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Editorial

Sustaining family and mental health in contemporary societies underscores the point that there is a troubling storm within families. To sustain a healthy family, there must be a healthy family. There is something to sustain. Studies have shown that unresolved challenges in families inevitably lead to stress and mental health issues. They analyse how unstable families lose their social and health balance, whose consequences snowball into individual, family, and societal life. Based on the challenges that confront the family, this volume devotes itself to exploring the causes, dimensions, challenges, effects, and potential panaceas to the increasing ill-health in families across different spaces.

Sajo opens this volume with a critical evaluation of how mental health could be sustained in families in contemporary times. He argues that family mental health is integral to societal well-being. Contemporary pressures demand that families actively cultivate resilience, supportive relationships, and adaptive coping mechanisms. Policymakers, religious organisations, and health institutions must partner with families to reduce stigma, provide resources, and foster environments where families thrive.

The second article by Harold examines the critical intersection between psychology and evangelicalism, drawing biblical normativity and theological resources to establish the place of Christ in the redemptive work. He avers that evangelicalism and psychology are becoming increasingly relevant and effective in helping counselees grow both spiritually and emotionally by acknowledging their Christian values and assisting them in understanding their emotional pain and social issues. The paper offers counsellors and psychologists a Christian worldview rooted in the Evangelical tradition, serving as a framework to support and guide counselees

when they bring religious experiences and concerns into therapy and counselling. Following this is Ayokunle's article, which argues that there is a connection between migration and mental health. For Ayokunle, as humans migrate from place to place, they either encounter health issues in their host communities or carry health challenges. Thus, migrants should have access to information about their health status and the places they migrate to.

On their own, Gire and Oladapo explore the complexities of family mental health and well-being in contemporary society. They argue that despite the scientific and technological advances the world has made, along with all its challenges, biblical principles remain relevant to addressing them. The vagaries of contemporary life are the subject of biblical contemplation. Audu and his colleagues conducted an empirical study to investigate the correlation between poverty and family mental health in Ayingba, central Nigeria. They argue that poverty results in social stigma, which in turn causes mental ill-health. They submit that addressing the viscerogenic needs of the family is a catalyst for sustaining family health. Irewole and Femi-Bamidele further develop this argument by asserting that the effects of poverty on a family cannot be overstated. They conclude that addressing poverty in families will lead to a healthy family life in all ramifications.

Onuchukwu argues that choosing the right marriage partner is fundamental to achieving and sustaining family mental health. A wrong spouse, he argues, would instigate stress and problems that would undermine a family's mental health. He therefore suggests that emotions and physical attractions are not the fundamental values for choosing a spouse; spiritual guidance would be needed to complement them. Bolaji and Balogun argue for the place of children in mainstreaming mental health in a family. They believe that godly children are critical assets to family mental health; thus, guiding them properly and biblically will help them to perform their designated roles in the family. Agboifo further explores the place of

children in the family and their correlation with mental health. Since dysfunctional families could produce unadjusted children, he recommends that the services of pastoral caregivers are crucial in turning the tide around. Closely knitted to Agboifo's view is Babalola's, who vigorously argued that pastoral care and counselling are all too important to maintain and sustain family mental health. Pastoral intervention in stressed families can help restore trust and love, and heal the entire family, he submitted. Ibrahim also follows this trajectory of pastoral care-giving as indispensable to addressing family challenges. He highlighted the causes of family mental health challenges and suggested that bible-based pastoral counselling can serve as a worthy intervention. Oyewole also argued along this line that family health challenges can be addressed through informed pastoral care-giving in addition to other socially approved measures. For Rhodolf, the nexus between family system theory and its implications for mental health and well-being within the Ghanaian socio-cultural context cannot be overemphasised. He advocated for a family-centred, contextually grounded approach, calling for integrated pastoral and psychosocial frameworks that reinforce family systems, mitigate stigma, and promote sustainable mental health interventions within Ghanaian society.

These articles explored critical areas of family mental health and proffer intellectual, spiritual, and practical solutions that can mitigate the challenges. While welcoming you to savour these interesting articulations of ideas, it is essential to acknowledge that the contributors are responsible for the accuracy of the ideas in their articles.

Benson O. Igboin
Editor-in-Chief

ETHICAL VIEWS ON FAMILY STRUCTURE AND MENTAL HEALTH OF CHILDREN IN SOUTH-WESTERN NIGERIA

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Abstract

This study investigates the ethical implications of family structure on children's mental health in contemporary times, framed within virtue theory. The purpose of this study is to identify and present an ethical perspective on family structure factors that can influence children's mental health both positively and negatively, using ethical and biblical standards. The population consists of all churches in the Ibadan North Baptist Association, and the sample comprises 10 married individuals. The instrument for the study is an interview. It examines how various family structures: monogamous, polygamous, nuclear, extended, and single-parent affect children's psychological well-being. The findings identify factors responsible for the child's mental health challenges, such as neglect, poor nutrition, hereditary influences, and peer group health. It also highlights the importance of holistic care, adherence to biblical principles, and ethical parenting practices as key instruments for promoting mental health in children. The study offers several recommendations, including fostering peace in families, providing quality education, enhancing children's self-esteem, and favouring monogamous family structures for stability.

Keywords: Family Structure; Mental Health; Children; Ethics; Virtue Theory; Biblical Principles; Contemporary Times.

Introduction

The family is a fundamental social institution that serves as the cornerstone of human development and societal stability. Defined as a group of individuals connected by blood, marriage, or adoption, the family plays a crucial role in shaping the character, values, and mental health of its members (Foluke-Ola 2024, vi). In African societies, family structures have traditionally been diverse, ranging from nuclear, single and extended families to polygamous and monogamous arrangements. These structures have historically provided support systems that fostered strong interpersonal relationships and communal living. However, contemporary times have brought significant changes to these traditional setups due to modernisation, urbanisation, and technological advancements. These shifts have raised critical questions about how evolving family structures influence the mental health of children, who are particularly vulnerable to changes in their immediate environment. The concept of family has undergone considerable transformation in the modern era (Gardon 2025). In urban areas across Africa, the nuclear family, comprising parents and their children, has become more prevalent than the extended family system that once dominated rural communities (Balogun, 2023, 108).

This shift is attributed to factors such as industrialisation, economic pressures, and the influence of Western culture. While nuclear families offer privacy and independence, they often lack the robust support networks characteristic of extended families. The erosion of these traditional support systems has implications for children's mental health, as they may face challenges such as neglect, isolation, and inadequate emotional support. Scholars have noted that the quality of family interactions significantly impacts children's psychological well-being, making it imperative to examine how contemporary family structures affect their mental health outcomes (Makiwane and Kaunda, 2018). The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights underscores the importance of the family as the "natural unit and basis of society," advocating for its protection and

preservation (Makiwane and Kaunda, 2018). This recognition aligns with global principles such as those outlined by the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), which emphasises the role of families in fostering societal development (Department of Societal Development, 2024). Despite these affirmations, contemporary challenges, such as economic instability, migration, and shifting gender roles, have disrupted traditional family dynamics. These disruptions often manifest in the form of single-parent households, blended families, and even same-sex parenting arrangements, each presenting unique ethical considerations regarding children's upbringing and mental health. The mental health of children is a critical aspect of their overall development and well-being. It encompasses emotional, psychological, and social dimensions that enable individuals to cope with life's challenges, build meaningful relationships, and make informed decisions. Research indicates that a child's mental health is profoundly influenced by his or her family environment, including parenting styles, socioeconomic status, and familial relationships (Amoran, 2019, 85).

Methodology

This study employs a qualitative approach, utilising interviews. Relevant books and articles on family structure and children's mental health were analysed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the topic. The population consists of all churches of the Ibadan North Baptist Association, and the sample comprises 10 married individuals. The instrument for the study is an interview. Data were collected using purposive sampling of 10 parents (male and female) living with at least one child. Virtue theory serves as the theoretical framework for analysing ethical behaviours within family dynamics. This approach highlights the importance of moral living in creating nurturing environments for children.

Family Structure in Africa

African societies traditionally value family cohesion as the

cornerstone of societal stability. Family structures range from nuclear families to extended setups and polygamous systems. "The African family charter recognises the family institution as a foundation for society. This is the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) guiding principles, which recognised the family as the basic unit of society, thus societies are encouraged to strengthen this institution" (Makiwane and Kaunda, 2018). The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights also recognises the family as the foundational unit of society, although modern influences, such as industrialisation and religion, have shifted preferences toward monogamous families due to their perceived stability. Regardless of structure, families that adhere to ethical and religious principles tend to provide healthier environments for children (Department of Societal Development, 2024). Many of the social vices prevalent in society today can be attributed to inadequate or improper parenting (Ozegbe, 2020, 40). Bola Subair emphasised, when interviewed, that single parenting, working long hours, and not paying attention to what children do online have adverse effects on the children (Subair, Interview). Ilami also buttressed this information by affirming that the quality and cohesiveness of marital and family relationships go a long way to promoting the development of children (Ozegbe, 2020, 40). These discoveries highlight the importance of the family in any society. The family is grouped as nuclear or extended, monogamous or polygamous, polyandrous or polygynous (Foluke-Ola, 2024, vi). The family could also be traditional, conservative, religious, or indifferent to religion; civilised or uncivilised; educated or illiterate; and economically buoyant or not. Regardless of the category a family belongs to, it is the foundational unit in society.

The nuclear family typically consists of a father, a mother, and their children. In contrast, the extended family comprises the parents and children, as well as other family members, such as grandparents, cousins, aunts, and uncles, who live together. Polygamous families

usually have many children because the husband has many wives. In contrast, a monogamous family, most of the time, does not have many children because it is made up of the husband, just one wife, and their children. One husband and many women make up the polygynous family structure with many children. In contrast, the polyandrous family consists of one wife and many husbands, including their biological and adopted children (Foluke-Ola, 2024, vi). There are also single mothers or fathers occurring through widowhood or becoming parents through the use of modern fertility methods like In-vitro-fertilisation (IVF) and others. The number of children, as well as the economic status within a family, goes a long way in determining the kind of care that will be given to the young ones. This will be further explicated in the subsequent sections.

Biblical Views of Family Structure and Mental Health

Both the Old and New Testaments underscore the significance of raising children in righteousness. Proverbs 22:6 advocates for guiding children along moral paths to ensure their holistic development. For instance, Jacob's polygamous family experienced sibling rivalry due to favouritism, illustrating how conflicts within families can negatively impact children's mental health. This narrative emphasises the importance of adhering to God's design for families. Children are special gifts from the Lord and need good care for their holistic development. Psalm 127: 3 & 4 buttressed this fact, stating that "Children are the heritage of the Lord, and offspring a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, are children born in one's youth." In the Old Testament, it is of paramount importance for children to fear the Lord and obey His commandments as Shema commanded through Deuteronomy 6: 4-9. Parents who raise their children in the right way have them turn out right, without bringing disgrace upon the family. Similarly, Isaac was taught to fear God and please him. He became one of the patriarchs who inherited God's promises. King David was instructed in the Scriptures by his parents, and he developed himself spiritually to become very intimate with God. He wrote several parts of the Psalms, and God used him in

diverse ways.

In the book of Proverbs, many parts reveal the importance of leading the children in the path of righteousness. Almost all the children who pay close attention to their parents' warnings end up well and have a fulfilled life. Proverbs 4: 1-4 “Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law, for I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother. He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live (KJV).” Both parents have the responsibility of guiding and training the children. Comparing the families of Isaac and Jacob, Isaac had a monogamous family, while Jacob had a polygamous family, though not intentionally. Both had challenges, but one was more problematic than the other. The parents of Jacob showed favouritism towards the children, which led to rivalry between them.

On the other hand, Jacob's family had the first woman, Leah, who was unloved but gifted with children. Rachael was loved, but she was childless in the early years of her marriage. Polygamy, favouritism, and envy eventually led to hatred among the siblings, which led Joseph to be sold into slavery by his brothers. We cannot overlook environmental influences, either; Lot had a monogamous family; however, due to the uncondusive environment he lived in, he ended up having children with his daughters. Reflecting on this, it is clear that the Adamic nature is present in family members, regardless of the family structure. It is only by connecting to the Messiah, the anointed one, that transformation can occur in families, irrespective of their structure.

In the New Testament, Timothy was guided by his mother and grandmother, and he grew up to become an overseer in the kingdom of God. John the Baptist, as well as Jesus, were brought up daily in the temple, and they grew up in the love of God, fulfilling their God-given purpose.

Ethical View of Children's Mental Health

Ethics is the study of morality, how people behave, and the principles that guide individuals into good conduct, good behaviour, and a way of life that is correct and right. Christian ethics uses the word of God and the life of Christ as the standard. Ethics prioritise behaviours that promote well-being within families. Parents have a moral obligation to create environments conducive to their children's holistic development. Ethical considerations discourage practices such as neglect or favouritism that may harm children's mental health. Ronke Adeola identifies separation, divorce, and inappropriate parenting as causes of child neglect (Ronke Adeola, Interview). Modern trends toward smaller families reflect an increased awareness of the need for focused care and attention to individual children. Families that intentionally follow ethical principles are better equipped to address challenges affecting children's psychological resilience. According to J. H. Hyslop, "Ethics is the science of the phenomenon of human character and conduct and the art of directing the human will towards the ideal order of life." (Hyslop, 2017, 34). The family is unique in that it is the starting point for any child that comes into the world. Consequently, every family has the responsibility to establish a solid foundation for their children. A family structure that will adversely affect the development of the child is therefore discouraged. When starting a family, the couple, before getting married, needs to make concrete decisions on how the children they will have will be protected and provided for.

Culture is something that is highly valued in most communities around the world. As people get exposed, the value of children becomes more recognised. In many African cultures, especially in the past, the desire for many children stemmed from the belief that this would enhance their farm work and boost their social status. Nowadays, due to the influence of religion, education, civilisation, and industrialisation, many couples prefer a monogamous family structure. This will enhance the number of children that can be

catered for and also enable couples to have more time for their children. Child neglect is a major factor that affects mental health. Oluremi Adeleke mentioned the effects of child neglect on the emotions of the child, such as low self-esteem, disorientation, and mental illness (Adeleke, Interview). This discovery highlights the importance of parents intentionally guiding their children in the way of the Lord, making quality time for them, and providing for their basic and mental health needs, thereby supporting their mental health development.

Mental Health Needs of Children

Children's mental health is shaped by factors such as nutrition, education, family harmony, and access to healthcare. A stable home environment fosters emotional security and self-esteem in children. Causes of mental health issues include child neglect, exposure to trauma, poor nutrition, peer group pressures, drug abuse, and hereditary conditions. BosedeOgedengbe agreed that when children are not properly cared for, it leads to immorality, peer group influence, and bad behaviours (Ogedengbe, Interview). Promoting peace within households is crucial for creating nurturing environments where children can flourish emotionally and psychologically. A healthy and mentally balanced child usually originates from a family structure that is godly, educated, stable, and economically sustained, rather than from one that lacks all these good qualities (Peter, n.d., 113-115). Consequently, parents must guide against prioritising financial gain at the expense of their children's holistic development (Bolaji, 2012, 21). For children to develop to their full capacity, there is a necessity to promote their development right from the womb. This entails providing good nutrition for pregnant and nursing mothers, infants, children, and adults. Good and harmonious homes are also essential for good mental health. It is ethical to provide for the needs of children as parents and create a conflict-free environment.

Oyelade (2019, 34-35) has the same opinion in his book, that causes

of mental problems stem from inappropriate care of children, poor nutrition, negative peer group influences, lack of basic education, drug abuse, inadequate medical care, non-conducive environment, occultism, lack of discipline, exposure to rape, lack of self-esteem, child abuse, partial treatment of children, hereditary factors, rejection, abandonment, and exposure to immoral films among many others. Adeniji advocates that peace, rather than conflict, should be present in every home (Abraham, 2016, 61). A child living in a hostile environment will be negatively affected.

As a child grows, it is ethically essential to help them improve academically, spiritually, emotionally, socially, mentally and physically (Balogun, 2023, 21). Total or holistic childcare promotes every aspect of the child's development. This therapeutic practice does not mean over-pampering, but rather demands that a child's basic needs be met in all areas by the parents or guardian. Maslow's hierarchy of needs highlights the basic needs of all humans, including children (Maslow's Hierarchy of Need, 2021). Children have physiological requirements, just like adults, with cells, tissues, body systems, organs, and muscles that must be protected to prevent future health issues (Balogun, 2023, p. 41).

Children should be kept safe at home, school, or anywhere through monitoring, mentoring, and supervision. Children who are raised with love and a sense of belonging have psychological and mental soundness to face life and overcome problems without stress. This leads to the development of self-confidence and trust in God in children. These virtues can help them scale through life as a success. Assurance in God leads to good self-esteem, as the child is not afraid to move forward in life, seeing obstacles as tools and stepping stones to the next level through the power of God and diligence, ultimately leading to self-actualisation. Homes that are polygamous in nature or same-sex marriages may not be able to cope well with challenges in

the home.

Neglecting the child has immediate and future consequences for the child. Child neglect was not common in the past, especially in Africa, where every member of the extended family watched over the child (Amoran, 2019, 85). However, due to civilisation and postmodernism, child neglect is increasing in existence and incidence, affecting the development of the child. This is because the family cohesion that is seen in traditional family structures is being gradually eroded. Even though polygamy was the practice then, many families went to the farm together, and subsequently, children were not exposed to those things that could lead to mental issues, such as drug addiction, peer group influences, and child abuse.

Relationship between Family Structure and Mental Health of Children

The socioeconomic status and spiritual orientation of families significantly influence children's mental health outcomes. Healthy interactions within nuclear or extended families provide emotional support essential for development. However, large or dysfunctional families may struggle to offer individualised attention to each child. Modern practices such as same-sex parenting or gender transformation can introduce complexities that challenge traditional notions of family dynamics. Early exposure to education and religious values helps mitigate these challenges by fostering emotional balance. Civilisation that has crept in has reduced the level of interaction between nuclear and extended families. When social relationships are healthy and the economic status is ideal, it promotes the health of the children. Kuniyihop (2008, 40) declared, "Whatever happens to the individual happens to the whole group, and whatever happens to the whole group happens to the individual. Therefore, the individual can only say, 'I am because we are, and since we are, therefore I am.'" When individuals support one another in the community where they live, they overcome challenges more

effectively.

The family structure, where there is a kinship connection, promotes good mental health because the child has a strong support system to lean on. When a family structure is isolated from others, it can have a negative impact on the child. A large family will hinder total attention being paid to each of the children. A single family with children can also create problems for the children if adequate attention is not given to each child. In contemporary times, when lesbianism or gay practice is engaged in, this can bring confusion to the child. Another current practice is gender transformation, which refers to the efforts to address gender inequalities and the process of changing one's gender or identity (AI Overview, 2024). Children associated with such practices have their orientation adversely affected.

When children are introduced to godly values at home and are acquainted with correct religious circles, the Word of God, and prayer, they tend to become emotionally balanced. Early exposure to education boosts the child's mental health, mainly when they receive good care from infancy, getting all the necessary needs met. The truth of the matter is that regardless of a person's family status, the love, attention, and care they receive promote the child's development. Nonetheless, family structure aberrations such as same-sex marriage, polyandry, and polygamous families can make the child confused if not properly handled. Godly virtues in families enhance the development of mentally balanced children.

Protection and Promotion of Children's Mental Health in Families

Promoting children's mental health requires adherence to biblical principles that emphasise holistic care and discipline. Parents need to ensure conflict-free environments while respecting children's opinions and avoiding favouritism. Positive reinforcement builds self-esteem and resilience in children. Protecting children from harmful influences such as drug abuse or occultism is critical for their psychological well-being. Early intervention through education and

healthcare further supports their development into emotionally balanced individuals. Proverbs 22: 6, "Train up your child in the way he should go and when he is old he will give you peace", there is no controversy about this. Proverbs 29:17 similarly buttresses this statement. God created the family, comprising both male and female, as described in Genesis, and instructed them to have dominion, multiply, and subdue the earth. Following God's pattern for the family makes it easier to overcome challenges and guide children in the right direction in life.

The second important aspect in promoting the mental health of kids is to take very good care of all the children under the care of parents and guardians. Every child deserves to be treated kindly to maintain emotional health and carry out daily obligations without stress. No child should be unjustly beaten or abused by those around them. Many mental problems that adults have are usually linked to some bad happenings in childhood. Discipline is highly essential, but not synonymous with harming the child. Oguntade buttressed that those children suffering from abuse and neglect need to be treated when they have behavioural problems, to lessen the effects of abuse and neglect on them (Oguntade, Interview). Proper childcare is paramount to ensuring the young one's mental and emotional well-being. It is a virtue for parents to care adequately and appropriately for their children.

The third aspect is for children's opinions to be respected, and for their weaknesses not to be used to ridicule them. One child is not to be preferred over another, irrespective of the potential of one child over the other. The syndrome, "this is daddy's child and that mummy's child, must not be permitted in homes". The story of Isaac and Rebecca's family is a poignant reminder to eschew impartiality within families. A child needs to be assisted in loving themselves, believing in themselves, working on their weaknesses, and never feeling that it is impossible to accomplish life goals. A child should be surrounded

by things that can bring hope and joy, never to be looked down upon or rejected.

The fourth aspect is to claim God's promises for the children, which renew hope, increase one's faith in God, and build confidence. Parents should speak positive things into the lives of their children and never curse them. Oyelade (2019, 34-35) listed several ways to overcome poor self-esteem, including changing thought patterns through self-replacement, introducing correct biblical teachings, avoiding unhealthy conversations, setting realistic and attainable goals, fostering team spirit and networking, engaging in honest self-assessment, and cultivating self-acceptance and self-approval. What one thinks about matters a great deal; positive thoughts promote good self-esteem and facilitate one's quick achievement of goals. Children could be encouraged to feed their minds with God's Word and to read edifying books. Avoiding unhealthy talk is possible by associating with the right group of people who will not pollute the mind through unwholesome talk.

The fifth aspect of promoting the mental health of children is to protect them from anything that could affect their holistic development. Prompt medical attention, keeping them safe from hooligans/kidnappers and protection from diverse forms of abuse are essential for their mental health. Parents need to avoid conflict in front of their kids and let them see love in action between them. Divorce is discouraged among couples for the sake of their children and to honour the Word of God. Parents, schools, communities, and churches must ensure that children under their care are safe and well-protected. Discipline should be fair and not outrageous. Taking good care of children and early detection and treatment of health issues are also very important in families. Esther Oyegbile emphasises the importance of bearing the number of children that parents can cater for (Oyegbile, Interview). This will promote adequate care and attention for the children.

The sixth aspect of promoting the mental health of children is to ensure that children are not involved in drug abuse, alcoholism, or occultism. The sound knowledge of God's word is essential to instil the fear of God in children. When my brother was young and in secondary school, he was introduced to some bad boys who encouraged him to smoke cigarettes. As he was about to do this, he just remembered my father's warning concerning such things, and he dropped it and ran away from the bad boys. Teach, train, educate, encourage, warn, correct, and discipline your children in a manner that will matter.

The seventh way of preventing mental problems among children is to attend promptly to the needs of the children. This includes providing them with quality education early in life, meeting their basic needs, and offering them nourishing foods. In schools, training in good behaviour by students should be greatly emphasised. Attending fellowships is necessary to promote moral and spiritual values. Close attention, when paid to those with behavioural problems, will curtail mental problems among children. Churches and society should help disorganised homes quickly get out of them on time. WHO documented that low birth weight should be prevented and exclusive breastfeeding should be practised by nursing mothers to enhance the mental health of children (World Health Organisation, 2024).

Recommendations

In view of the findings, this study recommends the following:

- i. That parents ensure their children receive adequate nutrition, healthcare, and emotional support.
- ii. That families should avoid neglectful behaviours and harmful practices that could lead to mental health issues.
- iii. That both academic and spiritual education for children be given utmost priority.
- iv. That communities as stakeholders in children's training

- should actively monitor children's well-being.
- v. That peaceful and harmonious relationships within households are essentially upheld.
 - vi. That parents promote self-esteem by encouraging confidence in children to foster resilience.
 - vii. That monogamous family structures should be promoted to provide stability conducive to the healthy development of children.

Conclusion

Children are divine gifts requiring holistic care for their physical, emotional, spiritual, and psychological development. Neglect or dysfunctional family structures can lead to severe consequences for children's mental health. Ethical parenting practices rooted in biblical principles promote harmony within households while fostering resilience in children. Avoiding harmful influences such as drug abuse or favouritism ensures balanced development essential for future success. Others are harmful influences like homosexuality and gender transformation that can affect children negatively, which should be prevented.

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