



ANTICIPATING THE FUTURE: THE PARADIGM OF FOSTER CARE IN SOCIETY

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Article Info	ABSTRACT
<p>Keywords: Paradigm, Foster Care, Society</p>	<p>The dynamic and rapidly changing development of modern society has transformed the paradigm of foster care from traditional to more inclusive, flexible, and child-centred approaches. This paper discusses this shift, identifies influencing factors, and outlines its societal impacts and implications. The effects of urbanization, changing work patterns, and transitions in societal values on the role of foster caregivers are elaborated in detail. The traditional paradigm of foster care, involving nuclear families and gender roles, is also analyzed. Subsequently, the transition towards a future paradigm that is more inclusive, flexible, and child-centred is presented, emphasizing the parts of technology, education, and collaboration between biological parents and extended families. Despite the challenges and obstacles in adopting this new paradigm, community collaboration in supporting teaching and understanding and real-world examples of successful community transitions indicate positive potential in nurturing foster children. In conclusion, this new paradigm necessitates improved experience, close collaboration, education, and skill development to create an environment that supports and fosters children's academic, social, and emotional growth in an ever-evolving society.</p>

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INTRODUCTION

In the context of social services for children, social service providers need to understand the significance of social relationships and social interactions. These providers should use these relationships and social interactions as tools to support the development of children, providing motivation, encouragement, and support and applying various techniques that aid in self-development (Sungkono, 2021). In an ever-evolving and rapidly changing era, the role of foster care has become increasingly important. This change is closely linked to a significant shift in traditional concepts of family and its responsibilities, driven by changes in lifestyle, work structures, and social relations. In this context, the role of foster care is not merely an optional alternative but has profound and significant implications for the social fabric of modern society.

One central factor influencing the evolution of the foster care role is the transformation of family structures. High demands for employment and greater geographical mobility often characterize modern society. As a result, parents face difficulties balancing their dedication to their careers and family responsibilities. Foster care emerges as an essential partner that provides much-needed assistance in ensuring future generations' well-being and adequate upbringing.

Comprehensive care for foster children aims to ensure their survival and to develop their potential and interests optimally. In this way, it can create an environment that allows foster children to grow and develop into individuals capable of reaching their full potential, providing brighter prospects for their future and positively contributing to society (Afriani et al., 2021). The developmental function in foster care primarily emphasizes empowerment to unearth, develop, and utilize individual potential and abilities in line with the situations and conditions faced (Khoirunnisa et al., 2015).

However, the role of foster care is more comprehensive than being a mere substitute for parents. They are also responsible for providing optimal education and guidance for the children they care for, especially in an environment full of activities and competition; foster care can be a supportive partner in children's intellectual, emotional, and social development. Moreover, they can facilitate the development of skills and interests and the application of positive values that encourage children to contribute positively to social life. The role of foster care in the substitute parent role is crucial. Caregivers in foster homes, as substitute parental figures, are responsible for providing strong motivation to foster children in their educational and developmental journey. They must serve as role models and motivators for children to pursue knowledge and make the most of the knowledge they acquire.

Additionally, the role of the facilities and infrastructure provided by foster homes is vital. These facilities must be well-designed and maintained to meet the basic needs of foster children, including shelter, food, and a safe environment. These are critical components in providing a solid foundation for the development of foster children, who will play an essential role as a quality generation capable of positively contributing to society in the future (Kulsum et al., 2023).

The services provided to foster children, in the form of meeting basic needs such as shelter, food, education, spiritual guidance, and skill development, represent a comprehensive approach to social welfare. These services aim to create an environment that supports the holistic development of these children. Providing basic facilities, such as a safe place to live and adequate food, forms the basis for physical and health development (Lestari, 2016). Quality education is the key to opening up better future opportunities. Spiritual guidance helps them in finding meaning and values in their lives. Meanwhile, skill development equips children with practical abilities to help them become independent and productive. Through this approach, foster children are expected to optimally develop their potential, unique interests, and skills, enabling them to positively contribute to society as they grow and develop into stronger individuals (Afriani et al., 2021).

The importance of diversified experiences for foster children must be considered in the increasingly diverse social and cultural landscape. Typically, foster children come from diverse cultural and social backgrounds, providing opportunities for children to encounter various perspectives, values, and experiences. This diversity can help children develop a broader view of the realities of the world around them while stimulating the development of tolerance and appreciation for diversity. Furthermore, in this era of technological advancement and enlightenment, foster children play a crucial role as facilitators in introducing children to new technology, foreign languages, and global perspectives, an inseparable aspect of preparing the next generation with adequate capabilities to face the increasingly complex global challenges.

In the context of modern society characterized by consistent dynamics and change, the role of foster care has reached an increasingly urgent status. More than just allies in dealing with the busyness of parents, they also substantially contribute to the holistic development of children in various aspects of life. Furthermore, foster care brings diverse perspectives and supports preparations for the increasingly complex challenges faced by future generations. Therefore, modern society must provide recognition and optimal support for the crucial role of foster care in shaping a better future. The paradigm shift in foster care, from the past to the present, reflects society's adaptation to new demands and expectations in child care and upbringing.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research will be conducted using the literature review or literature-based research method. This method involves the analysis of relevant texts and literature sources related to the research topic. The following are the methodological steps that will be used:

- a. **Topic Identification:** Identifying the research topic to be examined through a literature search. The relevant topic is the paradigm shift in foster care towards inclusivity and child-centeredness in modern society.
- b. **Literature Search:** Conducting a literature search through scientific journal databases, books, articles, reports, and other text sources related to the research topic. The search will be systematic to ensure that all relevant sources are found.
- c. **Source Selection:** Selecting sources by examining abstracts, titles, and content to ensure relevance to the research topic. Only relevant and high-quality sources will be included in the analysis.
- d. **Critical Analysis:** Conducting a critical analysis of the selected sources. The analysis includes deeply understanding the literature's perspectives, arguments, findings, and implications.
- e. **Synthesis of Findings:** Synthesizing findings from various literature sources involves grouping similar findings, identifying differences in opinions, and formulating a holistic view of the topic.
- f. **Report Writing:** The findings and analysis obtained will be summarized in a literature review report. The report will provide an overview of the paradigm shift in foster care, the factors influencing the change, its impacts, and real-world examples of communities adopting the new paradigm.
- g. **Conclusion:** The literature review report will conclude with a summary that outlines a general perspective on the paradigm shift in foster care, its societal implications, and recommendations for further research or possible actions.

This literature-based research method will provide in-depth insights into the paradigm shift in foster care in modern society based on the analysis of relevant literature.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Changes in Social Dynamics Impacting the Role of Foster Care

Changes in social dynamics have significantly impacted the role of foster care in modern society. Social welfare services for foster children have become a crucial foundation in ensuring the physical, mental, and social well-being of these children. These efforts provide foster children with broad, appropriate, and adequate opportunities for personal growth and development, which is highly relevant to being part of the nation's future generation, actively contributing to nation-building. Ensuring that basic needs such as food, shelter, and education are met opens doors for foster children to lead healthy and productive lives. Furthermore, social welfare services must also provide the necessary psychosocial support to help overcome emotional and social challenges that may arise from their previous experiences. In this way, a strong foundation can be provided for the balanced development of foster children and their contribution to national development (Qamarina, 2017).

The diverse background of social and economic life, coupled with differences in the characteristics and personalities of each individual, are significant factors influencing the lives of foster children. Foster children often come from various backgrounds, including families facing economic difficulties, unstable family situations, or traumatic experiences. Therefore, foster children adapt to a new environment, interact with caregivers and fellow foster children, and adhere to the rules, values, and norms prevailing in that environment. This adaptation process can be a significant challenge, as it involves dealing with complex differences in previous life experiences. Therefore, caregivers need to provide vital support, development-oriented services, and a safe and supportive environment so foster children can overcome these challenges and grow into strong and independent individuals (R. Nur et al., 2015).

Social dynamics encompass changes in values, norms, social interactions, and relationships between individuals and groups. Some significant changes that have influenced the role of foster care include the following:

- a. **Gender Role Changes:** Changes in gender roles in modern society have affected the dynamics of the foster care role. In the past, child-rearing was generally considered the responsibility of women in the family. However, with more women participating in the workforce and being active in social activities, the role of men in childcare has become more significant, leading to the need for more active involvement of foster children, regardless of gender differences.
- b. **Increased Job Mobility:** Globalization and technological advancements have increased job mobility. Parents may need to move to different locations for work, which can separate them from their children. As a result, foster care becomes more critical in ensuring the well-being of children while their parents are away.
- c. **Diversification of Family Models:** Modern society witnesses various family models, including couple-based families, single-parent families, and blended families. These models can lead to different childcare needs. Foster children can play roles in various family configurations, from providing support to busy couple-based families to becoming stable figures in the lives of children in single-parent families.
- d. **Increased Awareness of the Importance of Child Education and Development:** Modern society is increasingly aware of the importance of child education and development in achieving success in the future. Therefore, the role of foster care is not limited to daily caregiving but also includes education that stimulates children's intellectual, emotional, and social development.
- e. **Flexible Work Dynamics:** Many modern parents face flexible work schedules or work-from-home situations where foster children need to support children in a constantly changing environment and adapt to the inconsistent schedules of their parents.
- f. **Influence of Technology and Social Media:** Technological advancements and social media have changed how children interact and access information. Foster children can play roles in helping children understand and adapt to technology, as well as helping manage the impact of social media on their social and emotional development.

These changes in social dynamics have altered the paradigm of the foster care role in modern society. Foster children are now expected to be more than just providers of physical care but also educators, holistic caregivers, and supporters of children's development in various aspects of life.

The Impact of Urbanization, Changing Work Patterns and Shifting Societal Values on the Role of Foster Care

Urbanization, changing work patterns, and shifting societal values affect the role of foster care in modern society.

- a. **Urbanization:** Urbanization, the migration of people from rural to urban areas, has transformed the social and family landscape. Parents tend to have hectic work schedules and high mobility in urban environments, which are often busy and competitive, making it challenging to provide adequate attention to their children. Consequently, foster care becomes increasingly important in assisting with childcare, education, and meeting the needs of children when parents are absent.
- b. **Changing Work Patterns:** Changes in work patterns, such as the rise of part-time work, freelance work, or remote work, have affected the availability of time and parental involvement in childcare. Modern parents may have irregular work schedules or work from home, which can impact direct interactions with their children and reinforce the need for foster care roles that provide caregiving and support to children, especially when parents are busy with work.

- c. **Shifting Societal Values:** The shifting values in society also impact the role of foster care. Parents may have higher expectations for their children's accomplishments in an increasingly individualistic society focused on personal achievement pressure children and require foster care roles to support their academic and emotional development.

Furthermore, a more inclusive and accepting society has also affected the role of foster care. Foster children often come from diverse cultural, social, and economic backgrounds, which creates opportunities for children to be exposed to diversity in values, perspectives, and experiences. In this regard, foster care becomes essential in helping children understand and appreciate diversity and assisting them in developing into tolerant and inclusive individuals.

Overall, the combined impact of urbanization, changing work patterns, and shifting societal values has altered the demands and expectations placed on the role of foster care. They are expected to provide physical care and to play a role in supporting children's intellectual, emotional, and social development. Foster care becomes a partner in helping parents ensure children's well-being and optimal development in this ever-changing world.

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Traditional Paradigm vs Future Paradigm

Elements of the traditional foster care paradigm (focus on the nuclear family and gender roles). The traditional foster care paradigm includes several vital elements typically seen in more conservative societies and closely related to cultural norms and values. Some of these elements include:

- a. **Focus on the Nuclear Family:** In the traditional paradigm, foster care may take place within a narrower scope of the nuclear family. Typically, close family members such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, or older siblings have a role in caring for children when parents cannot. The concept of the extended family plays a central role in childcare, and foster children often come from a known and recognized family environment.
- b. **Defined Gender Roles:** In the traditional paradigm, gender roles are often highly defined. Foster care responsibilities may be assigned based on traditional gender roles. For example, women may be more frequently responsible for caring for and nurturing children, while men are more involved in masculine activities. This concept reflects the division of tasks based on gender and social norms governing the roles of men and women in the family.
- c. **Cultural Solidarity and Social Identity:** Foster care in the traditional paradigm is often provided by family members or a community that has strong cultural and social ties to the nuclear family. It can create a sense of continuity in education, values, and norms passed down from previous generations. The cultural and social identity of foster children significantly influences their development.
- d. **Continuity of Roles and Values:** In the traditional paradigm, foster care is considered an extension of existing roles within the family or community. Values, traditions, and social norms are often preserved and transmitted through the care provided by foster parents to ensure the continuity of cultural values and norms passed down from generation to generation.
- e. **Dependence on Social Networks:** Foster care in the traditional paradigm often occurs within a robust social network. Extended family, neighbours, or community members have roles in helping care for and nurture children. Dependency on this social network reflects a sense of solidarity and interdependence within a particular cultural context.
- f. **Emphasis on Sustainability and Loyalty:** The traditional paradigm of foster care emphasizes the concepts of sustainability and loyalty to existing cultural norms and values. Foster children are expected to fulfil their roles by adhering to established traditions, often seen as having wisdom and good judgment.
- g. **Not Overly Formal or Structured:** In the traditional paradigm, foster care occurs naturally within the family or community context. There is no formal structure or contract governing the role of foster parents. Parenting tends to be organic and follows the flow of daily life.
- h. **Creation of Emotional Bonds and Identity:** Foster care in the traditional paradigm often creates solid emotional bonds between foster children and the nuclear family. Foster children are considered part of the family with close emotional ties and a strong sense of identity.
- i. **Acceptance by the Community:** The traditional paradigm often emphasizes the acceptance of foster children by the community. Foster children are considered essential contributors to their social and cultural environment, and the community respects and accepts their roles.
- j. **Transmission of Cultural Values:** Foster children in the traditional paradigm often transmit cultural values to younger generations. They help teach language, customs, and traditions important to children's cultural identity.

These elements reflect traditional views and practices in foster care heavily influenced by cultural values, social norms, and family structures within specific societies.

Shifting Towards a More Inclusive, Flexible, and Child-Centered Future Paradigm.

The shift towards a future paradigm in foster care reflects the evolution of a more inclusive, flexible, and child-centred society. This paradigm emphasizes the recognition of individual diversity, flexibility in caregiving roles, and a primary focus on the needs and development of children. Some key points in this shift include:

- a. **Inclusivity and Diversity:** The future paradigm in foster care places inclusivity as a top priority, includes accepting and recognizing the roles of foster caregivers from various

cultural, ethnic, gender, sexual orientation, and social status backgrounds, creates space for foster children with diverse experiences and perspectives, enriching children's experiences in an increasingly interconnected global context.

- b. **Flexibility in Family Roles and Structure:** This paradigm acknowledges that family structures can be diverse and flexible. Couple-based families, single-parent families, or families consisting of unrelated members can have roles as foster caregivers. This flexibility reflects the evolving societal values and allows each family to choose a foster care model that suits their needs.
- c. **Education and Holistic Development:** The future paradigm encourages foster caregivers to play a more active role in supporting the holistic development of children. They provide children with physical care, support, education, and social, emotional, and life skills to navigate a complex world. Foster caregivers become partners in shaping the character and personality of children.
- d. **Emotional Well-being Support:** Foster caregivers must help children cope with stress, anxiety, and emotional challenges in today's fast-paced and complex environment. The future paradigm in foster care involves providing vital emotional support and ensuring that children feel safe and valued.
- e. **Increased Parental Involvement:** This shift encourages more active parental involvement in foster caregiving. Parents are expected to stay connected with their child's development and collaborate with foster caregivers in optimizing education and care.
- f. **Technology and Information Access:** In the future paradigm, foster caregivers can also facilitate introducing technology, global knowledge, and information access to children to help children become more connected to the increasingly technologically advanced and globalized world.
- g. **Emphasis on Interpersonal Skills:** Foster caregivers in the future paradigm are encouraged to help children develop social and intercultural skills, including tolerance, empathy, cooperation, and an appreciation of diversity, which is essential in an increasingly global society.
- h. **Protection and Safety:** The future paradigm places child protection and safety as the top priority. Foster caregivers must understand children's rights better and take preventive actions against potential risks or abuses.
- i. **Active Child Participation:** Foster children in this paradigm encourage active child participation in decisions that affect their lives. They provide space for children to express their views, build self-confidence, and feel a sense of responsibility in their lives.

This shift reflects the aspiration to create a more inclusive, flexible, and child-focused caregiving environment. The future paradigm in foster care appreciates the complexity of modern society while providing more significant attention to children's happiness, development, and well-being.

Collaboration between Biological Parents and Foster Children can be Enhanced.

Effective collaboration between biological parents and foster children is critical to creating a positive caregiving environment and supporting the child's development. Here are some ways to enhance collaboration between them. **Open and Honest Communication:** In foster care, building a bond between caregivers and foster children through dialogue is an approach that aligns with scientific principles in child-rearing. Dialogue becomes an essential tool in educating and guiding foster children. When a child makes a mistake or violates rules, caregivers use dialogue to communicate the consequences of their actions. It is important to note that in this approach, punishments applied are not physical or physically harmful to the foster child. Instead, the punishments allow the foster child to self-reflect, acknowledge their mistakes, and learn from the experience, encouraging learning and moral development, which is crucial for the foster child's personality development. Thus, this approach reflects scientific principles in child rearing that focus on an approach that cares for the well-being and

development of the child with attention and awareness (F. Nur et al., 2022). Good communication is the foundation of successful collaboration. Biological parents and foster children need to talk openly and honestly about expectations, concerns, and the child's needs, which helps understand each other's viewpoints and find solutions together.

- a. **Information Sharing:** Biological parents and foster children should share important information about the child's health, development, and activities to help both parties stay informed and involved in the child's life.
- b. **Collaborating in Decision-Making:** Collaboration involves making joint decisions regarding the child's education, health, and overall life. Biological parents and foster children can discuss the best decisions that benefit the child.
- c. **Recognizing and Respecting Each Other's Roles:** Biological parents and foster children should respect each other's roles and contributions in the child's life to help create a positive and conflict-free environment.
- d. **Coordinating Schedules and Activities:** By coordinating the child's schedule and activities, a collaboration between biological parents and foster children can be enhanced, ensuring that all parties clearly understand when and how the child is being cared for
- e. **Involving the Child in Decisions:** The child should also be involved in decisions that affect their life. They should be allowed to express their opinions and desires regarding care and daily life.
- f. **Facing Challenges Together:** No situation is ideal without challenges. Biological parents and foster children must face challenges with an open mindset, seek solutions, and work towards the child's best interests.
- g. **Thinking Flexibly and Being Open to Change:** Successful collaboration involves openness to change. Biological parents and foster children must have a flexible mindset and be ready to adapt to evolving situations.
- h. **Jointly Supporting the Child's Well-being:** The primary focus of collaboration is the child's well-being. Biological parents and foster children should work together to create a positive environment, support the child's development, and ensure that the child's needs are met.
- i. **Involving Experts or Counselors When Needed:** If collaboration conflicts arise, involving experts or counsellors can help find the right solutions and balance roles and relationships.

Collaboration between biological parents and foster children is a journey that requires cooperation, understanding, and commitment from all parties involved. This collaboration can result in a balanced environment and optimal child development by prioritizing the child's well-being and working together in a positive spirit.

The Importance of Education and Skill Development for Foster Children.

Education and skill development for foster children are crucial in preparing them to face future challenges and become independent, competitive, and positively contributing individuals in society. An approach that fosters independence, discipline, and a sense of responsibility is essential in caring for foster children. In this context, paying attention to foster children goes beyond providing physical protection; it also aims to instill a strong understanding of their responsibilities towards themselves and the community around them. By encouraging the development of independence, foster children are encouraged to take initiative in managing their lives, learning to make the right decisions, and planning for the future. Additionally, discipline is a fundamental foundation for shaping the character of foster children, teaching the importance of obedience to rules and values. This approach can help foster children become resilient individuals ready to face challenges (Rambe & Lubis, 2023). Here are some reasons why education and skill development are essential for foster children:

- a. **Increased Knowledge and Abilities:** Education provides foster children with a broad foundation of knowledge. It helps them better understand the world, develop a deeper understanding of various topics, and acquire intellectual skills needed in daily life.

- b. **Development of Academic Skills:** Education helps foster children develop academic skills such as reading, writing, numeracy, and critical thinking. These skills are the basis for higher academic achievement and help children cope with challenges in formal education.
- c. **Development of Social Skills:** Foster children also learn to interact with peers teachers, and their social environment at school helps develop social skills such as cooperation, communication, empathy, and conflict resolution.
- d. **Increased Independence:** Through education, foster children can learn to be more independent in managing academic tasks and daily responsibilities. They develop time management skills, problem-solving abilities, and initiative.
- e. **Exposure to Diverse Skills:** In addition to formal education, foster children can develop other skills such as art, sports, music, languages, and technology, which opens up new opportunities and helps them explore diverse interests and talents.
- f. **Improved Career Opportunities:** Good education and mastered skills provide foster children with better opportunities to secure better jobs in the future. They have the knowledge and skills to compete in an increasingly competitive job market.
- g. **Character and Values Development:** Education also plays a role in shaping the character of foster children. They learn about moral values, ethics, responsibility, and leadership helps shape individuals with integrity and commitment to doing good.
- h. **Increased Self-Confidence:** Education and skill development give foster children greater self-confidence. They feel more prepared to face challenges and new opportunities and more capable of overcoming fear and uncertainty.
- i. **Enhanced Social Opportunities and Connections:** Through education, foster children can build broader social connections. They meet peers and mentors and have opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities and school events.
- j. **Preparing the Future Generation:** Foster children are the future generation that will face more complex and dynamic challenges. Education and skill development equip them with the necessary tools to adapt, innovate, and contribute to addressing global issues.

Education and skill development are long-term investments that benefit foster children, society, and the world. Therefore, providing support and opportunities for foster children to learn and grow is essential and valuable.

Barriers and Challenges That May Arise in Adopting the New Foster Care Paradigm.

The social issues that foster children face, especially those who have never received love and attention from their parents, are profound and complex in social welfare and developmental psychology. Children who grow up without parental care may experience a range of negative impacts on their development, including essential aspects such as emotional, social, and cognitive development. These children may struggle to form healthy interpersonal relationships, have low self-esteem, and experience psychological disorders. Scientific research on foster children with backgrounds like this has highlighted the importance of early and appropriate intervention to mitigate these negative impacts to help them grow and develop into more balanced and capable individuals who can positively contribute to society. Scientific studies have also shown that holistic social services, including psychosocial support and appropriate education, can play a crucial role in improving the quality of life of foster children and preparing them for a brighter future (Pratama & Sulaeman, 2016). Adopting a new foster care paradigm may face various barriers and challenges that must be overcome. Some of these include:

- a. **Traditional Norms and Culture:** Some societies still prioritize traditional norms and cultures that place foster children in limited contexts. Adopting a new paradigm may face resistance due to differing views on the roles and responsibilities of foster children.
- b. **Stigma and Stigmatization:** Foster children often face stigma and stigmatization from their surroundings. These challenges can affect their self-confidence and even hinder development opportunities.

- c. **Resource Limitations:** Families or parents adopting the new foster care paradigm may need to be improved financially and in terms of time, which can affect the quality of care and support provided to foster children.
- d. **Coordination Challenges:** Collaboration between biological parents and foster children, especially if they live in different places, can be challenging to arrange. Effective coordination and communication are required to maintain a healthy and sustainable relationship.
- e. **Foster Children's Emotional Response:** Foster children may have varied emotional responses to adopting the new paradigm. Some children may find it difficult to accept the role of being foster children and feel separated from their biological family.
- f. **Understanding and Education:** Challenges in understanding the new paradigm and the importance of inclusive foster care can affect the willingness to adopt this change. Proper education is needed to help dispel misconceptions and provide accurate information.
- g. **External Pressure:** Pressure from extended family, friends, or the general community can also influence the decision to adopt the new foster care paradigm. This pressure may come from negative opinions or scepticism about the change.
- h. **Regulatory and Legal Issues:** Some jurisdictions have complex regulations and laws related to foster care, significantly when differences in the legal status of biological parents and foster children can complicate the adoption or custody process.
- i. **Family Dynamics Changes:** Adopting the new paradigm can also trigger changes in family dynamics. As the roles and responsibilities of foster children change, it can affect the relationships between family members.
- j. **Emotional Uncertainty:** Foster children and biological parents may experience emotional uncertainty about this paradigm shift. Anxiety, worries, and fears may arise because they are unsure how this change will affect their relationships and lives.

In adopting the new foster care paradigm, it is essential to identify and address these barriers sensitively and thoughtfully. Social support, education, and open communication among all parties involved can help overcome these challenges and bring about positive changes in foster care.

The Role of the Community in Working Together to Overcome These Barriers.

The community can play a crucial role in helping to overcome the barriers that may arise in adopting the new foster care paradigm. Providing mentorship aimed at shaping foster children into emotionally mature individuals with adequate knowledge and relevant skills is an approach based on scientific principles of human development. This mentorship process involves systematic efforts to facilitate holistic individual growth. Firstly, emotional management is critical to helping children recognize, understand, and cope with their feelings healthily and adaptively involves learning self-control, empathy, and interpersonal skills. Secondly, providing adequate knowledge involves delivering quality education, promoting creative thinking, and providing a deep understanding of the world around them. Lastly, developing relevant skills includes mentoring practical skills such as effective communication, time management, and problem-solving. By following this approach, foster homes can ensure that foster children have a solid foundation to reach their potential, become productive members of society, and contribute positively to their future (Hartanti, 2022). Collaboration and mutual support can create a more inclusive and supportive environment for foster children and their families. Here are some ways the community can work together to overcome these barriers:

- a. **Education and Awareness Campaigns:** The community can provide educational programs and awareness campaigns to increase understanding of the importance of inclusive foster care paradigms, which can help dispel negative stereotypes and stigma associated with the roles of foster children.

- b. **Psychosocial Support:** The community can provide psychosocial support services for foster children, biological parents, and families. Adopting the new foster care paradigm helps them cope with emotional stress, confusion, and uncertainty that may arise.
- c. **Training and Skill Programs:** The community can develop training and skill programs for foster children and biological parents, including training on effective communication, positive parenting, adapting to change, and other skills that support healthy relationships.
- d. **Supportive Environments:** The community can create supportive environments for families adopting the new foster care paradigm, including support clubs, discussion groups, or community events that allow biological parents and foster children to interact and share experiences.
- e. **Advocacy and Empowerment:** The community can advocate for foster children and families, advocating for their rights and promoting a better understanding of the importance of inclusive foster care. It can also involve empowering foster children to speak about their experiences.
- f. **Setting Positive Examples:** Demonstrating positive examples of families successfully adopting the new foster care paradigm can inspire others to follow suit. Success stories can serve as inspiration and help overcome doubts.
- g. **Involvement in Policy and Regulation:** The community can contribute to formulating policies and regulations supporting inclusive foster care, involving advocacy groups, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders.
- h. **Educational and Training Opportunities:** The community can provide educational and training opportunities for foster children to develop their academic, social, and emotional skills, including support in both formal and non-formal education.
- i. **Positive Role Models:** Community members who serve as positive role models in supporting the foster care paradigm can provide inspiration and motivation to foster children and other families undergoing this change.
- j. **Appreciation of Diversity:** The community can appreciate and celebrate diversity in foster care. Recognizing the various backgrounds and experiences brought by foster children and families can help reduce stigma and promote inclusivity.

Through collective efforts and collaboration of diverse community members, barriers to adopting the new foster care paradigm can be overcome. Social support and a positive environment will create better conditions for the growth and development of foster children and the success of families adopting this change.

CONCLUSION

In a constantly changing and complex world, the role of foster children has undergone significant changes from traditional paradigms to a more inclusive, flexible, and child-centred approach. This new paradigm recognizes the needs of foster children in academic, social, and emotional development while maintaining collaboration between biological parents and foster children. Factors such as technological advancements, shifts in societal values, and economic dynamics play a significant role in changing how we perceive and care for foster children.

The importance of education and understanding within society to embrace these changes cannot be ignored. Support from the community and collaboration between biological parents and foster children are vital in ensuring balanced and meaningful development for foster children. The ability to overcome barriers and challenges that arise in adopting the new paradigm is also crucial, requiring cross-sector cooperation and active participation from the community. Real-life examples of communities that have successfully embraced an inclusive and child-centred foster care paradigm prove that such changes can create a better environment for foster children. By understanding this shift and with collective support, we can create a brighter future and provide better opportunities for every foster child to grow and develop into individuals with full potential, contribution, and respect within the broader society.

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