maybe because of that, my daughter was jealous and feels like she was being neglected by parents"	Seek in-depth interview, as this element pictures the existence of disturbance behavior problem
	Underlining figures/ edging	The mother had a consistent underline below her feet compared to others who have short and dotted lines below their feet	"I felt too burden and sometimes feel stupid and helpless because I was always at home a looking after the children. I have no life with any friends and I feel so sad. I also felt a huge responsibilities of just me looking after the kids, raising them, take care of the house and making sure that its cleanI feel so stressful"	Seek in-depth interview, as this element pictures the existence of disturbance behavior problem
Daughter	Action Size	Looks like in a park The younger brother is smaller. The drawing of everyone is half of the body	"My daughter does not like the brother because he's being spoilt by my husband. She purposely isolating the younger brother for satisfaction and to show that she is angry about him. She always ask me why does daddy don't love me and don't have time for me"	Why half body?
	Facial expression	Father looks angry, daughter looks sad,	"she always wondering that why daddy hates me and don't love me.and she asked me about does daddy have time to read books or play with me"	Wondering what is going on?
	Position/ distance	Father, mother and daughter are closer to each other, but the brother is so far away from them. The position is side by side between three of them. However, the brother is located in different place on the edge of the right side.	"she does not need the brother, which she pledged for love and attention" "why must always my brother mummy" "what time does he gets back from school, can he play with me?"	Odd elements: the position of the brother is so far away. Seek more information through an interview
	Barriers	There's a flower and a butterfly or a bug with small wings between the mother and flower. The mother, the bug and the flower is the barrier.	"mommy, I wish daddy spare sometimes with me, which I pity my daughter when she says that"	Odd elements: a bug on father's nose and all of the bugs including the flower is dark brown or dead, which means extremely sad. Thus, seek more explanation in the interview.
	Underlining figures/ edging	Edging drawing exist	"My daughter always be blamed of anything that my son did because she is the oldest. I guess my daughter is so sad and angry because she's being isolated and ignored by the father"	Seek in-depth interview, as this element pictures the existence of disturbance behavior problem

All of the three elements seeks for more information and detail from an in-depth interview. Results from the in-depth interview depicted that the father cares more for the son compared to the daughter, as shown from the interview and the barrier element in father's drawing. In the meantime, extreme existence of disturbance behaviour problems was found from position, barriers, and edging element from the daughter's drawing. Results shows that the daughter was very sad and seek attention from the bug on the father's nose and the color of all the bugs and flowers. The bugs and flowers were colored in dark brown blackish, which conveyed very sad feelings according to Furth (1988). Another interesting element found from all family member's drawing was the missing elements according to Furth (1988). The father, daughter and the mother herself drew the mother without being pregnant. This finding was also considered as an odd element, which seeks an in-depth interview as a follow-up to make sense of the interpretation. The KFD rubric was used back and forth with Furth (1988) also along with the in-depth interview. Both works hand-in-hand to have a sound data.

Another result of one child and an in-depth interview with a mother is depicted as Table 2 below. Interestingly, the size of the father was bigger compared to other family members: mother, older brother and herself. The consistent top lining of a straight blue colored sky sense a disruptive behaviour problem. Odd elements were found from the drawing picturing a big heart shape on mother's head. The daughter also has one on her head. However, the big heart shape on mother's head is bigger compared to herself. The size of the father, top lining blue sky and two heart shapes seeks more information. Therefore, in-depth interviews reveal all of the secret as shown in Table 2.

TABLE 2. Results of the Drawing the Daughter and an Interview with a mother

Daughter	Action	Looks like family in a		
	Size	park The father is bigger compared to other	"My daughter does not like the father because he only cares of the older brother not my daughter. The father seems like a big boss, and could not talk in a humble manner to my daughter"	If one of the family members is bigger than the rest of the family members in the picture, thus this sense a disruptive behavior problem. Seek in-depth interview.
	Facial expression	Father looks angry from the face and the hairdos is straight up Others looks happy and enjoying their time	"she always wondering daddy does not love me which she asked me about why daddy never say I love you to me, but he says to my brother?" "I pity my daughter as my husband always spends time playing and reading books with my son more compare to my daughter"	Wondering why the father looks angry compared to others? Seek in-depth interview
	Position/ distance	Distance father and daughter so far away Distance father with the brother so close Position was side by side to each other.	"my husband always plays with my son and not with my daughter"	What is really going on? Seek more information
	Barriers	The older brother and the mom is the barrier as both of them are between the father and the daughter	"mommy, I wish daddy can play with me and draw with me"	Seek in-depth interview, as this element pictures the existence of disturbance behavior problem
	Top lining	There was a top lining at mother's head, another was a big heart shape on mother's head. The top lining was above the big heart shape.	"My daughter always been scolded by my husband even for a small mistake"	Odd elements: the big heart shape was found on mother's head and only on the daughter's heart. The mother's heart was triple size than the daughter's heart shape.

• NA-not applicable

DISCUSSION

This study explored children's drawing by considering an in-depth qualitative approach. The current study found a between family members drawing yielded more in-depth findings compared to the just one child drawing from the drawing. However, both categories of drawing revealed more secrets through in-depth interviews. Therefore, the discussion section focused on the data collection and the data analysis of the study.

During the data collection, triangulation method was used in the study i.e. document analysis, observation and interview.

Data Collection

Document Analysis of the Rubric

During the earlier phase of the study, document analysis of the KFD rubric by Burns and Kaufman (1970, 1972) were read along with the ideology of Furth (1988). Those documents need further exploration and analysis in future due to missing or odd element in Burns and Kaufman (1970, 1972). There were two drawing, which had odd elements and could hard been interpreted by using Burns and Kaufman (1970, 1972). The missing elements were not listed in the assessment. All document analyses were gathered through NVivo qualitative analysis software. In part, from the study, both elements: missing and odd were meaningful and important to be added in the assessment list. Thus, researcher used Furth's (1988) point of view to make more sense of interpreting the drawings.

KFD and observation

From the observation during the between family members KFD drawing for all of them: mother, father and the older daughter, the drawings did not picture that the mother was pregnant. From an interview, it showed that the baby was not being welcomed and the mother also said that she was not prepared to have the baby. Therefore, the observation alone was not enough and seek more investigations from the interview.

Interview

An in-depth interview was done after the data analysis of the drawing. This procedure was done due to some emerge elements that were query and different from Burns and Kaufman (1970,1972). The in-depth interview was done to determine the children's feeling towards their family members and to know what exactly happened. Several meaningful results were conveyed and showed that in-depth interviews helped to verify complicated situation depicted from children's drawings.

Data analysis

During the data analysis, all drawings were analysed manually using sticky notes. The traditional approach using sticky notes help to interpret all elements based on the KFD rubrics.

Document analysis and Interview

In particular, the drawing from the family members depicted that the father had isolated and neglected the older child rather than the young ones. For example, the position of the older child (daughter) was facing in different direction in the father's drawing indicated the isolation and neglect condition. In the meantime, the younger child (son) was close to the father. From the daughter's drawing, there were barriers between the father and the daughter. The barriers were the mother, a flower and a butterfly that looks like a big bug with just small wings. This indication of the bug is considered weird or odd according to Furth (1988). In addition to the drawing, the father's facial expression was angry, but the daughter's facial expression was sad. Father was close to son rather than daughter.

Meanwhile, the drawing from just one child, found similar situation that the father's face looks angry by the facial expression and the hairdos straight up. The child's face was sad too. From these findings, the researcher had looked back and forth to the transcribed in-depth interview between mothers to delve into more information. Interestingly, from both mother's interview, they said that the father loves their son more than the daughter. One of the mother said that the father frequently said "I love you" and kisses or hugs the son (older) compared to the younger child, the daughter. The other mother said that the father spends more time reading and playing with son (younger) rather than the daughter (older). From the interview, both fathers favour to hug their sons more compared to their daughter. The sons were also being spoilt by the father.

Other than that, the open-interview had revealed the sad feelings or being hurt by the father from the mother with the older daughter. The mother said that the daughter was left and being brought up with the grandmother and mother, but not with the father for two years. However, according to the mother the father's relationship with the daughter was also not close after they lived together since the existence of the small baby boy. The daughter was so angry until she drew her brother on the right side of the drawing sheet with facing upwards differently from the three of them: mother, father and herself. Again, from the drawing there were some weird sense according to Furth (1988). Those elements were a bug on father's nose and the flower with the bug. All of the bugs were in a dark brown color including the flower. The dark brown according to Furth (1988) depicted dead plant, which means in a grief of a very sad condition. Therefore, the drawing works hand-in-hand with the openended interview in revealing such a meaningful result.

In sum, the combination of qualitative approach with family drawing assessment help to determine children with their family (Roe, Bridges, Dunn, & O'Connor, 2006). The recent research agreed with Roe et al. (2006) as qualitative triangulation gave rich information about children's feelings through drawings. Therefore, the value of visual data contributing strongly to the research aims (Bland, 2018).

LIMITATION

Several limitations of this study warrant consideration. First and foremost, there was no specific time limitation for the children to complete the drawing. This did not influence the KFD drawing from the children. However, it required approximately two hours for all participants including adults to finish up their drawing. The time also derailed longer, as it was difficult to control the children. Since all of them were at the age below 7 years old, they tend to play a lot. Hence, researchers had to grab their attention and persuade them in a friendly manner to accomplish the task by talking to them. In this sense, the time duration,

time and place should be given the top priority, as to fit best for the children's environment of projective test administration. Second, one of the children that was bored with using just color pencils and color marker pens, finally triggered herself to using her colourful cartoons stamp to picturing the air on her drawing sheet. Extra materials should be given to children to play or use to another sheet of paper on another table, but not on the same sheet. This help to avoid usage of other mediums. Other gadgets such as squishy, stress ball and pillows could be used for energy releasing and reducing stress (Shen, & Sink, 2002). Therefore, time, place and materials or mediums are important things to be considered thoroughly ahead of time especially when the samples are younger children.

CONCLUSION

The result from this study are remarkable because it shows that children felt being isolated and neglected by the father. Both girls felt that the father did not love them, yet love their other siblings more. This study had achieved its objectives by exploring the children's drawing using in-depth qualitative approach. The use of KFD along with in-depth triangulation qualitative measures can help to screen children with problems. Future studies are recommended with regards to the sample, mixed method approach, scoring system, and adding art therapy approach similar to this study. First, the interviews brought serious attention to further studies, which suggested more samples for venturing more information. For instance, big data gives better precision (Tharinger, & Stark, 1990). In relation to using KFD, big samples are recommended for a high reliability (Veltman, Browne, 2003). By using big samples, mixed method yield more meaningful data. Important work in the area of using KFD and qualitative traditional method with children has been completed. However, findings from this study suggested that an in-depth document analysis of the KFD scoring rubric should be done along with Furth's book (1988). This would contribute for more reliable and valid scoring system. Furthermore, we know very little of the children's problem by only from visual art. Thus, filial art therapy by McCarley in the 1990s according to Sullivan (2013), suggested that this approach would help to reach to parents and getting the children's attention with love and special art time. The approach also develops parent's competency and parenting skills (Sullivan, 2013). Therefore, KFD can help screen children's problem. KFD along with filial art therapy, mixed method approach, reliable and valid scoring system would be most relevant for future studies.

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