Money Matters: Children's Perceptions of Parent-Child Financial Disclosure

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Parents' financial transparency is crucial for a child's development of money integrity. The article *"Money Matters: Children's Perceptions of Parent-Child Financial Disclosure"* explores how children perceive financial discussions with their parents. It is essential for parents to engage in financial conversations with their children from a young age, evenly between genders, even if it's not commonly practiced.

This research was performed on children under the age of 18. It was conducted to observe financial literacy in children but also to see if there was a discrepancy in different money topics and different genders. Researchers also observed children's ability to interpret their parents' financial disclosure or financial non-disclosure. The research question that this study wanted answered was "*What financial information do children perceive their parents have disclosed to them and concealed from them?*", "*Do the reasons children perceive their parents have or have not disclosed financial information differ depending on the child's sex?*" *What reasons do children perceive their parents disclose financial information to them or conceal financial information from them?*". The researcher believed that there were going to be some descriptions between genders in this study. The method used was participants. Since these were underage kids, there was a need for parental approval. The results of the study show that the response to parents' financial disclosure and knowledge of money varied by gender. Showing that boys were more educated on financial topics. Children still weren't fully knowledgeable about topics but were able to discern the reasoning behind them. This study is important because it shows that kids are able to understand more than what's expected of them. Also, it is important to note that girls are getting less financial knowledge from their parents, but almost half of the adults that are the breadwinners are women, which can put women at a disadvantage.

The research had **themes** that made certain arguments more plausible than others. The data portion showed that boys were more informed than girls about financial aspects. This makes the argument that parents disclose more financial information to their sons than to their daughters plausible. This is positive for the data because it supports the hypothesis that there is a disparity between genders in financial literacy. There are also themes of the majority not having any or little financial literacy, but a majority believing that their parents didn't disclose financial information. This study shows that children might not be able to analyze financial data but are very observant of their parents' approach to the matters.

Romo & Vangelisti's research consists primarily of **Self-reported data**. This method of data collection can have a lack of accuracy. Factors like social desirability bias and recall bias can impact the outcome of this kind of research. Social desirability bias is when a test subject answers questions based on how it may make them look. This could be a high possibility in this research, given that the test subjects are kids. Kids have a habit of wanting to “please” adults/parents or their peers. That is why a lot of younger kids would tell an adult, “Look what I can do” when they learn a new skill. Recall bias can be a factor due to the test subject being human. It may be hard for children to remember information such as income and budgeting, making it not as reliable of information.

Reference

Romo, L. K., & Vangelisti, A. L. (2014). Money matters: Children's perceptions of parent–child financial disclosure. Communication Research Reports, 31(2), 197–209. https://doi.org/10.1080/08824096.2014.907147