

# URBAN MODERN FAMILY NORMS AND PARENTING PATTERNS FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**Ahmad Fauzi, Rafadi Khan Khayru**

Universitas Islam Tribakti Lirboyo Kediri, Universitas Sunan Giri Surabaya

correspondence: rafadikhan.khayru@gmail.com

**Abstract** - This literature study explores how modern family norms in urban settings reshape gender relations, authority structures, and parenting patterns, and how these changes relate to children's emotional, social, and moral development. The review synthesizes qualitative and quantitative findings from previous research on urban families, focusing on the reorganisation of domestic responsibilities, the circulation of parenting ideals through digital media, and the growing involvement of multiple caregivers. The study identifies several dominant patterns, including achievement-oriented parenting, emotionally responsive approaches, and highly protective styles that limit children's autonomy. These patterns interact with time pressure, labour market demands, and class-based differences in access to supportive services. The analysis shows that children's development is strongly linked to the quality of emotional presence, clarity and consistency of rules, management of digital technology, and gradual opportunities for decision-making and self-regulation. The article argues that urban policies, schools, and community organisations need to recognise families as crucial spaces for learning empathy, fairness, and gender equality. The study concludes by recommending integrated parent support programmes, family-friendly urban facilities, and further research that centres children's own perspectives on everyday family life.

**Keywords:** urban family, gender relations, parenting, child development, emotional well-being, socialization, moral growth.

## INTRODUCTION

Social structural changes in urban areas over the past few decades have shifted the way people perceive family, emotional closeness, and child-rearing responsibilities. High population mobility, expansion of the service sector, and economic productivity demands have meant that families no longer rely on traditional patterns centred on the home as the hub of shared activities. This social mobility itself shows different dynamics between urban and rural communities, which fundamentally shape the way families adapt and build status (Amri & Khayru, 2021). Urban life requires fragmented time management, so that interactions between family members are often brief and scheduled. At the same time, exposure to various digital information sources enriches the range of values faced by families, but also has the potential to create normative confusion in parenting decisions. Parents face new demands to balance career achievements, financial needs, and emotional presence for their children. These challenges of urbanisation require significant adaptation, not only in social practices but also in the legal and constitutional frameworks that govern society (Rizky et al., 2022). These shifts raise questions about how modern family norms are constructed, negotiated, and implemented in everyday life, especially in urban environments characterised by competition and rapid change. It involves the dynamics of gender relations, parental authority, and aspirations for the healthy psychological and social development of children (Ardi & Aulia, 2020).

Amidst urban economic pressures, urban families have developed more formally egalitarian relationship patterns, but daily practices are often still influenced by patriarchal values. Women are increasingly involved in the paid workforce, while men are increasingly expected to participate in caregiving and childcare. On the surface, this leads to a seemingly balanced division of roles, but the process of restructuring authority within the household often does not go smoothly. Children live in a social space filled with various voices, ranging from academic demands and individual standards of success to exposure to global values through digital media. Technology-based family interaction patterns have undergone profound transformations, with significant implications for the psychological health and character formation of young children (Evendi et al., 2025). Thus, urban households have become arenas where traditional values, modern aspirations, and the drive for individuality converge. The intertwining of these three value domains shapes a complex family experience, in which parents and children continually reinterpret their expectations, obligations, and role boundaries within the family (Drobysheva & Voytenko, 2022).

Changes in modern family norms in urban communities are also evident in shifts in the meanings of attachment, discipline, and child autonomy. Whereas family closeness was previously often referred to

through intense physical presence and direct supervision, attachment is now largely negotiated through the quality of brief communication, the use of technology, and the willingness of parents to provide emotional support despite time constraints. In this context, parenting patterns become a field of repeated interpretation of what is considered to be in the best interests of the child. Some parents emphasise academic achievement and independence from an early age, while others try to prioritise emotional well-being and family connectedness. The parenting style chosen directly affects the emotional resilience and behavioural adjustment of urban adolescents (Hariani et al., 2024). The convergence of the values of hard work, demands for productivity, and expectations of emotional family harmony makes parenting in urban spaces fraught with moral and psychological considerations. Children grow up with a variety of messages that are sometimes contradictory, so the way they understand authority, attachment, and freedom is an issue that deserves careful consideration (Bian et al., 2022).

Modern family norms are also closely related to representations of the family in popular culture, state regulations, and professional discourse on 'good' parenting. Urban families consume a variety of narratives about family ideals through social media, advertisements, entertainment programmes, and public policies governing housing, education, and child protection (Stearns, 2019). These narratives shape the imagination of harmonious families, patient parents, and accomplished and adaptive children. However, concrete life in big cities often makes it difficult to fulfil these ideal images, so many families face tensions between expectations and reality. Parents play a strategic role in managing these influences, including in efforts to prevent gadget addiction in early childhood (Masfufah & Darmawan, 2023). The process of interpreting, agreeing with, or rejecting narratives about the ideal family takes place continuously in daily conversations, career decisions, and the organisation of domestic activities. In this framework, gender relations, division of household labour, and parenting models are not merely technical matters, but concern how families understand the dignity, justice, and liability of each member.

In particular, changes in modern family norms in urban communities have direct consequences for how children perceive themselves, their parents, and the social world outside the home. Parenting patterns that have developed in urban areas include a variety of practices, ranging from intensive parenting that emphasises academic monitoring and structured activities, to more relaxed patterns that allow greater space for children's exploration and freedom. These choices are influenced by parents' educational backgrounds, social class, and access to support services such as childcare, family counselling, and alternative educational facilities. Amidst these choices, children become subjects who continually strive to interpret the emotional cues, rules, and expectations given by their parents. The quality of the parenting relationship that is formed has the potential to strengthen self-confidence, empathy, and emotional regulation capacity, or conversely, cause confusion, excessive pressure, and psychosocial vulnerability. Therefore, studies on changes in family norms and parenting patterns in urban areas require serious attention.

The main problem that arises in the change of modern family norms in urban communities is the tension between idealised egalitarian values and parenting practices that are still tied to hierarchical patterns. On the one hand, urban families recognise the importance of gender equality, open communication, and child participation in decision-making. On the other hand, economic demands, double workloads, and traditional values encourage a return to authoritarian patterns at certain moments, such as when parents feel tired or anxious about their children's future. This tension creates a parenting experience that is not always consistent for children. They may receive messages about the importance of dialogue, but at the same time face harsh punishment or excessive academic pressure. This situation raises questions about how children perceive emotional stability, security, and clarity of rules at home in the long term.

Another issue relates to the diversity of parenting patterns that are growing in urban areas, which are often mixed with the influence of social class, education level, and access to information. Families with adequate economic resources tend to have the opportunity to choose schools, mental health services, and additional activities that are tailored to their parenting vision. Meanwhile, families with limited resources may have to rely on kinship networks, religious institutions, or public facilities whose quality is not always consistent. This gap has the potential to cause striking differences in children's growth and development experiences in big cities. Children from privileged families may receive emotional support, participatory parenting, and ample opportunities for exploration, while children from economically disadvantaged families are more vulnerable to emotional neglect, child labour, or verbal abuse. These disparities are an important part of the problem that needs to be explained systematically.

Studies on changes in modern family norms and parenting patterns in urban communities are

important to develop at this time because cities are developing very rapidly, while social and psychological understanding of the family often lags behind. Vertical housing, gated communities, and the separation of work and home spaces are changing patterns of interaction between neighbours and community support for young families. In such circumstances, families often negotiate their own reasonable boundaries in parenting, the extent to which children are allowed freedom in using gadgets, and how to manage exposure to values from outside the home. Without careful mapping, the changes that occur risk being responded to reactively, for example through rigid rules or, conversely, through unguided leniency. A structured study of the experiences of urban families can help formulate a clearer picture of the needs of children and parents amid rapid social change.

In addition, the study of this topic is relevant because it is directly related to the development of future human resources. The way urban parents manage discipline, provide warmth, and open up space for dialogue will form the basis of the social and emotional capacity of the next generation. Children who grow up in families that are able to manage the tension between productivity demands and emotional attachment have the potential to develop psychological resilience, empathy, and the ability to work together. Conversely, children who experience punishment-laden parenting, lack of emotional presence, or confusion about values are at risk of facing difficulties in adapting to school, the workplace, and public spaces. Thus, literature studies on modern family norms and parenting patterns in urban communities not only deal with internal household dynamics but also concern the direction of character formation of city dwellers who are fair, caring, and able to live together amid diversity.

The purpose of this study is to systematically examine changes in modern family norms and parenting patterns in urban communities by highlighting the relationship between gender relations, authority structures, and children's developmental experiences. Through a literature study, this paper attempts to develop a detailed understanding of how urban families reinterpret parenting responsibilities, manage tensions between economic demands and emotional needs, and formulate expectations for their children's future. Theoretically, this study is expected to enrich the academic discourse on family, gender, and parenting in urban studies. Practically, the results can serve as a reference for policy makers, educators, and family service practitioners in developing parental support programmes, strengthening parenting capacities, and developing a more humane environment for child growth and development in urban areas.

## RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses a qualitative literature review approach oriented towards understanding the meaning and interpretation of urban family experiences as recorded in various scientific publications. This design is in line with Creswell's thinking, which places qualitative research as a systematic effort to interpret the social world through language, narratives, and categories formed by previous researchers (Creswell, 2013). The study materials include journal articles, scientific books, and research reports discussing modern families, gender relations, parenting, and urban life. This approach allows researchers to collect various scattered findings, identify patterns of meaning, and construct a structured conceptual framework. By placing text as a trace of social experience, this literature study attempts to trace how previous authors explain changes in family norms and their influence on child rearing in urban life (Flick, 2009; Merriam, 2009). Researchers act as critical readers who perform layered interpretations, examining arguments, analytical categories, and ways of depicting urban families presented in scientific publications.

The literature search process was conducted systematically through online databases such as Scopus, Web of Science, and Google Scholar, accompanied by additional searches on accredited national journal portals. The keywords used included 'modern family norms', 'urban parenting', 'gender relations in the family', 'child development in urban settings', and their equivalents in Indonesian. The search strategy referred to the principles of transparency and repeatability in qualitative literature reviews (Pope, Mays, & Popay, 2007). The inclusion criteria included scientific publications that focused on families in urban areas, discussed gender relations and parenting, and contained conceptual descriptions or empirical findings relevant to the research objectives. Exclusion criteria included writings that only briefly mentioned families without discussing parenting, non-scientific popular articles, and publications that did not clearly present a theoretical framework or research procedures. Literature selection was carried out in stages, beginning with reading the titles and abstracts, followed by examining the full text to assess the suitability of the substance with the focus of the study.

Data analysis was conducted through thematic synthesis, referring to Braun and Clarke's (2006) guidelines on systematic theme development. The initial stage involved repeated reading of selected texts to identify units of meaning related to modern family norms, gender relations, parenting patterns, and their implications for child development. These units of meaning were then manually coded and grouped into broader categories with the help of Miles et al.'s (2014) qualitative analysis framework, which emphasises the cyclical process of data reduction, presentation, and conclusion drawing. The provisional themes were compared again with the literature corpus to ensure they remained consistent with the data and did not deviate from the original content of the texts. To maintain quality, cross-referencing of arguments between sources, checking the consistency of logical interpretations, and recording analytical decision trails in the form of research memos (Guest et al., 2006) were carried out. This step aimed to produce a synthesis that was transparent, traceable, and academically accountable.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

### Modern Family Norms and the Formation of Gender Relations in Urban Families

Changes in modern family norms in urban areas are evident in the way family members perceive each other's positions. The family is no longer understood solely as a unit centered on the father as the main source of authority and decision-making, but rather as a group of individuals with recognized aspirations, rights and voices. However, this recognition often remains in the realm of discourse before finding a stable form in everyday practice. In big cities, married couples face economic pressures, career goals, and social demands that require both of them to be active in the public sphere. These conditions open up space for the restructuring of domestic and childcare responsibilities, making gender relations a dynamic arena of negotiation. Discussions about who takes care of the housework, who manages the children's schedules, and who has the right to make important decisions regarding education or where to live are part of daily life. In this process, modern family norms seek to balance respect for tradition with more explicit ideals of equality (Liu, 2023).

Gender relations in urban families are reflected in the patterns of communication that develop between couples and children. Many families are beginning to emphasize dialogue, negotiation, and a willingness to listen to each other's perspectives. Mothers are not merely placed as domestic task performers, but are recognized as subjects who bring professional knowledge, income, and views on proper parenting. Fathers, at the same time, are expected to be emotionally present, not just as breadwinners. However, this shift is not uniform. Some families have succeeded in establishing relatively balanced decision-making habits, while others still maintain one-way communication patterns dominated by certain parties. One manifestation of this shift in parenting patterns can be seen in the character development of students at school, which is the result of complex interactions between school culture and parenting styles applied at home (Dena & Darmawan, 2024). Children observe these patterns day after day, learning about who can question decisions, how differences of opinion are handled, and the extent to which respect is built through equal conversation (Sriram, 2019). Thus, modern family norms in cities cannot be separated from gender communication patterns embedded in the way families talk and respond to each other.

Changes in modern family norms can also be seen through how families interpret authority. In urban families, the formal authority attached to the father as head of the family is often juxtaposed with the mother's authority of knowledge and parenting capacity. Highly educated mothers with professional status often bring new sources of information about children's education, mental health, and warmer approaches to discipline. This challenges the old structure that tended to place the father as the final decision-maker in almost all decisions. In many households, strategic decisions are now made through joint consideration, although there is still a tendency to leave the final say to one party. The demands of work on parents often lead families to seek external solutions, with childcare businesses emerging as one answer for working families (Sinambela & Mardikaningsih, 2022). Children witness how this authority is negotiated, then absorb messages about who has the right to speak, who is heard, and how justice is practiced within the family (Russell & Yang, 2024). This process closely links gender relations with the formation of more flexible modern family norms, yet it remains colored by the tug-of-war between traditional values.

Modern family norms in urban areas have shifted the division of domestic labor, although the direction and speed of this shift vary across social groups. In some educated middle-class families, housework is no longer considered solely a woman's task, but rather a shared responsibility that can be delegated, negotiated, or transferred to third parties such as domestic helpers and childcare institutions. In this situation, the time and energy of family members is calculated more rationally, especially when both parents work full time. However, even though the division of tasks appears to be more equal, the mental burden of managing schedules, remembering children's needs, and taking care of daily details often still falls on mothers. Tangible family support, including in early childhood education, is a crucial component in alleviating this burden and supporting children's development (Masfufah & Masnawati, 2023). This imbalance in mental burden shows that gender relations have not yet fully moved towards substantive equality. Children who grow up in this



environment observe who is more often tired, who has the right to rest longer, and who remains responsible when chaos occurs at home (Audinovic & Nugroho, 2024).

Another aspect of modern family norms in urban families relates to expectations regarding emotional expression. In traditional patterns, men are often encouraged to be tough and hold back their emotions, while women are allowed to show sensitivity and gentleness (Aminuddin et al., 2024). In urban environments, this pattern is beginning to change. Many families want to see fathers who are able to openly express affection, hug their children, and express their concerns without embarrassment. Mothers, on the other hand, are increasingly valued not only for their gentleness, but also for their assertiveness and strong leadership skills. Changes in the dynamics of emotional expression and the quality of social interaction form an important reciprocal relationship with the psychological well-being of each family member (Darmawan & Gani, 2024). These changes have an impact on the formation of more fluid gender relations, where empathy is not locked into one gender. Children learn that assertiveness and gentleness can be present in both men and women. When such emotional patterns are embedded in family norms, gender relations at home become more open to the unique characteristics of each member, rather than simply following old stereotypes.

The influence of modern family norms on gender relations is also evident in the management of family time (Silva de Melo, 2023). Limited time due to long working hours in urban areas means that families must plan moments of togetherness in a more structured manner. In this planning, it is often the mother who takes on the role of the main organizer of family activities, while the father is more often positioned as a supporter. However, there are also families who try to share the responsibility of time management more evenly, for example through joint scheduling or regular discussions. Participatory time management can reduce the tendency to place women as the sole family managers. Children who are involved in planning family activities learn about cooperation, a sense of responsibility, and appreciation for each other's needs. Here, modern family norms that emphasize joint planning offer opportunities to form more equal gender relations, as long as the division of responsibilities does not fall back on one party alone.

Gender relations in urban families are also influenced by how families view education and careers for boys and girls. Modern family norms tend to reject restrictions on educational choices based on gender. Many parents in cities want both boys and girls to receive the highest possible education and have equal opportunities to enter the professional world. However, traces of traditional views sometimes still appear in the form of implicit expectations, such as encouraging girls to priorities domestic roles after marriage, or the expectation that boys will become the main economic breadwinners of the family in the future. These explicit and implicit messages shape the landscape of gender relations experienced by children from adolescence onwards. When modern family norms teach equality, but traces of old expectations still linger, children are faced with an identity puzzle: to what extent do they have the right to pursue a career, delay marriage, or choose a different path in life from previous generations (Zulfa Elizabeth et al., 2023).

Digital media has become a powerful additional space in shaping modern family norms and gender relations in urban families. Parents and children are exposed to various representations of masculinity and femininity, parenting styles, and family models through social media, television series, and advertisements. Mothers can find many narratives about "successful mothers" who are able to combine professional achievements and intensive parenting, while fathers receive various stories about male figures who are actively involved in childcare. These representations can be inspiring, but they also add new pressures because the standards displayed are often very high. At home, discussions about what it means to be a "good" father or mother are often fueled by references to public figures or popular parenting trends. The process of filtering, adopting, or criticizing these representations contributes to the formation of distinctive modern family norms, which influence communication patterns and the division of roles between men and women in parenting (Peng, 2022).

Amidst changing values, intergenerational relationships in urban families have become an important arena for examining gender relations (Chugh, 2020). Grandparents, who hold more traditional values, sometimes live in the same house or are often involved in raising their grandchildren, resulting in a clash between the views of the older generation and those of the younger couple. For example, when a grandmother believes that her granddaughters should help more often in the kitchen, while her grandsons are freer to play outside the house, young parents may try to introduce a more equitable pattern. Such negotiations do not always go smoothly and can cause subtle tensions within the family. Children pick up on these differences in views through comments, treatment, and the division of daily tasks. From this, they develop an understanding of gender justice, respect for elders, and at the same time develop a critical assessment of rules that they feel are unfair.

Modern family norms are also related to how families deal with conflict and difficult decision-making. In more hierarchical patterns, decisions often come from one dominant figure without much room for discussion. In urban families that strive to maintain equal relationships, conflicts tend to be resolved through more open discussions, both between spouses and with children who have reached a certain age. For example, when a family needs to decide on a house move, school choice, or financial arrangements, the decision-making process involves an exchange of views among family members. The way conflicts are managed here reflects the power relationships that are being formed. If the voices of both the mother and the child are valued, even though the final decision may still rest with the adults, then the child learns that differences of opinion do not negate respect. The gender relations reflected in the management of conflict then provide a foundation for how children relate to others outside the home (du Bois-Reymond, 2019).

The symbolic aspects of urban household life also color the formation of gender relations (Krishna et al., 2024). The arrangement of space, the placement of family photos, the choice of decorations, and even everyday clothing styles convey messages about who is positioned as the center of the family, who is seen as the primary caregiver, and how gender identities are articulated. For example, a father's separate and respected workspace, which is rarely disturbed, can signify his productive role outside the home, while a corner of the house filled with children's equipment and domestic necessities is often associated with the mother. However, when families consciously arrange shared spaces that encourage equal involvement, such as a collectively managed kitchen or a playroom used jointly by fathers and mothers, these symbolic messages shift. Children read these signs without needing verbal explanations, and from there construct an image of what is normal for men and women in family life.

Overall, modern family norms in urban communities produce a richly nuanced landscape of gender relations, where values of equality coexist with traces of a still-strong patriarchal pattern. In households, the division of domestic labor, time management, patterns of emotional expression, and the way families manage conflict become arenas where new and old values meet. Children grow up witnessing the negotiation between the ideal of equality and deep-rooted customs. From this process of observation and involvement, they construct an understanding of the positions of men and women, who has the right to make decisions, and how justice and respect are realized in the smallest sphere of society. Analysis of modern family norms and gender relations in urban families provides an important foundation for understanding how the parenting experiences discussed in the next stage influence children's emotional, social, and moral development.

### **Urban Family Parenting Patterns and Their Implications for Child Development**

Parenting patterns in urban families show a wide variety, but they share a common thread in the form of demands to adapt to the fast pace and high competition of city life (Merla, 2018). This competition and pressure occur in urbanization, which also widens social inequality, creating special challenges in building social cohesion in urban environments (Mardikaningsih, 2021). Parents' limited time forces them to rethink how they are present for their children, so that family intimacy often shifts from long periods of togetherness to brief but meaningful interactions. Many parents strive for quality conversations after work hours, utilize weekends as a space to build closeness, or rely on digital means to stay in touch when physically separated. On the one hand, this strategy can help children feel emotionally present despite busy schedules, but on the other hand, it risks creating the impression that family relationships are something that must be strictly regulated and always efficient. Children who grow up in this kind of environment learn to manage time constraints, but they can also feel anxious when moments of togetherness are reduced or interrupted by their parents' unexpected work demands (Lilius, 2019).

Urban families often adopt parenting styles that emphasize academic achievement and cognitive competence from an early age. Parents fill their children's days with extra courses, foreign language activities, music lessons, and various other structured activities that are considered to strengthen their social capital in the future. Initiatives to improve the quality of urban life, such as the smart city movement, also shape expectations and standards that are then internalized in parenting patterns and parents' aspirations for their children (Rojak, 2022). Behind these choices lies the hope that children will be able to compete in a tough job market and have the flexibility to move in various social spaces. However, the accumulation of planned activities can reduce children's opportunities to play freely, recognize their body rhythms, and develop spontaneous creativity. In the long term, this has the potential to affect the balance between academic ability and emotional well-being. Children may perform well at school but face difficulties managing stress, taking initiative without guidance, or enjoying quiet time without tasks. The tension between the drive for achievement and the need for rest is one of the defining characteristics of parenting in big cities (Fong et al., 2012).

Some urban families try to balance the pressure to achieve by developing parenting patterns that are more responsive to children's emotional needs. They try to provide space for dialogue, listen to complaints, and acknowledge children's feelings when they face failure or conflict with peers. In families like this, reprimands and rules tend to be conveyed through explanation, not threats. Children are encouraged to understand the reasons behind a prohibition, to think about the impact of their actions, and are given the opportunity to express their views. This parenting approach can also strengthen the relationship between children's psychological well-being and the quality of their social interactions, a relationship that has been reconstructed through social exchange theory in a cross-cultural perspective (Oluwatosin & Darmawan, 2024). This approach supports the development of emotional regulation, empathy, and a sense of personal responsibility. Children learn that mistakes can be discussed, rather than something to be hidden. However, parenting that is highly focused on dialogue also demands great emotional capacity from parents, who may be struggling with work fatigue. When fatigue is not managed, the intention to be warmly present can turn into irritation, making it difficult to maintain the ideal consistency of parenting (Prevo & Tamis-LeMonda, 2017).

In many urban families, parenting patterns are shaped by the involvement of various figures, not limited to fathers and mothers. Domestic helpers, professional nannies, teachers at early childhood education institutions, and even grandparents often contribute to children's daily lives. This fragmentation of parenting can enrich children's social experiences, as they learn to interact with adults who have different styles of interaction. However, differences in values,

rules, and expressions of affection from each adult figure can cause confusion. For example, a ban on the use of gadgets enforced by parents may be relaxed by caregivers to calm the child. Or, a gentle reprimand at home may contrast with a harsher approach at school. Children need to process these diverse messages, determine which ones to follow, and how to interpret the inconsistencies among the adults they rely on. This process greatly influences the formation of a sense of security and clarity of behavioral boundaries (Féres-Carneiro et al., 2016).

Digital technology has become an integral part of urban family parenting patterns. Many parents use gadgets as a means of communication, entertainment, and learning media for children (Chen, 2023). On the one hand, access to educational materials, picture stories, and creative videos can broaden children's horizons, encourage curiosity, and enrich their vocabulary. On the other hand, excessive use of gadgets has the potential to reduce face-to-face interaction, disrupt sleep patterns, and reduce opportunities for children to develop gross motor skills through physical play. Screen time management is one of the parenting challenges that continues to be negotiated. Children are often more interested in fast visual stimuli, while parents try to instill habits of reading, exercising, and interacting directly. The quality of technology-related communication is an important factor: whether parents simply prohibit and cut off access, or engage children in dialogue about the reasons for restrictions, the risks of certain content, and healthier alternatives (Apdillah et al., 2022).

Parenting in urban families is also closely related to the formation of children's social identity. Cities offer a wide diversity of social classes, ethnicities, religions, and lifestyles. Parents are faced with the question of how to explain differences to their children without fostering prejudice, while also protecting them from experiences of discrimination. Some families choose school environments and neighborhoods that are considered safe and homogeneous, while others deliberately place their children in more diverse spaces so that they become accustomed to living with differences. The way parents explain the family's economic status, respond to children's comments about richer or poorer friends, or address questions about the religious background of classmates will influence the formation of children's social attitudes. In a competitive urban environment, there is a risk that children will absorb a sharp logic of comparison, measuring self-worth based solely on material possessions or achievements (Denisenkova & Taruntaev, 2023).

The dimension of discipline is an important component in urban family parenting patterns. Parents are faced with a choice between strict, lenient, or balanced models of discipline. Work pressure, fatigue, and anxiety about the future often cause some parents to lean towards quick corrective measures, such as shouting or threatening punishment, to control their children's behavior. Meanwhile, others try to avoid physical punishment and emphasize logical consequences, such as reducing playtime when children break agreements. How families manage discipline will influence how children view authority and rules. Consistent discipline, accompanied by easy-to-understand explanations, can foster a sense of security and trust that rules are made to protect, not just to control. Conversely, discipline that varies according to the parent's mood risks causing confusion, a sense of unfairness, and a tendency for children to comply only when under strict supervision (Coyne et al., 2017).

Urban families are also faced with the question of how much independence should be encouraged in children from an early age. In urban environments, which are often perceived as less child-friendly, parents may tend to be protective, limiting outdoor activities and closely supervising their children's social interactions. These measures may provide short-term security, but if they are not accompanied by gradual opportunities to make their own decisions, children may find it difficult to manage risks and responsibilities when they enter higher education or the world of work. Conversely, parents who let go of their children too quickly without adequate guidance expose them to risks that they are not yet able to handle. Balanced parenting between protection and trust requires sensitivity in reading the child's readiness, as well as the courage to accept that the process of independent learning is always accompanied by the possibility of mistakes. The way families manage these stages of independence affects children's self-confidence, problem-solving skills, and courage to face new challenges (Ghiță & Szekely, 2023).

The implications of urban family parenting patterns on children's emotional development are very prominent. Children who grow up with sufficient emotional presence from their parents tend to have a better capacity to recognize, name, and control their feelings. They learn that anger, sadness, anxiety, or jealousy are part of life experiences that can be processed through conversation. The ability to manage emotions in daily life is an important foundation for improving overall psychological well-being (Irfan & Darmawan, 2021). On the other hand, children who receive the message that expressing emotions is a sign of weakness or disorder are at risk of suppressing their feelings, which then manifest in the form of outbursts of anger, aggressive behavior, or social withdrawal. Cities with high levels of stimulation can exacerbate the situation if families do not provide a calm space for children. Therefore, the quality of emotional relationships at home, the way parents express and regulate their own emotions, and the habit of reflecting on children's daily experiences greatly influence the emotional stability and psychological resilience that they will carry into adulthood (Féres-Carneiro et al., 2016).

In the realm of social development, urban family parenting patterns shape how children relate to peers and authority figures outside the home. Children who are accustomed to engaging in family dialogue, where their opinions are heard and valued, tend to have the courage to express their thoughts in class, negotiate when disputes arise, and respect differences. They learn that honest and polite communication can resolve many issues. Conversely, children who often experience verbal abuse, physical violence, or emotional neglect at home are at risk of reproducing these patterns in their

relationships with friends, for example through bullying or excessive withdrawal. The dense urban environment provides many opportunities for interaction, but the quality of these interactions depends heavily on the social skills initially formed in the family. Here, parenting that model's empathy, the ability to apologies, and respect for personal boundaries becomes an important foundation for lifelong social skills.

The dimension of moral development in urban families is closely related to how parents explain rules, values, and the consequences of actions. Big cities often present contradictory examples to children: on one street they see honesty campaigns in schools, while on another they hear news about corruption, violence, or fraud. In this environment, parenting that consists only of prohibitions without explanation is inadequate. Children need help interpreting the events they witness, connecting them to the values taught at home, and understanding that behavior that appears beneficial in the short term can cause great harm to themselves and others. When parents consistently align their words and actions, for example by obeying traffic rules, being honest even when it is financially disadvantageous, and treating domestic workers with respect, children gain concrete examples of integrity. Conversely, inconsistency between teachings and daily behavior will cloud their developing moral compass.

Overall, urban parenting patterns display a combination of modern aspirations, time constraints, competitive pressures, and parents' sincere desire to see their children grow up healthy and successful. Variations in these patterns result in widely diverse experiences of child development, ranging from children who feel supported and listened to, to children who feel pressured by high expectations or confused by conflicting messages. Analysis shows that the quality of emotional presence, consistency of rules, how families manage technology, and strategies for balancing protection and independence are key factors that influence children's emotional, social, and moral development. Understanding the complexity of these parenting patterns is an important basis for designing interventions, policies, and parental support programmers in urban areas.

## CONCLUSIONS

This study shows that changes in modern family norms in urban communities have resulted in new configurations of gender relations, division of authority, and highly layered parenting patterns. Families combine traditional values with aspirations for equality, making the household an arena for continuous interpretation of domestic tasks, emotional presence, and parenting responsibilities. In this process, fathers and mothers negotiate their work positions, division of household tasks, and how to make decisions concerning their children's future. Children grow up observing how adults establish rules, resolve conflicts, and express affection and assertiveness. Various parenting patterns that emerge in urban environments, ranging from achievement-oriented parenting to approaches that are more responsive to emotional needs, have direct consequences for children's emotional, social, and moral development. These findings confirm that the quality of family relationships, consistency in rules, management of technology, and a balance between protection and independence are important determinants in shaping urban children to be mature, empathetic, and resilient.

The findings of this study indicate the need to strengthen structural support for urban families so that they are able to provide parenting that is in line with children's developmental needs. Educational institutions, health services, and work units need to view the family as the first learning space for emotional regulation, social ethics, and respect for gender equality. Parenting support programmers in urban areas should be designed to help parents manage work pressures, plan quality time, and build honest communication with their children without neglecting necessary boundaries. Urban policies also need to provide space for family-friendly facilities, such as safe public spaces, affordable counselling services, and work schemes that allow parents to be present during important moments in their children's growth and development. In addition, public discourse on the ideal family should encourage appreciation for the diversity of urban family forms, so that parents are not trapped by standards that actually add to their psychological burden. Thus, the results of the study can be used as a reference in developing programmers that support the welfare of children and families.

Based on this literature review, several suggestions can be made to various stakeholders. For researchers, further studies are needed on children's experiences in more detail so that shifts in family norms and parenting patterns can be understood through their own voices, not solely from an adult perspective. For local governments and city administrators, it is important to expand policies that support work-family balance, including through more humane working hours, the provision of adequate childcare facilities, and the development of public spaces that support family interaction across social classes. For educational institutions and community organizations, the development of parenting education programmers that are sensitive to urban realities is a must, with materials that help parents manage technology, discipline, and their children's independence. Meanwhile, families themselves are expected to continue to cultivate habits of reflection, re-evaluate the parenting patterns they apply, and be open to new ways that better respect the dignity of each family member.



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