


Strict parents representation on the movie “Ngeri-nger Sedap”

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Article Info	ABSTRACT=
<p>Article history: Received Nov 12th, 2025 Revised Nov 10th, 2025 Accepted Nov 23rd, 2025</p> <hr/> <p>Keyword: Representation; Movies; Strict Parents.</p>	<p>This research discusses the Representation of Strict Parents in the film ‘Ngeri – Ngeri Sedap’ by Writer and Director Bene Dion Rajagukguk. This film has a background in Batak culture, telling the story of parents who want their children who are migrating to return to their hometown to attend a traditional party. Starting from the use of the word Strict, which is often used by young people, it also enters the top Google Trend searches in 2022, and the word Strict Parents is used to describe the behavior of parents who are considered bossy, being rigid, and even threatening so that children will follow their parents' wishes. This study focuses on the behavior of parents who are considered as part of Strict Parents using a qualitative approach with Charles Sanders Peirce's semiotic analysis technique which discusses the sign system. The purpose of this study is to find out the meaning of the icons, indexes and symbols contained in this "Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap" film. The research results of the film "Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap" represent the behavior of Strict Parents through stills, dialogues and gestures. The behavior of Strict Parents from the meaning of the Icon is in Scene 1,3,5, and 6, for the meaning of the Index is in Scenes 1,2,3,4,6 and 7, and the meaning of the Symbol is in Scene 1,2,3,4, 6 and 7 are like kicking their hips with their bodies leaning forward with angry expressions and also some dialogues that show the highest authority as parents.</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"> © 2025 Niekita Zulfa Fadiyah, Mukarto Siswoyo, Farida Nurfalalah. Published by Permata Harmoni Abadi. This is an open access article under the CC BY license (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)</p>

INTRODUCTION

Parents are the first and most important teachers for children. From parents, children can obtain the basis for forming character, behavior, morals and education, so that later children can make adjustments in learning to face life in the future. Parental education is the basis for the future development and life of adolescents. Parenting is a process designed to improve and support the physical, emotional, social, economic and intellectual development of children from infancy to adulthood. Parents play an important role in children's development, because parents have the most important influence on the formation of children's character from childhood.

Authoritarian parenting style or what is called today is strict parents, parents with this parenting style educate their children to follow their wishes without discussion or compromise. The reason they use it is because of their culture, ethnic background, or because they were raised using the same method.

The existence of various negative assumptions regarding Strict Parents, results in the same understanding or general understanding of Strict Parents themselves, namely that Strict Parents' parenting style leads to negative impacts, not in line with the role of parents themselves which should be able to provide a sense of security. and comfortable for children. The form of support and control shown by parents to their children will reflect the attitude or parenting pattern shown by parents to their children. Strict Parents tend to communicate by forcing, ordering, and even punishing their children.

This authoritarian parenting style is what led researchers to study this strict parenting style further. This research is motivated by the emergence of the Strict Parents phenomenon which is often mentioned by today's children. Quoted from the [titro.id](https://www.titro.id) article, the word Strict Parents became one of the most searched with 20 thousand searches on Google Trend, precisely on Wednesday 06 July 2022 (Perwitasari, Nur Hidayah, 2022), the phenomenon of Strict Parents is an important topic to be discussed in public. According to parents, by doing this their children will become great and successful. However, children who experience this will be depressed, will not feel freedom and will have a negative impact on their behavior. Many parents use this parenting style but do not know the negative consequences of this parenting method. Based on the background that the researcher has described, the

problem formulation that the researcher proposes is: How is the strict parents' behavior icon used in the film "Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap"?, How is the strict parents' behavior index used in the film "Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap"?, How is it used? symbol of strict parental behavior in the film "Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap"?

RESEARCH METHODS

This research uses a qualitative approach with Charles Sanders Peirce's semiotic analysis technique. Peirce called the sign part a representament (something that carries out representation) and a concept, thing, idea that encodes the object. The meaning (cognitive impressions, feelings, etc.) that we obtain from a sign personally, socially and in certain contexts. John Fiske in (Vera, 2022:27). Based on this concept, it can be said that the meaning of a sign can apply personally, socially or depend on a particular context. Signs cannot express something, signs only function to show, it is the interpreter who interprets them based on their own experience. The informants in this research were cinematographers, editors and also students at Swadaya Gunung Jati University (UGJ) Cirebon from the Communication Science Study Program. Data analysis techniques in qualitative research are carried out using descriptive analysis with data reduction, data display, and verification and drawing conclusions.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Ngeri-nger delicious is a family drama film with a background of the Batak tribe, conveying the anxiety of overseas children who are bound by customs and culture. Horrifyingly, Sedap tells the story of Pak Domu (Arswendy Beningswara Nasution) and Mak Domu (Tika Panggabean) who live with their daughter, Sarma (Gita Bhebhita) in North Sumatra. Mak Domu really wants his three sons who have migrated, namely Domu (Boris Bokir), Gabe (Lolox) and Sahat (Indra Jegel), to be able to return to their hometown to attend traditional events. Domu works as a BUMN employee in Bandung and has a Sundanese girlfriend. Gabe, left his law degree and became a famous comedian in Jakarta. Meanwhile, Sahat took care of an old man in Yogyakarta who he met while doing a real work course (KKN). The three of them always refused to go home because their relationship with Pak Domu was not harmonious. For Domu, Gabe and Sahat, their father is a stubborn figure, old-fashioned and not so. <https://www.cantika.com/read/1598245/sinopsis-nger-nger-sedap-film-drama-keluarga-suku-batak> (2023). Based on the results of observations made by researchers, the results of observations made by researchers in this study are as follows:

1. Meaning of Icon

a. Still Images of Strict Parents' Behavior in the Film "Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap"

The stills here are fragments from the film Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap which show the behavior of Strict Parents based on the results of the author's observations and interviews with informants in the film Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap with a duration of approximately 2 hours. There are several images that show the behavior of Strict Parents themselves. Still images are a real visual form in the film Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap.

Aline Jusria, provided an explanation regarding the image that shows the behavior of Strict Parents. The following are the results of an interview with the informant as the editor of the film Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap:

"The image that shows Strict Parents' behavior is when the father is sitting facing his three children who are opposite him. The father's sitting position shows his power, he feels more powerful than his children. And the way the children sit visually shows reluctance."

Padri Nadeak, May 18 at 11.00 WIB, gave an explanation regarding the image that shows the behavior of Strict Parents. The following are the results of an interview with the informant as the cinematographer of the film Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap:

"When Domu makes the mistake of giving ulos, the picture shows the father sitting and the child sitting as if on a strap" and another picture "When the father sits and has a special chair and the children gather at one point on the left. Even though there was an empty chair next to his father. The depiction of parents as the top symbol in the family."

Rinda Ravina, April 8 2023 at 12.00 WIB, provides an explanation regarding the image that shows the behavior of Strict Parents. The following are the results of interviews with informants as viewers of the film Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap:

"The image shows when you unilaterally cut off a telephone call to Gabe and Sahat when there was communication but because they didn't share the same opinion, they immediately turned it off, indicating that they didn't want an argument."

2. Index Discussion

a. Movement in the Film "Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap"

The movement in this case is a fragment from the film *Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap* which shows the behavior of Strict Parents based on the results of the author's observations and conducting interviews with informants in the film *Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap*. Aline Jusria, provided an explanation regarding the movement that shows Strict Parents behavior. The following are the results of an interview with the informant as editor of the film *Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap*:

"The movement that shows Strict Parents behavior is when the father expresses his emotions and he puts his hands on his waist, which really illustrates who is in power there."

Padri Nadeak, May 18 at 11.00 WIB gave an explanation regarding the Movement which shows Strict Parental behavior. The following are the results of an interview with the informant as the cinematographer of the film *Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap*:

"That is when Father forcibly took Mak Domu's cellphone, who was talking to Gabe on the telephone, because he didn't accept whatever excuse his son used."

Rinda Ravina, April 8 2023 at 12.00 WIB provides an explanation regarding the Movement which shows Strict Parents behavior. The following are the results of interviews with informants as viewers of the film *Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap*:

"When a father keeps both hands on his hips when he is angry with his children."

b. Dialogue in the Film "Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap"

Dialogue is a form of conversation carried out by two or more people. Dialogue is also defined as talking, talking or exchanging thoughts and ideas. Dialogue is carried out directly or indirectly as long as it is carried out by more than one person. The following are the results of an interview with the informant as the editor of the film *Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap*:

"Dialogue when the father was angry with his three sons and he said that the decisions taken by his children did not make him happy."

Padri Nadeak, results of interviews with informants as cinematographers of the film *Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap*:

"The dialogue is when the father invites his three sons to discuss in the living room. Even though the purpose of gathering was to discuss, the discussion didn't happen because you were in control of the decision" and "then when you talked to Mak Domu, you imposed his will and he wouldn't want to apologize to his children because apologizing meant agreeing with the decision taken. his children."

Rinda Ravina, April 8 2023 at 12.00 WIB provides an explanation regarding the Dialogue which shows the behavior of Strict Parents. The following are the results of interviews with informants as viewers of the film *Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap*:

"When Mak Domu and Pak Domu called their three children one by one, there the father threatened his children so that they would follow his wishes and for whatever reason he would not accept it."

3. Discussion of Symbols

A symbol is a sign where the relationship between the sign and its denotation is determined by a generally accepted rule or determined by a mutual agreement that has a connection or closeness to what it represents. Or also a sign whose sign nature depends on the existence of a denotation. Researchers grouped several symbol parameters in the film *Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap*, namely:

a. The Meaning of Movement in the Film "Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap"

Aline Jusria, May 21 at 22.00 WIB, gave an explanation regarding the meaning of the movement which shows the behavior of Strict Parents. The following are the results of an interview with the informant as the editor of the film *Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap*:

"The meaning of the movement that shows Strict Parents behavior is when the father expresses his emotions and he puts his hands on his waist and has a dialogue with his three children, which really illustrates who is in charge there and who has control over his children."

Padri Nadeak, May 18 at 11.00 WIB, gave an explanation regarding the meaning of the Movement which shows the behavior of Strict Parents. The following are the results of an interview with the informant as the cinematographer of the film *Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap*:

"That is, when the father forcibly took Mak Domu's cellphone, who was talking to Gabe and Sahat on the telephone, because he did not accept whatever excuse his son used, this movement showed that the family's authoritarian leadership did not want to listen to the wishes of his children."

Rinda Ravina, April 8 2023 at 12.00 WIB provides an explanation regarding the meaning of movements that show Strict Parents' behavior. The following are the results of interviews with informants as viewers of the film *Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap*:

"When you keep your hands on your hips when you are angry with your children, the meaning is that you, as a parent, think that your children have no right to have an opinion at all."

b. The Meaning of Dialogue in the Film "*Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap*"

Aline Jusria, May 21 at 22.00 WIB, gave an explanation regarding the meaning of dialogue which shows the behavior of strict parents. The following are the results of an interview with the informant as the editor of the film *Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap*:

"When the father was angry with his three sons and he said that the decisions taken by his children did not make him happy, this dialogue showed that the power lies with the father as a parent who determines the course of his children's lives."

Padri Nadeak, May 18 at 11.00 WIB, gave an explanation regarding the meaning of dialogue which shows the behavior of strict parents. The following are the results of an interview with the informant as the cinematographer of the film *Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap*:

"The meaning of when Father invited his three sons to discuss in the living room. Even though the purpose of gathering was to discuss, the discussion did not occur because the father was in control of the decision from the way he judged his son who did not want to follow his father's wishes," then "The meaning of the father who does not want to apologize indicates that if he apologizes it means he agrees with his son's decision which he considers wrong."

Rinda Ravina, April 8 2023 at 12.00 WIB provides an explanation regarding the meaning of dialogue which shows the behavior of strict parents. The following are the results of interviews with informants as viewers of the film *Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap*:

"When Mak Domu and Pak Domu called their three children one by one, there the father threatened his children so that they would follow his wishes and for whatever reason he did not accept, it shows that the father wanted to have complete control over his children's future."




Based on this data, it can be concluded that Strict Parents in the film "*Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap*" are depicted as parents who really adhere to customs, namely Batak customs. Anything that goes against Batak customs will not be accepted for whatever reason, including children's decisions that go against Batak customs. It is depicted that their first child is Domu, where in Batak tradition the first male child continues the tradition. Here it is told that Domu migrated to the island of Java, specifically Bandung, where he wanted to marry his lover from a different tribe, namely from the Sundanese tribe. His parents, especially Mr. Domu, strongly opposed the decision made by his first child by threatening not to get to know and meet Domu's future wife.

Their third child is Gabe, Gabe is a law graduate where Father hopes that Gabe will become a Judge or Prosecutor with this degree but Gabe has another decision by becoming a famous comedian in Jakarta, where Father does not agree because he is considered to be disrespecting customs because he is joking and wasting his time. Pak Domu's struggle to send him to school. Their last child, Sahat, after he finished his studies, did not return to his hometown and instead stayed in Yogyakarta with Mr. Pomo, the decision made by Sahat did not make his parents happy because according to Batak custom, the last child had to stay in his hometown to take care of his parents and Also, the house he occupied was inherited by the last son, but because Sahat refused to live in his hometown, his father threatened not to give his inheritance to Sahat.

Whatever reasons his children use, it still doesn't change his father's decision. He doesn't want to listen to the opinions expressed by his children and is only seen as going against his parents. Dad thinks he understands what is best for his children without listening to their opinions. Data showing the

Icon of Strict Parent behavior is shown in Scene 6 when Pak Domu sits opposite his three sons, Scene 5 when Domu gives him an ulos, and Scenes 1 and 3 when Pak Domu and Mak Domu call Gabe and

Table 1. Icon Meaning

<p><i>Scene 1</i> 02:22:00 When Mak Domu and Pak Domu called Gabe, he showed Strict Parents behavior by hanging up the phone unilaterally because he didn't want an argument.</p>	
<p><i>Scene 3</i> 04:51:00 When Mak Domu and Pak Domu called Sahat. Unilaterally hanging up the phone shows that they don't want any objections</p>	
<p><i>Scene 5</i> 01:02:15 When Domu mistakenly gave ulos to Mr Domu. Pak Domu mocked Domu for not understanding the customs, coupled with the position of Pak Domu who was sitting and Domu standing shows Domu being strapped</p>	

*Scene 6
 01:12:23
 Showing Mr. Domu with his three sons, Domu, Gabe and Sahat sitting opposite each other, with an empty chair next to Mr. Domu showing a special chair and from the way Mr. Domu sits up straight, it indicates who has the highest authority in the family and also the sitting posture of his three children.
 shows reluctance*


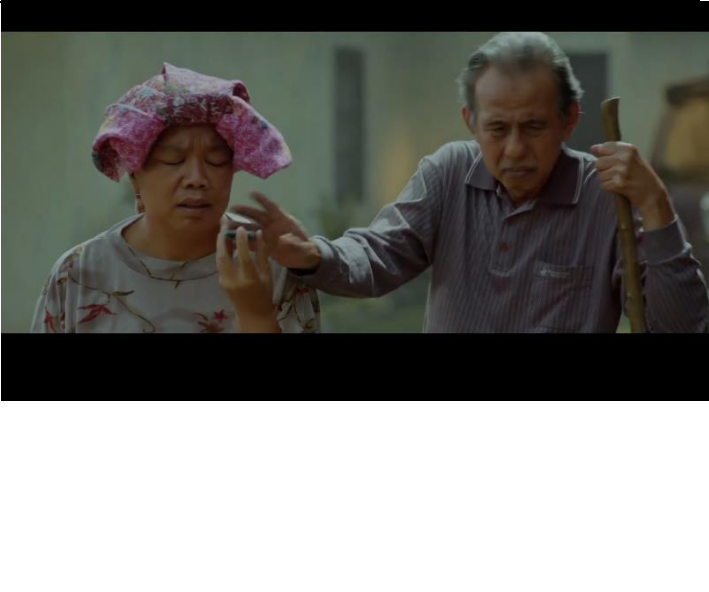
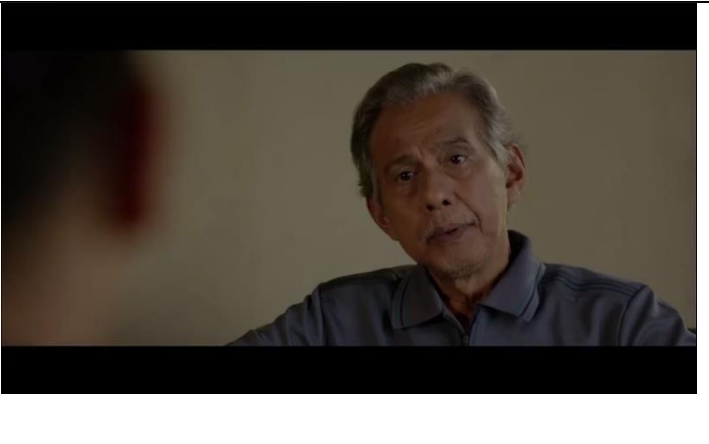



Then the data showing the Index of Strict Parent behavior is shown in Scene 1 when Mr. Forcibly takes the telephone that Mak Domu is holding and turns off the telephone connection unilaterally. And in Scene 7, when Dad is angry, he puts his hands on his hips. Dialogue that shows Strict Parents' behavior is in Scene 7 and Scene 6 where Mr. Domu opposes the decisions taken by his children and also Scenes 1,2,3 when Mr. Domu threatens if his children do not obey Mr. Domu's words.

Table 2. Index Meaning

*Scene 1
 02:22:00
 Where Mr. Domu urges Mak Domu to make Gabe follow Mr. Domu's wishes with threats so that Gabe doesn't have to go home and then it ends with Mr. Domu forcibly turning off the telephone line unilaterally.*





<p>Scene 2 03:28:00 There is a dialogue that shows Strict Parents behavior where Mak Domu says that Pak Domu threatened not to get to know Domu's future wife and not want to meet Domu.</p>		
<p>Scene 3 04:51:00 There is dialogue and also movements that show Strict Parents behavior where there is a threat from Mak Domu that if Sahat comes home he will not be allowed to wander again and there is also a movement to turn off the telephone connection. unilaterally from Mr Domu</p>		
<p>Scene 6 01:12:23 Where Mr. Domu, Sahat, Gabe and Domu gather in the living room, there is a dialogue between Mr. Domu who opposes the decision of his three children who are considered a waste of Mr. Domu's struggle.</p>		
<p>Scene 7 01:22:40 There are dialogues and movements that show Strict Parents behavior, dialogues such as "You made Mr Happy" "That's the way you make daddy happy, you used to be obedient"</p>		



Furthermore, what shows the Symbol of Strict Parent behavior is shown by the meaning of each piece of image, movement and dialogue in Scenes 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 that parents have the top position in the family and are more powerful and always feel self-righteous.

Table 3. Symbol Meaning

<p><i>Scene 1</i> 02:22:00 Where Mr. Domu urges Mak Domu to make Gabe follow Mr. Domu's wishes and turn off the telephone line unilaterally, indicating that he doesn't want any objections..</p>	
<p><i>Scene 2</i> 03:28:00 There is a dialogue that shows the behavior of Strict Parents, there is a threat that they do not want to get to know the prospective Domu, because if they meet and get to know each other, it is the same as agreeing to their relationship.</p>	
<p><i>Scene 3</i> 04:51:00 The presence of threats and also turning off the telephone unilaterally indicates that he does not want any objections from his son.</p>	

<p>Scene 6 01:12:23 Pak Domu who opposed the decision of his three children. If they do not follow Mr. Domu's wishes, they are considered to have wasted Mr. Domu's efforts to raise and educate them.</p>	
<p>Scene 7 01:22:40 There is dialogue and movement that shows strict parents' behavior. Putting your hands on your hips and raising your pliers when angry indicates the highest authority in the family and having complete control in the family</p>	

CONCLUSION

As a result of the research and discussions that have been carried out, researchers on meaning using Charles Sanders Peirce's theory conclude that:

1. The meaning of the icon in the film *Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap* depicts the visualization of Strict Parents' behavior where the meaning of parents is in the top position in the family who is more powerful than their children.
2. The meaning of Index in the film *Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap* shows the behavior of Strict Parents verbally and non-verbally, namely parents who have full power do not want to listen to what the child wants and also feel that they are always right by not wanting to apologize.
3. The meaning of symbols in the film *Ngeri-Ngeri Sedap* explains how parents who want their children to follow their wishes by imposing their will do not want any objections and even threaten their children if they do not obey their words because they do not appreciate and respect their traditions.

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