

IDENTIFICATION OF PROFILES OF STREET CHILDREN AND MITIGATION INTERVENTION PLANS

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Abstract: *The treatment of street children so far is uncompromising and less serious, ignoring their rights and freedoms as citizens to be protected by the state. Therefore, the aim of this study is to create mitigation and intervention plans on street children. The approach in this study used surveys with cluster sampling techniques because they were limited to areas in Bangkalan district. The sample group consisted of girls and boys, aged 8 to 18, who worked on the street for at least a month before the survey. There's a total of 43 respondents. The results showed that based on the age of respondents, 8-10 years was 16.3%, 12-15 years was 23.3% and 16-18 years was 60.5%. Based on the level of education, respondents did not pass SD was 18.6%; passed SD 23.2%, not passed SMP 37.2% and passed SMP 20.9%. According to street activities carried out: begging 13.9%, playing music 30.2%, cleaning car glass 11.6%, street clowns 9.3% and trade 34.9%, according to the results, then mitigation measures can be taken by increasing public care, not giving in the street when begging but can be through social foundations or official government institutions such as social services. Internal intervention planning can be done by providing work skills training, financial management training and psycho-education for psychological formation. Externally, governments can help in economic and social empowerment. Governments can facilitate through localization of trade activities in conducting business, providing capital assistance with loan savings system. In conclusion, it is necessary to work comprehensively with governments, communities and social institutions to care for each other to improve the well-being of street children in various aspects, both economic, social and psychology.*

Keywords: *street children, mitigation, intervention plan*

INTRODUCTION

Bangkalan district is one of the districts that is in the territory of the island of Madura. Daily news detik.com on December 18, 2022 that Bangkalan district and the city of Surabaya are connected only by a bridge that has a length of about 5,438 m, which is the Suramadu bridge, built in 2003 and officially opened since 2009 and is the longest bridge in Indonesia.

The easy access to the island of Madura through the bridge of Suramadu, which can be reached in just a few minutes, is an opportunity for street children to explore the district of Bangkalan as a territory for their activities.

The presence of street children, although the number is claimed to have continued to decline since 2021 (from the number of 47,00 street children), until the latest data show the figure of 132,00 street children on 2022, and 66,00 street children on 2023 (https://bappeda.jogjaprovo.go.id/dataku/data_dasar?id_skpd=5). this number is still not a small number. Their existence seems to reinforce how the treatment of the local government that is not serious or even impressive tends to allow them to flourish and legitimize their existence and activities. On the other hand, it appears that their well-being, both psychologically, socially and economically, is a reflection of the lives of this nation's children who are still far from peaceful. It smells like seeing this scenery that's getting more and more day-to-day. Street children have legally become a concern of the state so they deserve proper legal protection (Zulkifli, et al, 2023). However, the policy implementer has not given an optimal response in implementing the policy of handling street children (Rachmawati & Faedlulloh, 2021) Worrying street children's condition will definitely prevent them from developing optimally.

The rights of those who are supposed to be protected by the state are neglected, including the right to life and a decent education. Therefore, it's not just the government's responsibility, we all have a responsibility to build a generation of intelligent and high-quality successors to this country.

The fact that many street children are in several street locations suggests that they cannot avoid the most important problem, the economic problem. However, other factors,

such as social, political, cultural, and educational systems themselves, may also be the cause of street children. Related to economic factors, children who do not have the financial ability to meet the needs of their families in the end. Abdullah (2021) stated that the factors causing the emergence of street children are various from economic problems, broken-home, earning a living or being entangled in promiscuity.

Children's educational needs will be affected by the decline in the family's economic capacity. When their basic needs, namely food, cannot be met, the opportunity to get a decent education will not be a top priority. In fact, many of them are unaware of the importance of education, which can improve a person's life by maximizing their abilities and potential.

Although article 28 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child states that States must ensure that children have the right to education, and that States are responsible for facilitating that right through compulsory schooling programmes, street children tend to choose to live on the street. It's compulsive. However, this does not mean that the street kid is not interested in learning. Failure of street children to meet school requirements is very likely. Besides administrative problems, the inability of street children to enjoy education. In fact, a good education will boost children's intelligence and make them healthy people. It is true that education does not always have to be obtained in a formal school bench, even with all the constraints, education can be given and applied wherever the child is. Adapting to their living conditions can also make them gain an interest in learning.

Ladjar, dkk (2024) argues that although there is public awareness of the importance of the right to education, the implementation of government policy is still less effective. Street children often lack access to adequate education and are vulnerable to various forms of exploitation and violence.

Anyway, this state of affairs shows their quality of life as well. Based on the background above, the aim of this study is to find the profile of street children in Bangkalan district and strategies to deal with the problem.

METHOD

The research uses descriptive quantitative approaches to raise issues to explain phenomena that are ongoing in society, and to describe data responsibly to prove them. Data collection was done using a questionnaire containing a number of statements and profile information of respondents. The samples were obtained through cluster sampling, because only the territory in Bangkalan district is limited, especially at the location of the road placement in the districts where there are street children. According to Ridwan (2004), cluster sampling is a technique of Sampling performed by taking representatives from any existing region/group. The criterion of respondents are children's and teen's age 10 year until 18 year, stay at street Bangkalan city, do activity on street likes begging, safeguarding, snooping cars, clown and trading.

Data analysis techniques using descriptive analysis. According to Sugiyono (2015), data analysis is an action that is carried out after data from all respondents or other data sources are collected. The analysis process includes grouping the data by type and variable of the respondent, making tabs based on the variables of the entire respondents, displaying data for each variable studied, performing calculations to answer the problem formula, and performing statistical test calculations. In this study using the help of the SPSS application version 23.0 for statistical testing. Before data analysis, assumption test has been done and distribution of data normal.

RESULTS

General description of research subjects The survey involved street children in Bangkalan district, with 43 respondents. Respondents came from several locations throughout the Bangkalan district, especially those located on the roads, in the ports and in the imperial shops. The number of respondents in the location based on observation is different people who have been scheduled according to time, and activity. Based on the observation, however, that there is someone else who arranged and delivered them to the location and picked them up. Here's a picture of their profile below:

Table 1. Respondent profile overview

No	Description	total	Percent
1	Age (Year)		
	8 – 10	7	16,3 %
	12 – 15	10	23,3 %
2	16 – 18	26	60,5 %
	Location		
	District Kamal	4	9,3 %
	District Burneh	8	18,6 %
	District Sukolilo	3	7 %
	District Arosbaya	2	4,6 %
3	District Tragah	19	44,2 %
	District kota	7	16,3 %
	Education		
	Ungraduate SD	8	18,6 %
	Graduate SD	10	23,2 %
4	Ungraduate SMP	16	37,2 %
	Graduate SMP	9	20,9 %
	Activity		
Begging	6	13,9 %	
Safeguarding	13	30,2 %	
Snooping cars	5	11,6 %	
Clown	4	9,3 %	
Trading	15	34,9 %	
TOTAL		43	100 %

The above data show that based on the age of the respondents, age 8-10 years is 16.3%, age 12-15 years is 23.3% and age 16-18 years is 60.5%. Based on the location of the study, respondents are located in six districts in the district of Bangkalan. of Kamal district is 9.3%, is from Burneh district 18.6%, from Sukolilo district 7%, from Arosbaya district 4.6% from Tragah district 44.2% and from the city district 16.3%.

Based on the level of education, the respondents who did not graduate from SD was 18.6%, the graduates from SD were 23.2%, the non-graduates from MSM were 37.2% and the MSM graduates were 20.9%. According to the street activity carried out, it was begging for 13.9%, committing for 30.2%, driving by 11.6%, street clowns for 9.3% and trading for 34.9%.

DISCUSSION

The survey of respondents' profiles showed that by age, street children were in the age range from childhood to adolescence. In a child's developmental phase, this is a time when children enjoy their childhood by playing. While adolescents are a time of self-identity search, to form self-concepts, so they will tend to look for peer groups. That is, in their developmental periods, their childhood to adolescence, which should be by street

children, but because of the conditions that make them on the street, which indicates that the conditions are far from the quality of life. The family that should be a place for them to get a sense of safety and comfort, to get attention and affection and to develop naturally in accordance with their growing age, does not guarantee such conditions so that they grow up in the street with their own life experience.

Muhaimin (2010) stated that judging a child's quality of life depends more on the individual. In this study, the individual's perception of their position in life, their cultural context, and their system of values is associated with their goals, expectations, standards, and concerns. The quality of life of a street child is measured by five indicators: physical well-being, psychological well-being, parental autonomy and supervision, friends and social support, and the environment.

Reviewed from the level of education, the majority of them have completed education at the lower level, not even graduated from school. The opportunity to get the education that they were supposed to get turned out to be in a time of development, rather not getting the opportunity or even missing the opportunity in education. Low education leads to low knowledge and skills in work, so they are only able to do limited work and not based on competence. This condition opens our minds to how this street boy can improve his quality of life if his competence is inadequate.

Based on the location of data collection, street children are scattered in several districts in the Bangkalan district. Picture of the location is around the city and inside the city especially on the road placement. This condition suggests that socially, societies tend to shut down their existence, as if they don't care about where they are, so that they grow and spread to the surrounding territory. It doesn't close the eye that the public's concern is beginning to diminish, and is assumed to be something reasonable in a paradox. Even the local government, the serious treatment of the presence of street children in the corners of the road is becoming more and more like an opportunity to find livelihood in the streets. Although Section 34 (1) of the Basic Law of 1945 states that the poor and displaced children are cared for by the state, the reality of their existence is increasing. There's no policy governing their presence. Based on the activities carried out, street boys alongside

traders handled food and beverages, became clowns entertaining riders on the streets, begging, guarding even though the sound of the music is sometimes unclear and originally carrying musical equipment, snooping cars with sanitary appliances of his own.

The picture of this condition can be inferred that many factors affecting the existence of street children continue to evolve, ranging from economic factors, factors of low educational level, socio-cultural factors, political factors, family factors.

In terms of economic factors, the poor economic conditions of the family make them involved in balancing the family's economy, so they have to work with all its limitations. Considered by the educational factors, the enthusiasm for learning and the interest in education is relatively low, the intellectual capacity is also less supportive, so that they tend to be lazy in school benches. Reviewed from the support of the family, the conditions of family life with a low quality of life are less likely to support the growth of the child. Reviewed by the socio-cultural factor, the social concern for the people around them is becoming less so as to justify their behavior on the street, although wisely rather disturbing but eventually becoming a new habit that legalizes the existence of these street children operating on street sites. The local government has no measures to deal with the presence of children in street sites and increasingly adorns the city with street clowns.

It takes awareness and care to take real action because street children are not the sole responsibility of the government but it is the responsibilities of all of us as skilled humans.

The efforts that can be made in street child abuse intervention to be properly countered can be done in a number of ways. According to the causes and influences. Based on educational factors, they need to be educated in both formal and informal forms of work skills so that they are expected to have adequate work skills. Most of them do not realize the importance of education, which can improve the chances of life by maximizing one's abilities and skills, so in this case, education is needed. According to Ladjar, the DKK (2024) requires the active role and better coordination of the government and various institutions to provide adequate educational facilities and protect the rights of street children.

Based on economic factors, it is necessary to revive the economy of citizenship through the distribution that is also clear. Governments can provide trade localization by reviving tourist sites so that they have a chance to thrive economically. Based on socio-cultural factors, people help buy when they trade in the right place, and no longer buy their trades on the side of the street, if this can be done with a shared commitment, then long-term misery will become new learning and habits so that new cultures are formed.

Improving the standard of life of street children takes time, process and diligence to get along together. Education can be given and applied wherever the child is, even in all the constraints that they have. But awareness will get a worthy education needs education to cultivate their interest in learning.

Roselin, dkk (2024) submitted Parental involvement in a non-physical way, such as providing inspiration, understanding, and emotional support, is essential to boosting children's interest in learning. It emphasizes the importance of parents as the first and primary educational institution in meeting the biological and psychological needs of children. Moreover, it is vital that parents and educational institutions work together to create a good environment for children's growth.

Sholekhah, dkk (2024) argues that the education system faces many challenges when trying to update curricula nationally. In this situation, considerations to be taken include the social, economic, political, and cultural aspects of Indonesia. Some policies that have been implemented, such as the social service building program and the special service education policy to get children out of the streets through informal and non-formal education, are no longer relevant to the realities of life in some areas. Other studies show that street children in the area generally come from outside the area and have diverse economic and family backgrounds. In terms of local government policy, it can be said that there is no policy specifically aimed at fulfilling the right to education of children on the streets. Therefore, street child education policies need to be thoroughly modified to involve a wide range of stakeholders and take into account the basic needs of street children such as education, social security, and health services. Besides, in order to carry out the policy well, the relevant agencies must

cooperate well.

In an effort to improve their quality of life in the future, helping street children to cultivate interest in learning activities can be done by helping them to understand that certain knowledge or competence will affect them, including in achieving their life goals and meeting their needs. It is expected that with the emergence of a proper understanding of the benefits of learning activities, there will be an increased interest of street children in learning activity.

Damayanti & Pertiwi (2024) argued that strengthening of the construction of street children can be done through the implementation of strategies, i.e. strengthening the building of the street children may be done depending on the growth of children classified by age, besides the basic policy of the government should use clear rules and the distribution of resources in the financial part that comes from the APBD as well as physical resources should be facilitated fully and properly.

CONCLUSION

The results of the research showed that the profile of street children indicates relative middle-down economic conditions, low educational levels, low family support, less caring socio-cultural factors. Therefore, it takes awareness to improve the lives of street children. Planned possible interventions to help minimize and deter street children. As for the intervention plan, it can be done on the basis of empirical data, as follows: 1. The education policy of special services to lift children out of the street, both formally and informally, is the training of work skills so that they are expected to have adequate ability to work. 2. Strengthening the construction of street children, through revitalizing the economy of citizenship through the distribution. 3. Increase social concern by involving governments and communities to jointly take greater care of their existence.

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