

**UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

**PARENTING STYLES AND  
PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN  
CHILDREN'S MUSIC LEARNING**

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## ABSTRACT

Parenting styles and parental involvement is an important factor in children's music learning. Baumrind's four parenting styles provided the framework for this study which aims to understand to what extent the parenting styles (*authoritative*, *authoritarian*, *permissive* and *uninvolved*) influence parents' involvement in their children's music learning. This study utilized a mixed methods approach and was conducted in two phases. A survey questionnaire was used for the quantitative method and interview questions for the qualitative method. In Phase 1, a total of two hundred ( $n = 200$ ) parents who sent their children to private music lessons participated in this study. For Phase 2, twelve respondents from Phase 1 were interviewed. All respondents from Phase 2 were parents from among the *authoritative* parenting style as no parents from the *authoritarian*, *permissive* and *uninvolved* parenting styles were willing to participate and be interviewed. To study the relationship between variables, Spearman's rank coefficient correlation was used. Findings indicated that overall, there were significant relationships between *authoritative* parenting style and parental involvement compared to parents who practiced the *authoritarian*, *permissive* and *uninvolved* parenting styles. *Authoritative* parenting style provides clear instructions and expectations for their children but at the same time still maintain love and consideration in their parenting strategies. Parents who provide support, encourage and monitor their children in music learning tend to set expectations for their children's success in music. The underlying belief among them is that music education offers many benefits to learn. The positive effects of music education on children have made them more motivated to provide their children with musical experiences. Parents in this study indicated that their personal growing up years and musical experiences taught them to value music education. Overall, the findings showed a majority of the parents who send their children to private music lesson sufficiently supports their children and are more willing to be involved in their children's music activities. Results showed a positive correlation between *authoritative* parenting style with all three parental involvement activities (*instruction*, *verbal reinforcement and support* and *monitoring*). The information gained from this study will help educators and researchers to better understand parental involvement and how it is related to parenting styles from among parents with children who are learning music.

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