

ABSTRACT

This study analyzes the role of family communication in the formation of gay individuals' identities in Indonesia through a qualitative approach utilizing in-depth interviews, observation, and documentation. Findings from ten participants selected through snowball sampling indicate that inclusive and supportive family communication is crucial in creating a conducive environment for the disclosure and acceptance of sexual identity. The role of conversation within the family, particularly when parents openly discuss sensitive topics like sexual orientation, tends to provide better support for gay individuals. Open discussions allow families to explore sexual issues more deeply, reduce conflicts, and create a safe space for self-expression. Conformity orientation within the family also plays a significant role. When parents accept and appreciate differences, the child feels more accepted and understood. An inclusive, open, and supportive family communication system helps gay individuals better navigate identity challenges. This study emphasizes the importance of open and inclusive family communication for the mental well-being of gay individuals.

Keywords: family communication, sexual identity, gay, conversation orientation, conformity orientation.