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How Do We Perceive The Phenomenon of "Co-Parenting"? Do We Share Responsibilities Sufficiently?: A Bibliometric Study

Büşra Ergin¹

Selcuk University

Abstract

The primary objective of this study is to assess co-parenting research through bibliometric analysis. The documents under evaluation were sourced from the Web of Science (WoS) database. Initially, 473 studies were retrieved using keyword "co-parenting". Subsequently, after applying exclusion criteria, a comprehensive bibliometric and content analysis was conducted on the remaining 421 articles. These studies were classified and visually represented based on their characteristics. It was determined that the studies evaluated within the scope of the study were conducted between 1981 and 2023. The analysis revealed that the author with the highest number of publications was O. Cohen and the most productive institution was "University of Toronto". Co-parenting, divorce, parenting, and fathers emerged as the most frequently recurring keywords through co-keyword analysis. Furthermore, the study titled "The internal structure and ecological context of co-parenting: A framework for research and intervention" was identified as the most cited study through co-reference analysis. The study concludes that Paul R. Amato was the most influential author in the co-citation analysis, while Marsha Kline Pruett was the most influential author in the co-author analysis.

Key Words

Bibliometric analysis • Co-parenting • Content analysis • Family • Parent

¹**Correspondance to:** Selcuk University, Faculty of Education, Department of Preschool Education, Konya, Türkiye. E-mail: busraergin.selcuk@gmail.com, **ORCID:** 0000-0001-5177-7096

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Introduction

The phenomenon of co-parenting, characterized by its multidimensional and different dynamics, addresses the relationship between primary caregivers, typically mothers and fathers, within the context of their parental roles. The earliest known study on this concept (Ernst & Altis, 1981) explicates the principles of co-parenting, emphasizing the need for equal participation, shared responsibility, and cooperation, especially following divorce. This phenomenon, which gained popularity in the 2000s, has been the determining factor in the family roles of couples committed to maintaining family integrity. Therefore, the perspective that this concept constitutes a significant element within the family system has gradually gained acceptance over time, leading to a notable surge in both descriptive and experimental studies on the subject. The evidence presented by the studies shows that the concept of co-parenting has an impact on children, relationships between spouses and parental behaviors (Katz & Low, 2004; Li et al., 2020; McLanahan & Beck, 2010; L. Ren et al., 2020; Sznitman et al., 2019). In this regard, it is of immense value to assess the current state of research concerning the co-parenting phenomenon and to formulate prognostications for the future. Such an evaluation is possible by examining the relevant documents in the literature.

When analyzing studies on the concept of co-parenting in Turkey, it becomes evident that the number of studies on this subject is rather limited. Notably, there have been recent studies conducted with married couples (Özdemir et al., 2020a; Özdemir et al., 2020b; Özdemir & Sağkal, 2020c; Özdemir et al., 2021; Salman-Engin et al., 2018; Salman-Engin et al., 2019), but research involving divorced parents (Erdemir-Aşıkoğlu, 2022) remains scarce. When examining empirical and review studies on this concept in the international literature (Amato, 2005; Carneiro et al., 2017; Francia et al., 2019; Jaffe et al., 2008; Molla-Cusi et al., 2020; Nunes et al., 2021; Xiao & Loke, 2021), it is apparent that these publications are both older and more numerous compared to those in Turkey. Additionally, it has been observed that various perspectives have been employed to understand the concept. In order to increase the number of studies on the concept of co-parenting in Turkey, where the subject is evaluated in a narrow framework, it is considered extremely important to examine the international literature and identify the gaps and unevaluated aspects of the subject. It is thought that the guidance provided by the documents analyzed by bibliometric analysis (providing concrete data on qualities such as keywords and productivity) will make a significant contribution.

Bibliometric analysis encompasses methods that allow the evaluation of cumulative publications on the subject based on specific criteria. It is an ideal method to identify researchers, groups, publications, countries as well as institutions' contribution to the relevant field, subject or concept. It saves time and prevents researchers from getting lost in piles of data. In this way, researchers can explore their field of study by seeing the most effective studies instead of reading the entire literature (Öztürk & Kurutkan, 2020). The bibliometric analysis method has become more preferable because the global problems have changed the study habits of researchers, the masses of information and the ways of obtaining information have changed with the spread of digital technologies and it provides more concrete data compared to other compilations.

When the studies conducted with this analysis method in Turkey were examined (Akin & Kurutkan, 2021; Ekşi et al., 2022; Gülmez et al., 2021; Gürsoy & Çolak, 2023; Kemeç & Yalçın, 2022; Kurutkan et al., 2021; Köse et al., 2020; Köse & Kurutkan, 2021; Öntürk-Akyüz & Dilmen-Kalı, 2023; Özteke-Kozan, 2020; Turhan & Türkoğlu,

2023; Yücel et al., 2023), it was found that bibliometric analysis was used in different disciplines. However, when the studies conducted specifically in the field of early childhood education and parent education were examined, it was seen that the studies were very limited (Çelik, 2022a; Çelik 2022b; B. Ergin & Ergin, 2022a; B. Ergin & Ergin, 2022b; E. Ergin et al., 2022; E. Ergin et al., 2023; Güney & Baran, 2022; İnaltekin & Karaçöp, 2020; Yanık-Özger, 2022). Although the concept of co-parenting has a history dating back to the 1980s, the fact that it has only recently been addressed in Turkey has led us to examine the relevant literature. Therefore, it is considered meaningful to conduct the current study in order to fill this gap in the field. In this context, the study contributes to the field by evaluating the general view of the research on co-parenting through content analysis and bibliometric analysis methods. The research questions evaluated within the scope of the study are as follows:

1. What is the distribution of the descriptive qualities of the relevant publications?
2. What does the co-author, co-word, co-reference and co-citation network look like?

Method

In this study, studies on the concept of "co-parenting" in the Web of Science database were examined using bibliometric analysis method.

Procedure

In determining the sources to be evaluated within the scope of the study, a selection was made according to the inclusion criteria. These are; 1. To be in the Web of Science database, 2. To be about the concept of "co-parenting", 3. To be a research article. Since a specific topic was focused on in the preparation of the data set of the relevant study, a search was made with the keyword "co-parenting" and then the relevant sources were identified through detailed examinations. The data set was prepared by applying the inclusion criteria in August-2023. The use of inclusion-exclusion criteria and purposive sampling helped to ensure the external validity of the study. All data of the research were kept in electronic environment in order to ensure the confirmability of the study. In addition, all processes for obtaining the data to be used in the study were defined in detail such as date, concept, code, database. Using the code TS= ("co-parenting"), 473 studies were reached by searching the topic category without applying any other restrictions (index, citation, language, year, etc.). The number decreased to 421 when only research articles were identified. All of these studies were considered to meet the criteria. In this sense, the fact that the conditions for meeting the criteria of a small number of unrelated data, which are thought to have no effect on the results, were not examined one by one can be expressed as a limitation regarding the preparation of the data set.

Data Analysis

Descriptive analyses of the obtained resources were conducted out using WoS's own system, while bibliometric analyses and visual mapping were carried out with the VOSviewer 1.6.15 software. The bibliographic information from the 421 sources obtained from WoS was transferred to the VOS-viewer program. In order to prevent possible errors, the obtained "tab-limited file" was reviewed and unnecessary data was cleaned.

Results

In the study, as a result of the search in the WoS database with the keyword "co-parenting", 421 research articles written on the subject between 1981-2023 were reached and evaluated within the scope of the study. The findings of the evaluations are presented under two main headings as descriptive findings and bibliometric findings.

Descriptive Findings

When the distribution of the number of articles of the relevant publications according to years was analyzed, it was seen that the publications from 1981 to 2003 progressed with a certain increase while there was a great increase after 2003. It was determined that there was an increase in the number of studies on the subject especially between 2012 and 2023. While 17 publications were produced on the subject before 2003, the year in which the most publications were produced was 2022. While 30 to 60 publications were regularly produced every year between 2019-2023, it was determined that at least 10 or more publications were regularly produced every year after 2012 (Figure 1).

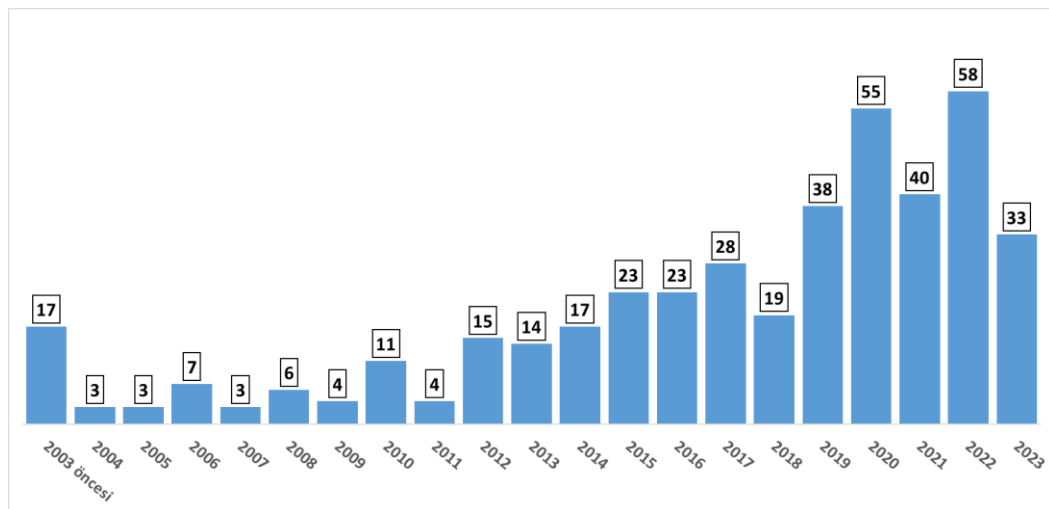


Figure 1. Distribution of studies by years

When the distribution of the number of articles according to the publishing institutions in which the relevant studies were published was examined, it was seen that there were 50 or more publications produced within the scope of the subject in journals affiliated with Wiley, Taylor & Francis, Springer publishing institutions. Then, it was seen that Elsevier, SAGE Publications, American Psychological Association, Frontiers Media SA publishing institutions include 10 or more publications produced within the scope of the subject. Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute (MDPI), Oxford University Press, BMC, Emerald Publishing are also among the top 10 publishers that publish the most on the subject (Table 1).

Table 1

Distribution and number of citations of studies by institutions with the highest number of publications

Publishing institutions	Number of articles (f)	Number of citations (cc)
Wiley	96	4479
Taylor & Francis	69	3722
Springer	52	3154
Elsevier	38	2354
SAGE Publications	37	2039
American Psychological Association	36	483
Frontiers Media SA	16	1043
Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute (MDPI)	9	536
Oxford University Press	9	416
Emerald Publishing	3	169
BMC	3	106

Bibliometric Findings

When the distribution of the number of articles according to the institutions where the authors of the relevant publications work was analyzed, it was determined that the most productive institution was "University of Toronto". This was followed by "The Pennsylvania State University". Although The Pennsylvania State University ranked second in terms of the number of articles, it was the most cited institution among the top ten institutions. This can be explained by the high number of publications in journals with high impact value. Therefore, the effectiveness of the institution in terms of citation, that is, the indicators of its efficiency and visibility, were revealed. These institutions were followed by The University of Queensland, The University of Melbourne, University of Wisconsin, Newcastle University, Tel Aviv University, La Trobe University, University of Illinois Urbana, University of Denver. It was determined that the institutions were from different countries (Table 2).

Table 2

Distribution of studies by the universities with the highest number of publications

Publishing institutions	Number of articles (f)	Number of citations (cc)	Total connection strength (tcs)
University of Toronto	12	174	6
The Pennsylvania State University	11	499	3
The University of Queensland	8	128	5
The University of Melbourne	8	122	15
University of Wisconsin	8	114	3
Newcastle University	8	42	4
Tel Aviv University	7	187	4
La Trobe University	7	103	7
University of Illinois Urbana	6	159	2
University of Denver	6	73	4

When the map showing the distribution of the number of articles of the relevant studies according to countries is examined, it is seen that the highest number of publications on the subject is in the United States of America (f=192; cc:3340; tcs:37). It is followed by Australia (f=46; cc:548; tcs:14), China (f=31; cc:244; tcs:11), Canada (f=28; cc:407; tcs:10), England (f=26; cc:266; tcs:18), Spain (f=24; cc: 107; tcs:6), Italy (f=15; cc:138; tcs:6), Israel (f=14; cc:235; tcs:2), Germany (f=10; cc:30; tcs:4) and the Netherlands (f=10; cc:147; tcs:4) (Figure 2).

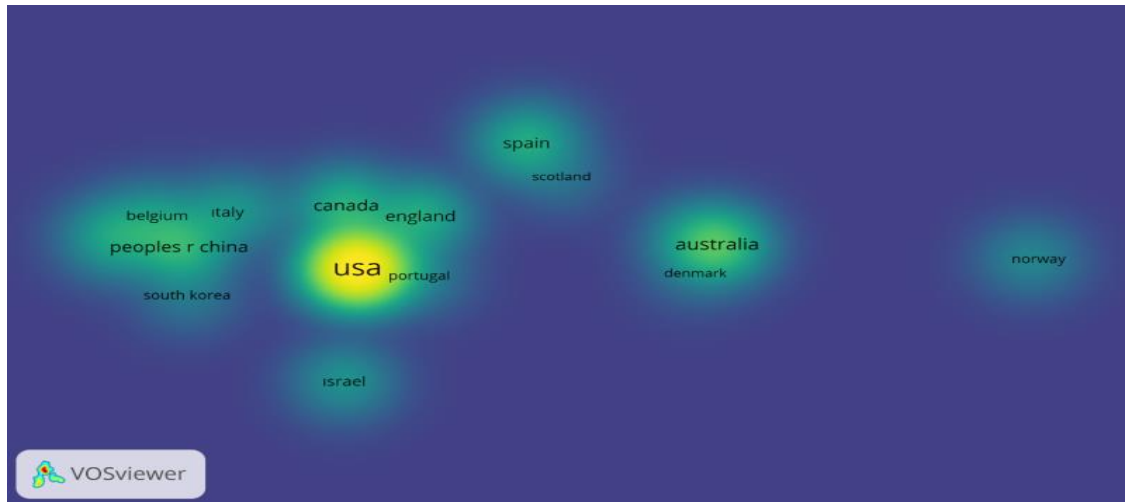


Figure 2. Visual mapping of countries of publication

The number of citations for the 10 most referenced studies on the subject is provided Table 3. In the studies, it is seen that the effect of co-parenting experiences of convicted fathers on their children's educational outcomes, the context of violence between spouses and child custody, the impact of intergenerational cultural transmission on children's creativity skills, the effect of anger problem seen in men during postnatal processes on family functioning and relationship, the effect of co-parenting behaviors on family internet addiction, the relationship of co-parenting behaviours with marital satisfaction, and the co-parenting behaviors of parents whose children were diagnosed with autism were examined (Table 3).

Table 3

The 10 most cited articles

	Article	Number of citations (cc)
1	McLeod, B. A., Johnson Jr, W. E., Cryer-Coupet, Q. R., & Mincy, R. B. (2019). Examining the longitudinal effects of paternal incarceration and co-parenting relationships on sons' educational outcomes: A mediation analysis. <i>Children and Youth Services Review, 100</i> , 362-375.	184
2	Austin, W. G., & Drozd, L. M. (2012). Intimate partner violence and child custody evaluation, Part I: Theoretical framework, forensic model, and assessment issues. <i>Journal of Child Custody, 9</i> (4), 250-309.	173
3	Culley, L., Hudson, N., & Lohan, M. (2013). Where are all the men? The marginalization of men in social scientific research on infertility. <i>Reproductive biomedicine online, 27</i> (3), 225-235.	147
4	Pang, W., Lu, Y., Long, H., Wang, Q., & Lin, L. (2020). Three-generational families: Are they beneficial to Chinese children's creativity?. <i>Thinking Skills and Creativity, 35</i> , 100623.	139
5	McKay, T. (2023). When state violence comes home: from criminal legal system exposure to intimate partner violence in a time of mass incarceration. <i>Journal of interpersonal violence, 38</i> (3-4), 2683-2715.	136
6	Trahan, M. H., Morley, R. H., & Shafer, K. (2021). Father-adolescent relationship closeness: A path analysis of family factor associates with father-adolescent engagement and relationship quality. <i>Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal, 38</i> , 265-282.	132
7	Macdonald, J. A., Greenwood, C. J., Francis, L. M., Harrison, T. R., Graeme, L. G., Youssef, G. J., ... & Olsson, C. A. (2020). Profiles of depressive symptoms and anger in men: associations with postpartum family functioning. <i>Frontiers in psychiatry, 11</i> , 578114.	126
8	Sun, Y. (2023). The role of family on internet addiction: A model analysis of co-parenting effect. <i>Cogent Social Sciences, 9</i> (1), 2163530.	120
9	Antunes, N., Vieira-Santos, S., Roberto, M. S., Francisco, R., Pedro, M. F., & Ribeiro, M. T. (2021). Portuguese Version of the Kansas Marital Satisfaction Scale: Preliminary Psychometric Properties. <i>Marriage & Family Review, 57</i> (7), 647-672.	118
10	Saini, M., Stoddart, K. P., Gibson, M., Morris, R., Barrett, D., Muskat, B., ... & Zwaigenbaum, L. (2015). Couple relationships among parents of children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorder: Findings from a scoping review of the literature. <i>Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders, 17</i> , 142-157.	115

It was determined that Orna Cohen (f=5; cc:28; tcs:3) was the most prolific author with five studies on "Co-parenting". While Orna Cohen authored one individual study titled "Agreement reached through court mediation conducted by social workers: Impact on the co-parenting relationship", she collaborated with other authors in her other four studies (Cohen, 2012; Cohen & Levin, 2012; Cohen & Finzi-Dottan, 2013; Cohen, Finzi-Dottan & Tangir-Dotan, 2014; Finzi-Dottan & Cohen, 2014). She is followed by Marsha Kline Pruett (f=4; cc:75; tcs:3) with four studies and the highest number of citations. The structural model for the collaboration between the authors is given in Figure 3. When visual mapping is examined, it is seen that author connections form two groups within themselves.

While the most active author in the first group is Marsha Kline Pruett, the most active author in the second group is William G. Austin ($f=3$; $cc:52$; $tcs:2$) (Figure 3). When the study areas of the authors in the figure are examined, it is seen that Pruett focuses on family conflicts, parenting practices, divorced couples, while Austin focuses on parental care, child custody, violence between spouses and parenting plan. Drozd has studies on parental coordination, divorce, family law, parent-child communication problems and child sexual abuse, while Fieldstone has studies on family law, experimental-based family plans and elderly care coordination. It is seen that McIntosh's fields of study are developmental psychology, parenting, childhood traumas, children under foster care and parental deprivation.



Figure 3. Co-author analysis network map

When the results of the co-word analysis of the studies on co-parenting in the Web of Science database are examined, it is seen that four clusters are formed in the figure. The red cluster includes the concepts of co-parenting, parenting, fathers, father involvement, parenting stress. The green cluster includes the concepts of divorce, parenting coordination, separation, while the blue cluster includes children and domestic violence. Finally, the yellow cluster includes the concepts of gender and fatherhood. In this sense, according to the results of common word analysis, the most frequently used words are co-parenting ($f= 143$; $tcs:92$), divorce ($f= 53$; $tcs:55$), parenting ($f= 40$; $tcs:30$) and fathers ($f= 26$; $tcs:19$) (Figure 4). These concepts are followed by other concepts (domestic violence, father involvement, parenting coordination, fatherhood, separation, children, co-parenting, gender, parenting stress) with a frequency of ten or more repetitions.

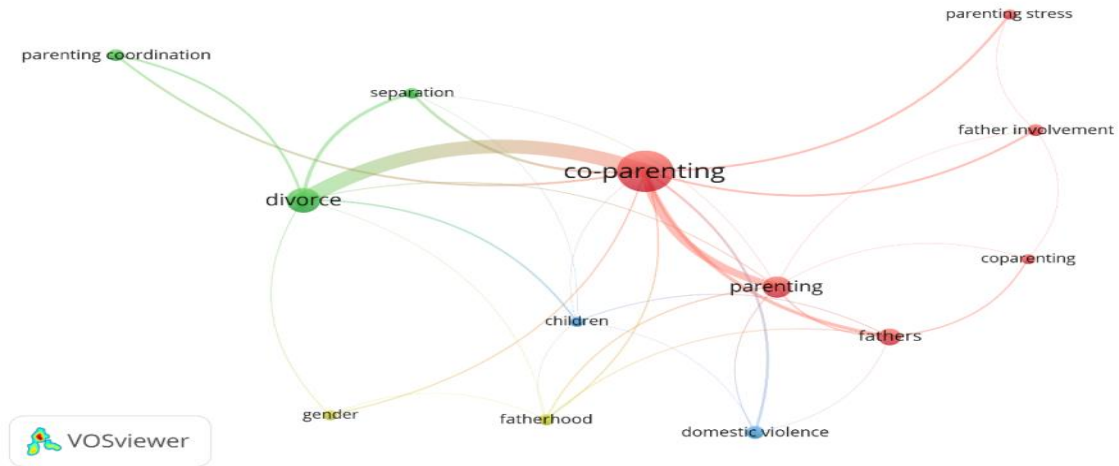


Figure 4. Co-word analysis network map

When the results of co-reference analysis of studies on co-parenting in the Web of Science database are examined, it is observed that there are clusters that interact with each other. The relationships in the analysis are expressed with colors on the network map. As a result of the analysis, it is seen that four clusters are formed in the figure. Total connection strength (tcs) expresses the relationship between elements depending on their positioning. Close positioning indicates a higher relationship, while distant positioning indicates less or no relationship. It is seen that the most cited study titled “The internal structure and ecological context of co-parenting: A framework for research and intervention” is by Feinberg (2003) (cc;80; tcs:143). The other three most cited studies are by Feinberg et al. (cc:44; tcs:77; 2012), Teubert & Pinquart (cc:37; tcs:80; 2010), Margolin et al. (cc:35; tcs:69; 2001), respectively (Figure 5).

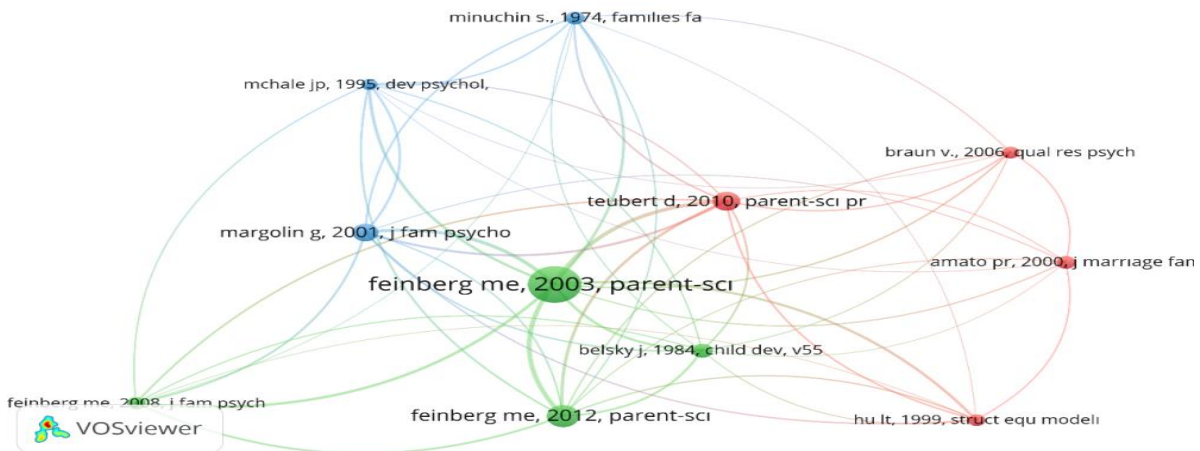


Figure 5. Co-reference analysis network map

When the results of the co-citation analysis of the studies on co-parenting in the Web of Science database are examined, it is observed that the relationship between the cited authors is clustered in different colors. The most

as Wiley, Taylor & Francis, Springer, Elsevier, SAGE Publications and that these articles are the most cited studies in the relevant subject shows that researchers and those studying in the field are curious and interested in the phenomenon of co-parenting.

When evaluating the institutions with the highest number of studies on the phenomenon of co-parenting, it was concluded that the University of Toronto ranked first. The Pennsylvania State University was identified as the second university with the highest number of publications. However, when the citation ranking was analyzed, it was seen that The Pennsylvania State University ranked first. When an analysis is made according to this result, it is thought that the publications of the authors working at The Pennsylvania State University are more visible or that their studies on the phenomenon explain it with a multidimensional and broader perspective.

When the studies focusing on the phenomenon of co-parenting were analyzed in terms of the country with the highest number of publications, it was seen that the USA ranked first. This was followed by Australia. When the past family dynamics of America and European countries were examined, it was shown that the factor underlying juvenile delinquency was the decrease in family affection due to the weakening of family ties (Şener, 1996). In addition, when the family cultures in America were analyzed, it was seen that the responsibility of the child until puberty was within the limits of love and physical care of the mother with the support of the father (Kağıtçıbaşı, 2000). In line with this information, it is possible to talk about the existence of the phenomenon of co-parenting with the support of parents in the child-rearing processes in the United States. The concept of co-parenting encompasses the joint participation of spouses in the child-rearing process, which is the most basic function of the parenting role, and the strengthening of marital harmony. Therefore, it is thought that the joint participation of parents in child-rearing processes depending on their well-being levels will increase family well-being in strengthening the deteriorated family dynamics in the United States and other countries (Peltz et al., 2018). Based on this idea, there has been an increase in the number of studies on the related phenomenon.

When the top ten most cited studies among the sources evaluated within the scope of the study were examined, it was seen that the first study with the highest number of citations examined the effect of the co-parenting experiences of the spouses on the educational processes of their children during the period when the father was imprisoned (McLeod et al., 2019). This study emphasizes that parents should be encouraged to apply parenting strategies that can minimize conflicts and make decisions in consensus starting from early childhood in order to ensure co-parenting, and underlines the importance of developing early intervention policies for this purpose. In other studies, co-parenting phenomenon is evaluated in the contexts of violence between spouses and child custody (Austin & Drozd, 2012), the effect of anger problems seen in fathers in the postpartum period on family functions (Culley et al., 2013), the effect of intergenerational cultural transmission on children's creativity skills (Pang et al., 2020), father-adolescent relationship (Trahan et al., 2021), and the effect of internet addiction on co-parenting behaviors (Sun, 2023). In terms of scope, these studies are in line with the distribution of studies focusing on the co-parenting phenomenon according to years. Because when the phenomenon of co-parenting was first discussed, it emphasized the legal processes of divorced or separated parents in their parenting journey and child welfare in this process. The studies conducted at that time also addressed the concept within this framework. However, today, this phenomenon

refers to the joint decisions of spouses on child rearing and their joint participation in child rearing processes. In particular, the prominence of the concept of father involvement in studies emphasizes the role of the father in co-parenting.

Orna Cohen was found to be the most prolific author with five studies on the phenomenon evaluated within the scope of the study. In his study, [Cohen \(2012\)](#) emphasizes that if parents in the divorce process benefit from the mediation system, conflicts between individuals will decrease and children will not be affected by this process. The concept of mediation is a legal process that enables the parties to find a solution themselves in case of disagreement. In this respect, the mediation system offered to families includes premarital agreements, separation, divorce, financial disputes in the family, alimony, parenting planning (custody, visiting order), parent-child conflicts ([Wikipedia, 2023](#)). Divorce process, which is accepted as the birth point of the co-parenting phenomenon, has become a concept evaluated together with the mediation system over time.

When the results of the co-author analysis of the studies focusing on the phenomenon of co-parenting are analyzed, two groups are formed in the figure. In one of these groups, Marsha Kline Pruett emerges as the most effective author, while in the other group, William G. Austin takes on the most effective author. According to the figure, Drozd is the author with whom Austin formed a co-authorship network. When the studies of the authors on the subject were analyzed, it was found that the studies on spousal violence in child custody ([Austin & Drozd, 2012](#)), child custody during divorce and intimate partner violence ([Austin & Drozd, 2012](#)) were addressed. When the studies of Pruett, another author with the highest connection strength, were examined, it was seen that the reflection of narcissistic personality disorder and empathetic disposition on parenting skills ([Mandarino et al., 2016](#)), parental conflicts and parent-child relationship in the context of parental guarding behaviors ([Austin et al., 2013](#)), the effect of parental involvement on children's attachment styles in divorced families ([Pruett et al., 2014](#)) were discussed. It is seen that the studies were conducted based on the divorce process which is the starting point of the definition of co-parenting. When the studies conducted between 2012-2017 in the focus of the related phenomenon were analyzed in general framework, it was determined that the concept of co-parenting is mostly related to parents who were divorced, in the process of divorce or living separately.

When the co-word analysis of the studies focusing on the phenomenon of co-parenting were examined, it was determined that the words associated with "co-parenting" formed four clusters. It was concluded that the concepts of co-parenting, parenting, fathers, father involvement, parenting stress were related to each other in the red cluster. The concepts of divorce, parenting coordination, separation were related to each other in the green cluster while children and domestic violence were related to each other in the blue cluster. Finally, the concepts of gender and fatherhood were related to each other in the yellow cluster. When evaluated in terms of frequency of connection, it was concluded that the concept of co-parenting was more related to the concepts of divorce, parenting and fathers. According to the findings of the study, the concept of co-parenting entered the literature in the 1980s, but it was discussed in studies on families that maintain family integrity in the 1990s. This can be explained by understanding that the father's influence in parenting roles cannot be ignored due to the increasing emphasis on gender equality in societies and by emphasizing that parenting is a whole. Therefore, the concept of "co-parenting" has been updated in

this way (Cabrera et al., 2000). Early studies on the concept focused on the necessity for divorced parents or the parents in the divorce process to cooperate in their parenting roles. Today, studies mostly explain the parenting roles and responsibilities of parents living together (McHale et al., 2004). However, in the literature, the phenomenon of "co-parenting" does not only refer to parents who are divorced or whose marriage bond continues, it also includes the grandparents in the decision-making processes in the upbringing of the child. At this point, the important thing in the phenomenon of co-parenting is that there are two parents responsible for upbringing the child and they are involved in the child-rearing process by taking joint responsibility (Özdemir & Sağkal, 2020c). From this point of view, associating the concept of "co-parenting" with concepts such as divorce, fatherhood role, separation, father involvement reveals the main line of the literature. In addition, the prominence of father involvement in the concepts of co-parenting can be explained by the significant increase in studies on father involvement after 2017 according to the results obtained from the WoS database.

When the results of co-reference analysis of studies focusing on co-parenting were examined, it was concluded that the most cited source was the study of Feinberg (2003). In this study, Feinberg provided detailed information about the conceptualization process of co-parenting. He also discussed the mediating variables of the concept by explaining the effect of parental harmony on parent-child in the co-parenting process. Other studies with high connection strength as a result of co-reference analysis are the study on the psychometric information and measurement of the "Co-parenting Relationship Scale" developed by Feinberg et al. (2012), the meta-analysis study conducted by Teubert & Pinquart (2010) on co-parenting and child adjustment, and the study by Margolin et al. (2001) in which co-parenting is theoretically and conceptually separate from other concepts related to parenting and the mediating role of concepts such as conflict and cooperation between spouses is examined. It is seen that the most cited studies and the studies that guide other studies are those that have a good conceptual background in general. In addition, these studies address other concepts that are considered to be effective in establishing the framework of the concept. This result indicates that the history of the concept in the literature is old, but not many studies have been conducted on the subject.

When the results of co-citation analysis of studies focusing on co-parenting were evaluated, it was determined that the author with the highest number of citations was Paul R. Amato. In his study, Amato (2005) discussed how changing family dynamics will affect the cognitive, social and emotional well-being of the next generation. It was concluded that this study is the source with the highest connection strength and number of citations on the subject. Another study is by Jaffe et al. (2008) on domestic violence which emphasizes the need to develop appropriate parenting plans for child and family well-being. When the results of the study are examined from this aspect, it shows that the phenomenon of "co-parenting" is related to the harmony and determination of the parents in the decisions they take by considering the best interests of the child. In addition, studies have tried to determine the theoretical and conceptual framework of co-parenting by addressing the supportive aspect of co-parenting and the harmony between spouses. Today, the empathic tendency and cooperation observed between spouses, regardless of being divorced or together, is accepted as an indicator of co-parenting. In the light of these results, the study is valuable in terms of reaching comprehensive results of the studies conducted on the co-parenting phenomenon in the literature.

Limitations and Recommendations

This study includes the research articles on "co-parenting" in WoS. In this sense, not using other databases can be considered as a limitation of the study. However, WoS is considered as a reliable data source. In similar studies, it is frequently preferred like Scopus. Different databases may be used in future studies. In addition, more verifiable results may be obtained by applying the index constraint. In this study, content analysis and bibliometric analysis were conducted. In future studies, different software that can evaluate the same qualities may be preferred. In addition, the same concept may be analyzed with different methods. Focusing on only one subject in the study is considered as an important limitation in the creation of the data set. Therefore, general concepts that can generate larger data sets may be preferred. In the study, the concept of co-parenting was analyzed and discussed in the context of the relevant literature.

Ethic

The research does not require ethics committee approval.

Author Contributions

The design, material preparation, data collection and analysis, final reading and approval of the study belong to the author.

Conflict of Interest

There is no conflict of interest for the study.

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