

ABSTRACT

A blended family is formed through remarriage, often presenting communication challenges and conflicts due to differences in background and expectations. This study aims to analyze how effective communication is applied in conflict management to foster emotional bonding among members of blended families. The research employs a qualitative approach with a phenomenological method, collecting data through in-depth interviews with three blended families in Bandung. The findings reveal that effective interpersonal communication—characterized by openness, empathy, supportiveness, positivity, and equality—plays a significant role in reducing conflict and nurturing healthy emotional relationships. Open and mutual understanding in communication helps bridge differences and creates a harmonious family environment. The study concludes that the success of conflict management in blended families is strongly influenced by the quality of communication among family members. These findings contribute to the development of family communication strategies and offer practical guidance for blended families in fostering harmony and building strong emotional bonds.

Keywords: *Blended Family, Interpersonal Communication, Family Conflict, Emotional Bonding, Effective Communication.*