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# Examining the Representation of the Parent-Child Relationship in the English Vocabulary, by Presenting Proverbs

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#### **Abstract**

One significant field of contemporary English linguistics that has been growing quickly in recent years is the linguistic analysis of proverbs. Proverbs are an effective tool for interpreting texts because they typically transmit the language of a centuries-old customary culture from one generation to the next, reflecting all the attitudes and life philosophy of the people who speak the language natively. This paper aims to investigate how the parent-child relationship is portrayed in English language culture. It does this by categorizing proverbs using the semantic opposition "Parents - Children" and focusing on the axiological foundation of binary perception. The Parent-Children opposition was selected for analysis because it is a crucial location in the conceptual domain of the language in question, influencing speakers' mindsets. The need to address theoretical and practical issues in researching the national and cultural specificity of proverbs is a prerequisite for the relevance of scientific research in this area. We have defined the distinctive aspects of the chosen proverbs and determined their semantic and linguocultural characteristics as a consequence of the research. The attitudes of English culture are identified through the analysis of proverbs. Our analysis's findings show that there are many proverbs in the English language that describe the family way of life, which is the archetypal way that parents and children interact. We employed the comparative method, component analysis method, continuous sampling method, and classification method in the study. More than 200 English proverbs from the collection served as the basis for our analysis. Paremies based on binary oppositions were chosen from the collection through continuous sampling.

Keywords: English Language; English Vocabulary; Linguistic.

## 1. Introduction

Proverbs are odd codes of conduct for people. These are overused statements that convey how moral or categorical imperatives feel to different people. We believe that the English people's paremiological fund is a rich and diverse linguistic resource. Proverbs give us a complete picture of the English people's worldview and perception of the outside world. The study is therefore pertinent since it falls under the umbrella of linguoculturalology, one of the primary scientific fields of the contemporary scientific anthropocentric paradigm. The opposition selected for this study is one of the fundamental oppositions that represent the English value system. Thus, the focus of this paper is on English proverbs, which are distinguished by the antinomy. The objective is to determine the characteristics of the paremiological units' representation of the binary opposition "Parents - Children." Our hypothesis is that the customs that have been collected into proverbs represent ideas about how parents and children should interact.

English paremiology is currently the focus of a large number of multi-aspect studies. As a result, there is now more interest in examining the language's paremiological corpus from the perspective of the emerging field of linguoculture. There is a strong theoretical foundation for analyzing English proverbs through the lens of linguocultural research. Few works in the specialized literature address this current and inadequately examined aspect of the issue. These are the papers by Tarasova (2012) "Paremias with the Food Component in English, Linguocultural and Cognitive-Pragmatic Aspects," Pimenova (2012) "Man as an Object of Evaluation in the Phraseological Picture of the World (On

the Material of English Language)," and Zamaletdinova and Zamaletdinova (2010) "On the Role of Proverbs in the Study of National and Cultural Features of Language Consciousness."

The articles "Phraseologiical Units as Means of Expressing the Emotivity in the English Language" by Sibgaeva et al. (2017), "Ethnic heterostereotypes in paremies about language and proverbs of English" by Galiullina et al. (2020), and "Comparative study of paraemiological and phraseological units containing coloronyms golden" by Kulkova & Mukhamadyarova (2017) proved to be particularly helpful in the context of our investigation. The idea and methods of our paper were greatly influenced by articles on kinship terminology and English lexicology written by authors like Denmukhametov and Denmukhametova (2015) and other academics. The study's source of data was a card index of English proverbs that was compiled using a continuous sampling technique from the dictionary entry for "folk proverbs" (Galiullina et al. 2020).

#### 2. Literature Review

A folk aphorism, or short folk saying with a wise lesson, is what Ozhegov defines as a proverb. People have been creating proverbs for a long time; they are a reflection of their culture, history, way of life, and development. Proverbs are a long-standing national experience that represent the history, way of life, culture, and advancement of the country. According to Mokienko (2010), proverbs are summaries of philosophy that address various facets of life, edification, and aphorisms; on the other hand, they are highly cumulative units. These are the moral and ethical standards, the self-evaluation, cultural cues, and well-executed rhetorical devices, as Telia points out (Telia, 1996).

As a byproduct of folk art, proverbs have a parable character, which conditions their two-plan nature, which consists of the direct and allegorical plans of the utterance's actual content at the same time (Telia, 1996). Proverbs are defined by Baranov and Dobrovolsky as phraseological units with a sentence structure, suggesting universality, having an illocutionary semantics of advice or recommendations, and being largely discursively independent (Baranov, 2008). This dictum is therefore a proverb if the sentence can be continued with the added unions, constructions, or similar union words. In addition, Kunin refers to proverbs as phraseological communicative units. The linguist highlights aphorism, didactic and edifying meaning, and a rhythmically ordered structure as three of the key attributes of proverbs (Kunin, 1996). He sees it as an essential component of a proverbial sentence and as either a partial or total reconsideration. Partial reinterpretation affects one or more parts of the proverb. Metaphorization is typically the foundation for this reconsideration (Utebaev & Sarsenbaeva, 2021).

### 3. Methodology

The objectives of the paper were implemented through a variety of methods and techniques. We employed a descriptive methodology throughout the study, combining observation and categorization of the subject matter: we examined proverbs in order, verbalizing the opposition between "Parents - Children." Component analysis, one of the descriptive method's techniques, was employed to investigate the meaningful language units' content aspect. Semantic and linguocultural analysis techniques were also used in the work.

## 4. Results

The proverbial expressions of English paremiology contain enough examples to illustrate the unique characteristics of English kinship relations. They also serve as a reflection of the people's cultural identity and value system. People of all nationalities are inherently family-oriented. As a result, the idea of family is a cultural inheritance shared by all peoples. Language expresses the family's unity and uniqueness with great clarity. The Turkic peoples recognized the family not only as a necessary institution but also as an act of holiness performed in Allah's name by Muslims. The units with the terms of kinship are widely represented in English paremiology. One of the most significant lexical categories in the English language's foundational vocabulary is kinship terminology. Everyday life should be a major theme that reflects the ethno-cultural characteristics of peoples. And after birth, a person's parents and other family members are typically the first people they see and speak to. In human life, the family is crucial to the development of the personality.

English proverbs serve as a symbol of generational continuity. The units in this group emphasize the importance of parent-child relationships, the inner bond between parents and children, and the perpetuation of all the good and bad traits and customs of the elder generation in the children: When parents are together, kids grow up to be obedient, just

like their mother, father, and other relatives. The fact that there are significantly more units in this group suggests that, in an English family, the mother is in charge of raising the daughters and the father is in charge of the sons. The proverbs "A disgrace of the son is to the father, a disgrace of the daughter is to the mother" serve as examples of this. One set of proverbs opposes this one, interpreting it as a reflection of generational divides in interests, a lack of understanding amongst people, or even relationship selfishness. "Children's Ingratitude" shows how children show their parents callousness, indifference, and self-interest in addition to showing tokens of gratitude. These kinds of circumstances are common and manifested in a substantial layer of paremias: A child who is upset will stop talking to his father; The infant looks at the calf, and the mother looks at her; A mother is very giving when she feeds her child, and each day counts when a child feeds a mother; The calf is more significant to the child than the mother, who looks after it; A child's heart is in the city, and a father's heart is in his children; A mother does not know her daughter, a father does not know his son; The soul of a mother resides in her daughter, the soul of a daughter is red, etc.

Let's examine the main ideas that the examined binomial highlighted. The following images serve as representations of the key concept "Parents." "Parental love" demonstrates how deeply a parent loves their offspring: A mother will feed her child; Venus awakens the dawn; a child comforts a mother's heart; let the child reach sixty; to the child, he or she is still a child. Many paremias emphasize the unconditional love of the mother and father for their offspring. No matter what the child's physical or mental characteristics are—or sometimes even in spite of their flaws—parents will always love them.

The opposite of parental love in English-speaking culture, "parental strictness" is associated with parenting and, more often than not, with punishing children: It is better to receive ten blows from a mother than a reprimand from a father. Therefore, even if you beat a sixty-year-old, don't beat a six-year-old. In English society, fathers and men who owned real estate alone had an advantage when it came to resolving family conflicts and maintaining their untarnished reputation within the family. In the family, the man and father served as the figurehead and disciplinarian. The proverbs also reflect the way that the English-speaking culture views parents, which is one of idolization. The deification of parents is a reflection of the relationship between the creator God and the earthly parent, and it calls for respect for both: Your parents are God, and Mom has a share with God.

Transmitting ethno-cultural values and fostering ethnic consciousness is one of the family's most significant roles in raising children. Children learn about national traditions and customs, folktales, and the emergence of early religious beliefs in their families. For children's development as members of an ethnic group, the family is still crucial. The idea of "children" is incredibly nuanced. Proverbs in English often contain the following pictures. "Children are the joy" illustrates how well children and parents get along. Youngsters are calm, obedient in all that they do, willing to assume responsibility for the future of their aging parents, appreciative of their fathers, etc. A child is a parent's golden pillar; the father stays outside if the son goes into the forest; the mother's milk and the child's tongue are both honey. However, children are more than just a source of happiness in English-speaking cultures. The picture "Children are a source of problems" illustrates the warning indicators for issues with kids. And as kids get bigger, so do the issues: a mother and a child, a kid and trouble.

There is a proverb in English that says, "Children are like their parents." Proverbs effectively convey the idea that parents and children are similar in terms of their personalities, behaviors, and outlook on life: An apple falls from the tree not too far away. A child is a child born of a father; a child whose father did not hunt a deer will not hunt a hare. But according to a collection of proverbs, kids might not turn out like their parents: Mense Anasy Agachka The daughter will climb a branch if the mother climbs the tree; A daughter has one thought, while a mother has a thousand. The respect that kids have for their parents is reflected in the Parents-Children binomial. In addition to stating that parents should be respected, English proverbs also guarantee that their offspring will also be happy in the future: "He who respects his parents will be respected by his children" and "What you will do to your father, you will see from your son."

## 5. Discussion

Our analysis's findings enable us to make a few specific conclusions that will be useful for our ongoing research. The examination of English proverbs has demonstrated how the proverbial binomial organizes the paremiological data and separates cultural attitudes based on them. Every language expresses a unique picture of the world, and the linguistic personality must arrange the content of the utterance in accordance with this picture, as Husnutdinov et al. (2020) correctly note. This is the way the world as it is perceived—as expressed through language. The paremiological units that are being

discussed capture the essence of English national culture and reflect the distinct world of English reality. Proverbs that use the semantic opposition "Parents - Children" highlight the need of parents and the significance of showing them respect and obedience. English proverbs eloquently convey the idea that parents and children are similar in terms of their personalities, behaviors, and outlook on life. The English mentality is a striking example of their greater sense of responsibility for their offspring and for preserving their country with all of its cultural and ethical quirks. Proverbs evaluate phenomena while simultaneously describing it.

#### 6. Conclusion

We conclude by pointing out that the English language's paremiological space ought to be regarded as a component of the national linguistic worldview. This in turn highlights the opportunities for additional research in the areas of a more thorough examination of specific paremia groups as well as a more comprehensive analysis of the paremic fund of linguistic groups that are closely related but not identical. The juxtaposition of contrasting ideas and images serves as an illustration of this. Drawing contrasts makes a lot of connections and relationships clear. English proverbs are therefore frequently the most expressive because of their specificity, and they frequently do this by drawing comparisons between two things or phenomena.

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