

## Forming the Gender Stereotype Behavior Because of the Peer's Influence: A Meta-analysis

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**Abstract.** The objective of this meta-analysis article is to explain the peer influence in forming gender stereotype behavior on children. This meta-analysis is conducted from 54 effect size coefficients and 16.305 subjects. It is found that there is a relationship between the children's type of toys and peer's reaction ( $r = 0.2748$ ). When the toy's type is in line with the children's gender, then the peer's reaction is positive. On the other hand, when a boy plays with a doll or a girl plays with a truck, their peers will ridicule them. It is recommended that parents and teachers should encourage a more balanced role between girls and boys. When complete emancipation is achieved, the girls' and boys' potentials will be expected to grow more optimally.

Key words: gender stereotype, peers, toy

**Abstrak.** Tujuan artikel meta-analisis ini adalah menjelaskan pengaruh sebaya dalam pembentukan perilaku stereotip gender pada anak-anak. Meta-analisis ini dilakukan dari 54 koefisien *effect size* dan 16.305 subjek. Ditemukan adanya hubungan antara jenis mainan anak dan reaksi sebayanya ( $r = .2748$ ). Bila jenis mainannya sesuai dengan gender anak, reaksi sebayanya positif. Sebaliknya bila seorang anak laki-laki bermain dengan boneka atau seorang anak perempuan bermain dengan mainan truk, parasebayanya akan mengoloknya. Dianjurkan para orang tua dan guru meningkatkan keseimbangan peran antara anak-anak perempuan dan laki-laki. Bila emansipasi lengkap telah tercapai, potensi anak-anak perempuan maupun laki-laki dapat diharapkan tumbuh lebih optimal.

Kata kunci: stereotip gender, sebaya, mainan

The term "sex" is different from "gender". The former term is more linked to a biology meaning such as female or male, whilst the latter is more likely to have a cultural meaning such as feminine, masculine, or neutral. Therefore the latter term can also be associated with preposition (Hornby, Gatenby, & Wakefield, 1973) which is common in Dutch and German. It can also be attached to other several substances such as doing household chores as a feminine task and cleaning a yard as a masculine task (Kroska, 2003); or a doll as a feminine toy, a transportation toy as a masculine toy, playing with clay as a neutral

play (Fagot, 1985); or being a teacher as a feminine profession and being a firefighter as a masculine profession (Theimer, Killen, & Stangor, 2001); or not having a desire to be an adventurer as a feminine behavior whilst being active is a masculine characteristic (Thomson & Zerbinos, 1997); or various roles in society (Squire, as cited in Suhapti, 1995) such as a head of household is only for males and a husband's co-worker is only for females; or pink as a feminine color whilst blue as a masculine color (Picariello, Greenberg, & Pillemer, 1990).