

Intergenerational Values or Attachment? Exploring the Parents' Role in Generation Z's Social Engagement within Society

Warisan Nilai atau Kelekatan Relasi? Menggali Peran Orang Tua dalam Keterlibatan Sosial Generasi Z dalam Masyarakat

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Abstract

Social participation in organisations and community activities is a key indicator of individual engagement that contributes to strengthening social cohesion. However, research on the role of internal family mechanisms in explaining social participation among Generation Z remains limited, particularly during early adulthood. This study aims to examine the relationship between the intergenerational transmission of family values, parental bonding, and social participation among Generation Z in early adulthood. The study employs a quantitative approach with a cross-sectional correlational design. The sample comprised 175 participants aged 18–25 years, selected via purposive sampling. Measurements were conducted using the Transmission of Values Scale, the Parental Bonding Instrument, and an ordinal indicator of social participation. Data analysis employed Pearson's correlation, with further analysis comprising ordinal regression and t-tests. The results indicate that the transmission of family values is positively associated with social participation. Conversely, parental bonding does not show a significant association. Further analysis indicates that residential status influences levels of social participation, with individuals who have not migrated tending to be more active. Thus, the findings suggest that family values contribute to social participation in early adulthood, with residential context functioning as a distinguishing factor in participation levels.

Keywords : Social Participation; Transmitted Family Values; Attachment; Generation Z

Abstrak

Partisipasi sosial dalam organisasi dan kegiatan kemasyarakatan merupakan indikator penting keterlibatan individu yang berkontribusi pada penguatan kohesi sosial. Namun, penelitian mengenai peran mekanisme internal keluarga dalam menjelaskan partisipasi sosial pada Generasi Z masih terbatas, khususnya pada fase dewasa awal. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menguji hubungan antara warisan nilai keluarga, kelekatan relasi orang tua, dan partisipasi sosial pada Generasi Z dalam fase dewasa awal. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kuantitatif dengan desain korelasional cross-sectional. Partisipan berjumlah 175 individu berusia 18–25 tahun yang dipilih melalui teknik *purposive sampling*. Pengukuran dilakukan menggunakan *Transmission of Values Scale*, *Parental Bonding Instrument*, serta indikator partisipasi sosial yang dikategorikan secara ordinal. Analisis data menggunakan korelasi Pearson dengan analisis lanjutan berupa regresi ordinal dan uji beda. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa warisan nilai keluarga berhubungan positif dengan partisipasi sosial. Sebaliknya, kelekatan relasi dengan orangtua tidak menunjukkan hubungan yang signifikan. Analisis lanjutan menunjukkan bahwa status tempat tinggal membedakan tingkat partisipasi sosial, di mana individu yang tidak merantau cenderung lebih aktif. Dengan demikian, temuan ini menunjukkan bahwa nilai keluarga memiliki peran dalam mendorong partisipasi sosial pada dewasa awal, dengan konteks tempat tinggal sebagai faktor yang turut membedakan tingkat partisipasi.

Kata Kunci : Partisipasi Sosial; Nilai Keluarga Yang Diwariskan; Kelekatan; Generasi Z

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INTRODUCTION

Social participation in organizations and community activities is an important indicator of individual engagement. This engagement contributes to personal development and plays a role in strengthening social cohesion in society (Gamo & Park, 2024; Lam et al., 2023; Verdyana & Tjahjoanggoro, 2021). For younger generations, such participation serves as a means to establish meaningful social relationships and develop their social identity (Jekamo et al., 2025; Mužík et al., 2025). However, the dynamics of social participation among Generation Z in early adulthood exhibit increasingly complex characteristics in tandem with rapid technological advancements and globalization (Aruna et al., 2022; Litan, 2025). Digitalization has been shown to alter patterns of social interaction and transform the forms of individual social engagement (Kinanti, 2026). On the one hand, the digital space opens up broader opportunities for participation; on the other hand, interactions that are increasingly mediated by technology have the potential to reduce the intensity of direct and deep social engagement in real-life contexts (Boulianne, 2020; Ohme et al., 2020; Valkenburg et al., 2022). This phenomenon suggests that the understanding of social participation among Generation Z cannot be reduced solely to the influence of external factors, but rather, it is also shaped by internal mechanisms that influence an individual's social orientation (Purba et al., 2026; Zhan & You, 2024).

The family unit has been identified as a primary factor in the development of an individual's social orientation. The family is the primary agent of socialization that plays a role in intergenerational transmitting values and shaping the quality of interpersonal relationships from an early age (Sebastião & Neto, 2025). In this study, the aforementioned process is understood through two main dimensions: the intergenerational of values and relational attachment. The intergenerational of values is defined as the intergenerational transmission of family values, which is the process through which values, norms, and social orientations are passed down from parents to children through the mechanisms of socialization and enculturation (Barni et al., 2024; Phinney & Vedder, 2023). The values transmitted are not merely passively received; rather, they are internalized as a framework for understanding and responding to the social environment (Vyatkin et al., 2022). Conversely, relational attachment is defined as the emotional bond between parents and children, characterized by warmth, support, and psychological closeness (Mikulincer & Shaver, 2016). These two dimensions represent complementary mechanisms, in which the transmission of values provides a cognitive foundation, while attachment provides an emotional context that facilitates the internalization of values into social behavior (Pastorelli et al., 2021).

A substantial body of research has emerged that underscores the notion that social participation is the result of a complex interplay between individual-level factors and the characteristics of the social environment (see Levasseur et al., 2022; Mužík et al., 2025; Rahma, 2023; Vonhm, 2025). However, extant literature continues to prioritize external

factors, such as social and institutional environments, while neglecting to consider internal family mechanisms (Baldwin, Pickering & Dale, 2023; Bøhlerengen & Wiium, 2022; Pickard, 2022). In addition, studies that concurrently incorporate the domains of ingrained principles and relational attachment to elucidate social engagement, particularly among early-adult Generation Z, are scant (Crone & Achterberg, 2022; L Spreeuw, 2025; Nielsen et al., 2025). This limitation becomes even more apparent when considering the context of contemporary social change, such as individuals' geographic mobility. The residential status of an individual, defined as their relationship to a primary place of residence, may be associated with the manner in which individuals actualize their values through social engagement in diverse environments (McLoughlin et al., 2024; Scannell et al., 2016).

The present study utilizes a dual-focus approach, examining the roles of both intergenerational values and relational attachment in explaining social participation among early-adult Generation Z members. This examination is conducted in the context of residential status, which is understood as an ecological context. This approach is expected to provide a more comprehensive understanding of how cognitive and relational dimensions within the family interact to shape an individual's social engagement amid dynamic social change.

Theoretically, this study draws on Social Capital Theory, which posits that social participation is a manifestation of social capital formed through networks, trust, and norms of reciprocity within society (Levasseur et al., 2022; Nyqvist et al., 2013). The concept of intergenerational values is elucidated through the lens of Socialization Theory, which underscores the process of internalizing values through modeling and communication within the family unit (Guhin et al., 2021; Vyatkin et al., 2022). Attachment Theory offers a comprehensive explanation of relational attachment, emphasizing the pivotal role of emotional relationships in shaping an individual's capacity to form adaptive social relationships (Mikulincer & Shaver, 2016; Thompson et al., 2022).

The present study has two objectives. Firstly, it aims to examine the relationship between intergenerational values and relational attachment and social participation among early-adult Generation Z individuals, both partially and simultaneously. The novelty of this study lies in its integration of two key mechanisms within the family—the cognitive dimension (intergenerational values) and the relational dimension (relational attachment)—into a single analytical model to explain social participation. Furthermore, this study incorporates residential status as an ecological context, thereby enhancing our comprehension of the actualization of values in social behavior.

The results of this study are expected to provide a theoretical contribution by demonstrating that social participation is not only related to external factors but also to the interaction between intergenerational values and relational attachment within the family. These factors were tested simultaneously within a single analytical model in the

context of early-adult Generation Z. These findings are also expected to expand the field of family social psychology by positioning intergenerational values and relational attachment as two complementary mechanisms in shaping an individual's social orientation. Furthermore, by incorporating residential status as an ecological context, this study offers a more contextual perspective on how an individual's values are actualized in social participation behaviors amid the dynamics of social change and geographic mobility.

RESEARCH METHOD

The present study employs a quantitative approach with a cross-sectional correlational design to examine the relationship between intergenerational values, relational attachment, and social participation. Participants were selected using purposive sampling based on the following inclusion criteria: individuals aged 18–25 who belong to Generation Z and are in early adulthood, and who have been or are currently involved in social activities such as organizations or community initiatives.

The sample size was determined using G*Power 3.1 software, assuming a moderate effect size, a significance level of 0.05, and a power of 0.95, resulting in a minimum requirement of 107 participants. A total of 251 respondents participated in this study, and after screening based on the inclusion criteria, 175 participants were included in the analysis. The participants were also categorized based on their residential status, which included those living away from home and those living at home.

The data collection process was executed through the utilization of a Google Forms-based questionnaire, which was disseminated via multiple social media platforms, including WhatsApp, Telegram, Instagram, and X. Prior to the completion of the questionnaire, participants were requested to sign an informed consent form; subsequently, they provided demographic information. The data were subsequently gathered through three distinct measures: a scale assessing participants' involvement in organizations or community activities, the Transmission of Values Scale (TVS), and the Parental Bonding Instrument (PBI).

Transmission of Values Scale (TVS) and the Parental Bonding Instrument (PBI) were translated from their original English versions into Indonesian through an initial translation process conducted by researchers under the supervision of a faculty member in the field of social psychology. The translation was then reviewed to ensure the conceptual equivalence of each item with the original instruments. The reviewed instruments were subsequently administered to respondents with both psychology and non-psychology backgrounds to assess readability. Subsequently, the content validity of the instruments was appraised through expert judgment. The raters evaluated each item based on semantic appropriateness, linguistic clarity, and relevance to the construct being measured using a four-point scale. The assessment results were then subjected to analysis using the Item Content Validity Index (I-CVI) and the Scale Content Validity Index/Average (S-CVI/Ave). Feedback from raters was

used to refine the wording of the instrument before its implementation in the study.

The internal consistency of the instrument was evaluated using Cronbach's alpha coefficient with the aid of IBM SPSS Statistics 31.0 software. In addition to calculating the overall reliability of the instrument, analyses were conducted on each subscale of the TVS and PBI to ensure the internal consistency of each dimension before they were used in the research analysis.

Subsequently, data analysis was conducted using IBM SPSS Statistics 31.0. The primary analysis employed ordinal regression to examine the simultaneous relationships between variables and social participation. Subsequently, bivariate analysis was performed using Spearman's correlation analysis, along with the Mann-Whitney test to examine differences in levels of social participation based on residential status (migrated or not) in the demographic data.

Social Participation

Social participation was measured based on the level of an individual's involvement in various social activities. This was accomplished through the administration of four open-ended questions. These questions pertained to the following: school/campus organizations or community activities that the participant had previously participated in and/or was currently participating in; the participant's role in those activities; their experience participating in volunteer activities; and their reasons for participating in these various activities. The level of social participation is then categorized on an ordinal scale with a score range of 0–2, where 0 = does not participate in social activities, organizations, or volunteer activities; 1 = participates in at least one type of activity; and 2 = participates in more than one type of activity. A higher score on the scale indicates a higher level of social participation.

Table 1. Statement of Social Participation

Statement of Social Participation
Silahkan tuliskan organisasi sekolah/kampus/kegiatan kemasyarakatan apa saja yang pernah dan atau sedang Anda ikuti.
Apa peran Anda dalam organisasi dan atau kegiatan tersebut? Silahkan tuliskan kegiatan sukarelawan/volunteer apa saja yang pernah dan atau sedang Anda ikuti
Jelaskan mengapa Anda tertarik untuk mengikuti kegiatan organisasi, kegiatan kemasyarakatan, maupun kegiatan sebagai relawan.

Intergenerational Values

Transmission of Values Scale (TVS), developed by Higgins (2022), was employed to measure intergenerational values. This scale utilizes a four-point Likert scale. The following scale is to be used for the purposes of this study: 1 = strongly disagree, 2 = disagree, 3 = agree, and 4 = strongly agree. The total score is derived by summing all responses across the 21 items, with a theoretical score range of 21–84. A higher score on this scale indicates a stronger transmission of values from one's family.

The TVS comprises 21 items, encompassing the following dimensions: family as a moral example, family involvement, discussions of potential consequences,

coercive strategies, religious orientation, media use, and empathy engagement.

Table 2. Adapted version of the Transmission of Values Scale

Dimension	Item
Family as a moral example	Keluarga saya memberikan contoh yang baik dalam membuat aturan di rumah yang selaras dengan nilai-nilai budaya setempat Orang tua saya memberikan contoh yang baik dalam keputusan untuk saya ikut berinteraksi sosial dengan lingkungan sekitar Saya belajar pentingnya terlibat dalam kegiatan dan organisasi di masyarakat, berdasarkan yang saya lihat dari orangtua saya.
Family involvement	Keluarga saya menerapkan nilai-nilai budaya dalam semua aspek kehidupan mereka Keluarga saya terbiasa berdiskusi tentang apapun, termasuk soal pentingnya terlibat dalam organisasi yang ada di masyarakat (keagamaan, organisasi pemuda) Keluarga saya memiliki waktu rutin untuk mendiskusikan pentingnya terlibat dalam kegiatan sosial di lingkungan tempat tinggal. Keluarga saya terbiasa mendiskusikan tentang contoh nyata pentingnya berinteraksi dalam lingkungan seperti membantu orang lain
Discussions of possible consequences	Keluarga saya mendorong saya untuk memikirkan akibat jangka panjang dari keterlibatan saya dalam lingkungan sosial masyarakat Orangtua saya mendorong saya untuk memikirkan manfaat untuk diri saya, ketika saya terlibat dalam kegiatan sosial Orangtua saya mengingatkan bahwa apa yang saya lakukan saat berinteraksi di masyarakat bisa berdampak pada diri saya dalam jangka panjang
Coercive Strategies (COE)	Orangtua saya membuat saya merasa bersalah kalau saya tidak mau ikut membantu saat ada kegiatan sosial di lingkungan tempat tinggal, seperti kerja bakti, acara keagamaan
Overprotection	Orangtua saya menegur kalau saya tidak terlibat dalam kegiatan sosial di lingkungan sekitar (tempat tinggal, kampus, sekolah) Orangtua saya marah kalau saya melakukan kesalahan yang melanggar norma budaya, tidak mau berinteraksi, tidak ikut andil dalam membantu sesama
Religious Orientation (RO)	Orangtua saya mendorong saya untuk berpartisipasi dalam kegiatan keagamaan yang ada di masyarakat Orangtua saya menanamkan bahwa nilai-nilai budaya penting untuk dilakukan sesuai ajaran dalam agama. Orangtua saya terlibat dalam kegiatan keagamaan dan/atau sosial kemasyarakatan yang menguatkan nilai budaya.
Use of Media (MED)	Orang Tua saya mengajak berdiskusi tentang contoh pentingnya berinteraksi dengan masyarakat melalui film atau video yang kami tonton bersama. Orangtua saya dan saya terbiasa membahas kegiatan relawan saat terjadi bencana yang diinformasikan dari sebuah tayangan di TV. Orangtua saya dan saya terbiasa mendiskusikan konten yang suka membantu orang lain (menggalang dana, terjun langsung sebagai relawan) yang sedang trending di media sosial
Empathy engagement	Orangtua saya menguji pemahaman saya tentang kegiatan sosial melalui terlibat langsung atau bekerjasama dalam sebuah kegiatan sosial Orangtua saya mendorong saya untuk dapat melihat isu-isu sosial dalam kehidupan dari sudut pandang orang lain

Reliability of the Transmission of Values Scale (TVS)

The present study sought to assess the total reliability and the reliability of each subscale of the Transmission of Values Scale (TVS). Table 3 presents the total reliability and the reliability of each TVS subscale. The scale demonstrates good internal consistency overall, while the other dimensions fall into the good to moderate categories.

The variability in reliability scores across dimensions is attributable to the relatively limited number of items in certain subscales. Despite the presence of multiple

dimensions exhibiting lower alpha values, the collective reliability of the TVS signifies sufficient internal consistency, thereby enabling the instrument to serve as a reliable metric for the transmission of values among study participants.

Table 3. Reliability of the Transmission of Values Scale Subscale

Dimension	N	Cronbach's α
Family as a Moral Example	4	0,695
Family Involvement	3	0,756
Discussions of Possible Consequences	3	0,431
Coercive Strategies	3	0,586
Religious Orientation	3	0,533
Use of Media	3	0,767
Empathy Engagement	2	0,690
Total	21	0,890

Item Validity of the Transmission of Values Scale (TVS)

The results of content validity based on expert judgment indicate that all items on the Transmission of Values Scale (TVS) have I-CVI scores ranging from 0.80 to 1.00. An S-CVI/Ave score of 0.97 signifies that the instrument possesses excellent content validity. Consequently, all items on the Transmission of Values Scale (TVS) are deemed

relevant and appropriate for utilization, in accordance with the recommendations of Lynn (1986) and Polit and Beck (2006).

Table 4. Item Validity of the Transmission of Values Scale (TVS)

Index	Score
I-CVI range	0,80–1,00
S-CVI/Ave	0,97

Relational Attachment

Relational attachment was measured using the Parental Bonding Instrument (PBI). Parker, Tupling, and Brown (1979) developed the PBI and utilizes a four-point Likert scale. The following scale is to be used for the purposes of this study: 1 = strongly disagree, 2 = disagree, 3 = agree, and 4 = strongly agree. The total score is derived by summing all items after reversing the scores for the unfavorable items (items 7–19), as illustrated in Table 3. Theoretically, the PBI score ranges from 25 to 100, with higher scores denoting a stronger perception of the parent-child relationship on the measured dimensions.

The PBI comprises 25 items that evaluate an individual's perception of their relationship with their parents in terms of warmth (care) and control (overprotection).

Table 5. Adapted Version of the Parental Bonding Instrument

Dimension	Item
Care	Orangtua saya berbicara dengan suara yang lembut dan bersahabat
	Orangtua saya berusaha memahami masalah dan keresahan saya
	Orangtua saya sering menunjukkan kasih sayang melalui sikap dan tindakan sehari-hari
	Orangtua saya senang bertukar pendapat dengan saya
	Orangtua saya sering bersikap ramah kepada saya
	Orangtua saya tahu bagaimana menenangkan saya ketika saya merasa sedih atau cemas
	Orangtua saya jarang membantu ketika saya benar-benar membutuhkan dukungan
	Orangtua saya terlihat dingin dan kurang menunjukkan perasaan kepada saya
	Orangtua saya sering tidak memahami kebutuhan atau keinginan saya
	Saya merasa tidak diinginkan oleh orangtua saya
Overprotection	Orangtua saya jarang berbicara dengan saya
	Orangtua saya jarang memberi pujian atas apa yang saya lakukan
	Orangtua saya kurang memberikan kepercayaan kepada saya untuk dapat melakukan segala sesuatunya secara mandiri
	Orangtua saya mencoba mengatur semua hal yang saya lakukan
	Orangtua saya kurang menghargai privasi saya
	Orangtua saya memperlakukan saya seperti anak kecil
	Orangtua saya membuat saya merasa bergantung dengan mereka
	Orangtua saya menganggap saya tidak mampu mengurus diri sendiri
	Orangtua saya overprotektif terhadap saya
	Orangtua saya memberikan kesempatan kepada saya untuk melakukan hal-hal yang saya sukai
	Orangtua saya memberi saya kesempatan untuk membuat keputusan sendiri
	Orangtua saya memberikan saya kesempatan untuk menentukan pilihan saya sendiri
	Orangtua saya memberi saya kebebasan seluas-luasnya
	Orangtua saya mengizinkan kemanapun saya ingin pergi
	Orang Tua saya memperbolehkan saya berpakaian dan berpenampilan sesuai pilihan saya sendiri

Reliability of the Parental Bonding Instrument (PBI)

The total reliability and the reliability of each subscale were the focus of the study, as illustrated in Table 6. The PBI's overall reliability is considered to fall within the "good" category. The reliability of the Care and Overprotection subscales is evaluated as good and acceptable, respectively. These results suggest that each subscale possesses adequate internal consistency for utilization in this study.

Table 6. Reliability of the Parental Bonding Instrument (PBI)

Dimension	N	Cronbach's α
Care	12	0,827
Overprotection	13	0,771
Total	25	0,836

Item Validity of the Parental Bonding Instrument (PBI)

According to the findings of the present study, all items on the Parental Bonding Instrument (PBI) obtained an I-CVI score of 1.00 and an S-CVI/Ave score of 1.00, based on expert judgment. In accordance with the recommendations of Lynn (1986) and Polit and Beck (2006), the observed scores indicate that all items demonstrate excellent content fit, meet the criteria for content validity, and are suitable for use in research.

Table 7. Item Validity of the Parental Bonding Instrument (PBI)

Index	Score
I-CVI Range	1,00
S-CVI/Ave	1,00

RESEARCH RESULTS

Assumption testing was conducted to ensure the validity of the analysis. The number of participants in this study satisfied the criteria for adequate sample size. The normality test indicated that the data distribution was not entirely normal; however, this condition is tolerable given the relatively large sample size. Multicollinearity tests showed no significant correlation among independent variables. Linearity tests further demonstrated that the relationships among the variables were linear. Consequently, the data satisfied the criteria for subsequent analysis.

The present study involved 175 participants in early adulthood. The majority of participants were approximately 21 years of age, and the group was predominantly female. Participants were divided into two groups based on their residential status: those who had migrated and those who had not. The distribution of participants by residential status is shown in Table 8. In addition, the results of the descriptive analysis, as presented in Table 9, indicated that the phenomenon of intergenerational value fell into the high category, relational attachment fell into the moderate category, and social participation fell into the high category.

Table 8. Participant Demographics

Participant Characteristics	N	%
Age (in years)		
18	2	1,1 %
19	25	14,3 %
20	29	16,6 %
21	61	34,9 %
22	41	23,4 %
23	6	3,4 %
24	5	2,9 %
25	6	3,4 %
Gender		
Male	20	11,4 %
Female	155	88,6 %
Residential Status		
Not Migrated	79	45,1 %
Migrated	96	54,9 %

Table 9. Descriptive variables

Variabel	Min	Max	Mean	Category
Intergenerational Values	1,6	3,9	3,001	High
Relational Attachment	1,4	2,6	2,211	Moderate
Social Participation	0,0	2,0	1,366	High

Ordinal Regression Analysis

An ordinal regression analysis was conducted to test the simultaneous relationship between intergenerational values and relational attachment with social participation, while considering residential status as the ecological context.

The findings of the regression analysis presented in Table 10 indicate that the model incorporating all three predictors exhibits an adequate fit. This model accounts for 11% of the variation in social participation, as indicated by a Nagelkerke R^2 of .110. In this simultaneous model, intergenerational values demonstrate a significant relationship with social participation, while relational attachment does not show a significant relationship. Furthermore, residential status has been demonstrated to exhibit a substantial correlation with social participation.

Table 10. Results of the Ordinal Regression Analysis

Predictors	Estimate (B)	Std. Error	Wald	Sig. (p)
Intergenerational Values (X1)	0,053	0,018	8,492	0,004
Relational Attachment (X2)	-0,024	0,035	0,478	0,489
Residential Status [0=Not Migrated]	0,801	0,304	6,950	0,008
Model Fitting (Sig.)	<0,001			
Nagelkerke R-Square	0,110			

Bivariate Analysis (Spearman's Correlation)

Bivariate analysis was performed using Spearman's correlation coefficient. The results of the Spearman's correlation analysis are presented in Table 11, showing that intergenerational values have a significant positive relationship with social participation. Conversely, the degree of proximity in relational attachment was found to be unrelated to social participation.

Table 11. Results of the Spearman's Correlation

Correlation	R	Sig.
Intergenerational Values → Social Participation (X1 → Y)	79	0,003
Relational Attachment → Social Participation (X2 → Y)	96	0,581

Mann-Whitney Test Analysis

Subsequently, a Mann-Whitney test was conducted in Table 12. The results of the Mann-Whitney test indicate a significant difference between individuals who have migrated and those who have not, with those who have not migrated exhibiting a higher level of social participation.

Table 12. Results of the Mann-Whitney Test Analysis

Residential Status	N	Mean Rank	U	p
Not Migrated	79	98.77	2941.500	.005
Migrated	96	79.14		

DISCUSSION

The present study demonstrates that intergenerational values exert a more substantial influence on the explanation of social participation in comparison to relational attachment. These findings indicate that the values instilled within the family are not merely cognitive but are internalized, serving as the foundation for shaping an individual's social orientation in interpreting their involvement in collective activities. This finding aligns with the conclusions of previous studies that underscored the significance of a consistent family socialization process—whether through daily practices, discussions, or parental role modeling—in shaping an individual's social orientation (Fatima et al., 2022; Le et al., 2024; Salado et al., 2024; Santana et al., 2024).

Interestingly, the present study found that, in contrast to previous studies that identified parent-child relational attachment as a direct predictor of social behavior (Gillath et al., 2024; Hill et al., 2024; Kaurin et al., 2022), it was not significantly associated with social participation. These findings suggest that in the context of early adulthood, emotional closeness with parents appears to function more as a context that supports the process of value internalization (Barni et al., 2022; Barni et al., 2024; Fan et al., 2023). Individuals with supportive relationships tend to be more receptive to the values transmitted to them. However,

social engagement is still contingent on the strength and consistency of those values (Park & Kim, 2024; Phinney & Vedder, 2023). Consequently, relationship closeness functions as a mediator through the mechanism of values, aligning with the findings that the quality of family relationships promotes the acceptance of values. However, the efficacy of this process is contingent upon the quality of the values instilled from an early age (Deneault et al., 2023; Wang et al., 2025).

In addition to internal family factors, residential status has been demonstrated to be associated with social participation. Individuals who do not migrate tend to exhibit higher levels of engagement in organizational and community activities compared to those who do migrate. This finding indicates that only their personal values do influence not an individual's propensity for social engagement but also by the presence of a social environment conducive to the actualization of those values. Individuals who remain in their hometowns have more stable access to social networks and familiar norms, while those who migrate face demands for adaptation that require cognitive and emotional resources (Akter et al., 2024; Hofhuis et al., 2023). Consequently, the residential context can be conceptualized as an ecological factor that differentiates individuals' opportunities to engage in social participation (Ong et al., 2024; Ruan et al., 2022). These disparities are not only associated with access to social networks but also with the intensity of daily interactions that shape engagement in more collective activities (Zou, Peng & Han, 2025). Consequently, the residential environment exerts a significant influence on the extent to which individuals are able to translate their values into tangible social actions.

However, subsequent analysis suggests that the impact of residential status is neither direct nor constant; rather, it is influenced by contextual factors and its potential interaction with other psychological variables. These findings suggest that residential status is not a standalone predictor of social participation. Rather, it functions within a broader framework of influences that collectively shape an individual's propensity to engage in social activities (Sabo, Kuan & Kueh, 2024; Zhang et al., 2022). Consequently, social participation can be conceptualized as the outcome of the interplay between individual and contextual factors that collectively exert a simultaneous influence on social behavior.

The findings of this study indicate that social participation is the result of the interaction between the value dimension, the relational dimension, and the environmental context. Intergenerational transmission of family values from parents to children provides a normative direction for social behavior. The closeness of the parent-child relational attachment serves as a context that reinforces the process of internalization. Residential status (migrated or not) influences an individual's opportunities to actualize those values through social engagement. The novelty of this study lies in distinguishing the roles of the value dimension and the relational dimension within the family. Specifically, among Generation Z in early adulthood,

intergenerational values play a more consistent role in explaining social participation compared to relational attachment, particularly in the context of residential mobility, which also shapes individuals' access and opportunities to engage in social activities. This finding suggests that the internalization of values shaped by the family socialization process exhibits greater stability in its predictive capacity for social behavior when compared to the quality of emotional closeness alone. However, although relational attachment can engender a supportive emotional environment, its influence on social participation is contingent upon the extent to which social values have been profoundly internalized. This phenomenon assumes particular significance in the context of residential mobility, where disparities in access to social networks and the demands of environmental adaptation have the potential to either fortify or diminish an individual's capacity to translate these values into tangible social actions.

Theoretically, these findings underscore the importance of distinguishing between value-based (cognitive-normative) mechanisms and relational mechanisms in family studies, particularly in explaining social participation among young adults (Chen & Ang, 2025). This distinction in roles suggests that emotional closeness in parent-child relationships (relational attachment) does not always directly translate into behavior, unless accompanied by a strong and consistent process of value internalization (Hosokawa & Katsura, 2024). In practical terms, efforts to enhance social participation among the younger generation must not only focus on emotional support within the family but also strengthen the transmission of social values that are internalized and reflected in daily life.

However, it must be acknowledged that the present study is not without its limitations. The variation in social participation that can be explained remains limited, suggesting the possibility that other factors have not been accounted for, such as the influence of peers or involvement in digital communities (Valkenburg et al., 2022). Moreover, the cross-sectional design precludes the analysis of the dynamics of changes in social participation over time.

CONCLUSION

The present study demonstrates that social participation among Generation Z in early adulthood is more effectively explained by intergenerational values from parents to children than by relational attachment or closeness of the parent-child relationship. The internalization of values serves as the foundational element for individuals' engagement in social activities. Relational attachment functions more as a contextual element that supports the process of value internalization. Moreover, individuals who have not migrated tend to exhibit higher levels of social participation, suggesting that environmental stability facilitates the translation of values into social behavior. These findings indicate that the value dimension exerts a more

substantial influence than the relational dimension in the context of social participation.

Future research is recommended to examine other factors outside the family, such as the influence of peers and the digital context. A longitudinal design is also advised to understand changes in social participation. In practical terms, it is incumbent upon families to consistently emphasize the instillation of social values—not only through emotional closeness, but also through concrete practices and communication in daily life.

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ETHICAL APPROVAL

The present study was conducted in accordance with the ethical principles that govern research involving human subjects. Prior to participation, all subjects were informed about the purpose of the study, the confidentiality of the collected data, and their right to withdraw from the study at any time. Participation in the study was voluntary, and informed consent was obtained from all participants via an informed consent form.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The author affirms that there is no conflict of interest in the conduct of this research or the publication of this article.

TRANSPARENCY OF DATA

The data that support the findings of this study are available and may be obtained from the corresponding author upon reasonable request, subject to considerations of confidentiality and research ethics.

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AI USAGE STATEMENT

The authors declare that no artificial intelligence (AI) tools were used in the research, data analysis, or preparation of this manuscript.

AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTION

The author is responsible for the conceptualization of the research, the development of the research design, the collection of data, the analysis of data, the interpretation of the results, the drafting of the manuscript, and the provision of final approval of the published version of the article.

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