

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHILD ABUSE WITH CHILD DEVELOPMENT LEVELS

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ABSTRACT

Feared that violence perpetrated by parents against their children would cause them to experience emotional disturbances and affect their development. This study aims to determine the relationship between child abuse and the level of child development. The research design used in this study was a correlational non-experimental research design with a cross-sectional approach. This research was conducted in January 2023 at Pakisaji, Malang Regency. The population in this study were children in Pakisaji Malang Regency who were identified as experiencing violence, namely 31 children. In this study, the entire population was used as a sample. So, the sample in this study was 31 children in Pakisaji, Malang Regency, who identified as having experienced violence. The data collection tools used in this study were questionnaires and DDST. The statistical test used in this study is the Spearman Rank test with a significance level of $\alpha = 0.05$. The results of the hypothesis test obtained a value of $p = 0.046 (< 0.05)$ which indicates that the correlation between child abuse and the level of development is significant (there is a relationship between child abuse and the level of development). This study showed respondents experienced abuse in the mild category and were dominated by shape psychological violence through verbal abuse. Even though child development was good, the correlation results showed that there was indeed a relationship between child abuse and the level of child development in Pakisaji, Malang Regency.

KEYWORDS: *child abuse, child development.*

INTRODUCTION

Children are one of the most important parts of a family. Children act as the next generation of their parents. They inherit every gene they get from their parents. Children are a picture of the results of investment and manifestation of parents. They are not adults in small bodies. They need protection from adults. They are prone to problems but have not been able to protect themselves. Various problems are often experienced by children. Violence against children is a problem that often occurs. Violence against children was first reported in France in 1860 by Ambroise Tardieu, a pathologist and forensic medicine (Soetjningsih, 2016). After that, various cases of violence against children began to be reported. Of the several cases of violence against children that have occurred, only a small proportion have emerged and been reported to the authorities. Some of them have been reported to the authorities but cannot be processed to completion. There are also those that have not been reported at all. This reality makes the problem of violence against children like an iceberg phenomenon. The reason for this, among other things, is that most

people still think that cases of violence against children are a disgrace and are an internal problem in the family, which other people should not know about (Ministry of Health RI, 2020).

The public opinion that violence against children is an internal problem in a family, because violence against children is carried out by those closest to them and occurs in places where children should receive protection. The closest people who should provide protection for children are actually the ones who commit violence. So when child abuse occurs, the victim's family tends to cover it up. The perpetrators of violence against children are broadly classified into two, namely the family and the community. Based on the 2019 violence against children survey (SKTA) from families, male victims found 38.23% of violence perpetrated by fathers, 26.18% by mothers, and the rest by other relatives, while female victims obtained 35.53% of perpetrators of violence were fathers, 11.3% by mothers, and 53.44% by other relatives. From the community, the male victims found that 17.47% of the perpetrators of violence against children were teachers and 66.69% by friends. For

female victims, 62.05% of violence against children was committed by teachers and 23.63% by friends. Home and school are places where a child spends most of his time. The function of the school itself is to provide services to children so that they are able to acquire knowledge, develop skills, collaborate with others, actualize themselves, and realize ideals (Ali, 2019). While the house also has an important role in various educational processes. It is also at home and school that children get various good and bad experiences. Homes and schools should be places of refuge for children. However, the reality is that homes and schools are places of violence against children. Data from the National Commission for Child Protection in 2019, states that the place where violence against children occurs is the home (24%), the social environment (56%) and the school environment (17%) (Maharani et al, 2020). Apart from that, the factors that cause child abuse have not been widely exposed in the media because this is considered normal, especially verbal violence. Parents consciously give warnings when children. make mistakes, but the reprimand is excessive so that it can hurt the child. Yelling and taking out anger on children is a form of verbal violence that is often done. In addition, three out of four parents realize that verbal violence against children can have long-term impacts (Putri and Santoso, 2012). Violence against children is a fact that cannot be ignored. Until now, the problem of violence against children has not found a meeting point for resolution. Violence against children is a complex problem that requires comprehensive handling by all levels of society, government agencies and health institutions. Therefore, child abuse should be a concern and receive special treatment both by community level services and protection in the legal realm.

Erikson's theory of development posits that psychosexual growth and psychosocial growth occur together, and that at each stage of life we face the task of establishing a balance between the individual self and his social world in which a particular crisis must be resolved. Erikson's concept of emphasizing social factors is assumed to be contemporary psychoanalysis. Classical psychoanalysis is based on id psychology, and argues that instincts and intrapsychic conflict are the basic factors that shape personality development (both normal and abnormal). Contemporary psychoanalysis tends to be based on ego psychology, which does not deny the role of intrapsychic conflict but emphasizes the ego's struggle for mastery and competence throughout the human life span. Ego psychology therapists assist clients in gaining awareness of their defenses and help them develop better ways to overcome developmental defenses at this stage of development (Fors & McWilliams, 2016).

Childhood development is also called the development of the middle and late childhood which is a continuation of the early childhood. The beginning of middle age is marked by physical, cognitive and psychosocial development (Hernilen & Purwanti, 2014). Children

aged to achieve good development must be able to complete developmental tasks according to their stage of development, one of which is the stage of psychosocial development. There are obstacles in achieving the psychosocial development task at one stage, it can hinder its success at the next stage of development (Pardede, 2020). Based on the explanation above, a further study is needed regarding the relationship between *child abuse* and the developmental level of children under five in Malang Regency.

RESEARCH METHODS

The research design used in this study was a correlational *non-experimental* (relationship/association) research design with a *cross sectional approach*. This research was conducted in January 2023 at Pakisaji, Malang Regency. The population in this study were toddlers in Pakisaji Malang Regency who were identified as having experienced violence (*child abuse*), namely a total of 31 children. In this study, no sampling technique was used, because the entire population was used as a sample. So, the sample in this study were 31 children in Pakisaji, Malang Regency, who were identified as having experienced violence (*child abuse*). The data collection tools used in this study were questionnaires and DDST. The statistical test used in this study is the Spearman Rank test with a significance level of $\alpha = 0.05$.

RESEARCH RESULT

Univariate analysis

Based on the research conducted, the following results were obtained:

Table 1: Descriptive Analysis of Respondent Demographic Data in Pakisaji District, Malang Regency.

Variable	(n)	(%)
Gender		
1. Man	11	35
2. Woman	20	65
Age		
1. 3-3.5 years	7	23
2. 3.5-4 years	14	45
3. 4-4.5 years	10	32

The characteristics of the respondents in table 1 based on gender are dominated by female respondents with a total of 20 respondents (65%), while the remaining 11 respondents (35%) are male. Based on the age level, the majority are in the range of 3.5 to 4 years.

Table 2: Descriptive Analysis of Respondents' Child Abuse Variables.

No	Child Abuse	Frequency (F)	Percentage (%)
1.	Mild	26	84
2.	Moderate	4	13
3.	Severe	1	3
Total		24	100

Based on Table 2, it was found that some of the respondents experienced mild abuse, namely as much as 84 % and very few of the respondents were included in the severe abuse category, namely as many as 3%.

Table 3: Descriptive Analysis Variable Level of Development of Respondents.

No	Child Abuse	Frequency (F)	Percentage (%)
1.	Normal	24	78
2.	Suspected	5	16
3.	Untestable	2	6
Total		24	100

Based on Table 3, it was found that most of the respondents had the level of development with the normal category is as much as 78 % and a few of the respondents are included in the suspect category, namely as much as 16%.

Bivariate Analysis

Testing the hypothesis of the relationship between child abuse and the developmental level of children under five was carried out using the Spearman test with the following results.

Table 4: The relationship between child abuse and the developmental level of children under five.

Variable	N	r	p.s
abuse	31	0.361	0.046

Source: Primary Data (Year 2023)

The results of the hypothesis test obtained a value of $p = 0.046 (< 0.05)$ which indicates that the correlation between child abuse and the level of development is significant (there is a relationship between child abuse and the level of development). This shows that H_0 is rejected with a correlation value of 0.361 indicating a moderate correlation.

DISCUSSION

Child Abuse in children

Respondent data in Table 2 shows that some of the respondents experienced mild category abuse, namely 84 % and very few of the respondents were included in the severe abuse category, namely 3%. The assessment included four forms, namely: physical violence, psychological violence, violence sex, and child abandonment. The results of the study also show that psychological violence through verbal parents to children occupies the highest level compared to other forms of violence.

Psychological or emotional violence is a mental injury resulting from psychological or verbal violence, including scolding, threatening, cursing or swearing, labeling with negative or demeaning sentences for children, calling names, and conveying dirty words that cause behavioral, cognitive, or emotional problems

serious problems in children (Huraerah, 2012; Fitriana, 2015; Straus, et al., 1997; Gelles and Cavanaugh (in Santrock, 2007).

Physical Violence Physical violence against children is any form of treatment that causes injury or physical injury to children. Physical violence is defined as an act of parental negligence that causes physical harm, including death to children (Diana, 1998). Huraerah (2012) physical violence is torture, beating, and mistreatment of children, with or without using certain objects, which cause physical injury or death to children.

Child neglect Child neglect includes delays in seeking child health care, kicking the child out of the home, disregard for the child's education, failure to meet the child's basic needs (such as not providing food or adequate supervision), lack of communication and failure to provide care and affection to the child. children (Straus, et al., 1997; Santrock, 2007). Huraerah (2012) child neglect is the attitude and treatment of parents who do not give proper attention to the child's development process.

Sexual Violence Sexual violence against children is an act of abuse against children perpetrated by adults, family and those closest to the child. These actions can be in the form of sexual touch that the child does not want, such as playing with the child's genitals and carrying out other forced sexual contact. Nugrahani (2015). In this study, there was no violence in the form of sexual violence against respondents.

Child development level

Data on the results of measuring the level of child development showed that most of the respondents had the level of development with the normal category is as much as 78 % and a few of the respondents are included in the suspect category which is as much as 16% and the untestable category is 6%. The level of development that suspects even untestable children under five can be associated with various factors that influence the development of these children, one of which plays a major role is environmental factors.

Of biological factors, according to Soetjningsih (2016) one of the factors that play a role is nutritional factors. This is related to Rudolph's statement (2006) that a child's physical growth is a manifestation of morphological, biochemical and physiological changes, one of which is influenced by nutrition. If a child has a nutritional status condition, obesity can also have an influence on the child's development. In addition to affordable health care, in this study only some respondents routinely attend the Posyandu which is held once a month. The Posyandu has never held an early detection program for child development, so parents admit that they do not know about the stages of their child's development, including normal or whether there are delays.

Meanwhile, the psychosocial factors that are very influential are stimulation, learning motivation, peer groups, education at the local PAUD (early childhood education) as also stated by Soetjningsih (2016). Early childhood education services held in several villages have been widely used by parents who have early childhood, especially toddlers. This is because many parents are aware of the importance of this stimulation for their children. according to the statement Hurlock (1997) that development patterns can be accelerated or slowed down, to accelerate one of them by providing early stimulation such as in early childhood education.

In addition, family factors are also very influential on the achievement of child development. Families, especially parents, have the highest intensity of interaction with children, so that this interaction becomes a stimulus for children's development to learn, as stated by Hurlock (1997) learning in this case is development that comes from practice and effort. Soetjningsih (2016) mentions that parents' education and socio-economic conditions in this case also influence the stimulus given to their children. education will affect knowledge, where most parents are junior high school and high school graduates. While socio-economic will be related to the type of work of the child's parents which determines the length of working hours and hours for interaction with children. In this study, it was mothers who had a lot of time to care for their children, because most of the housewives were not working, so that the results for the majority of good development levels in this study were also supported by the role of parents, especially mothers who could intensively accompany their children.

Analysis of the relationship between child abuse and the level of development

The results of the hypothesis test obtained a value of $p = 0.046$ (< 0.05) which indicates that the correlation between child abuse and the level of development is significant. This shows that H_0 is rejected, meaning that there is a relationship between child abuse and the developmental level of children under five. a correlation value of 0.361 indicates a moderate correlation. Parents are the main role holders in the growth and development of children because parents apart from being leaders are also the first teachers, mentors, instructors, facilitators, and as role models for their children. Children are the embodiment of parental love, and parents are to be their protectors. Having children changes many things in parents' lives, and in the end parents are required to be ready to become parents who must be able to prepare children so they can carry out their future lives well. Violence against children still occurs a lot in society, ranging from violence, murder, persecution and other forms of criminal acts that negatively affect children's psychology.

The results of this study indicate a high incidence of Psychological violence through verbal abuse or commonly referred to as emotional child abuse is verbal

action or behavior that causes adverse emotional consequences. Verbal abuse in children usually begins with the emergence of bad behavior in children which causes parents to do it. Verbal abuse occurs when parents give punishment to children who are not fair, this will affect the child's development. Children who always get unreasonable punishments will experience stress, withdraw from the environment, low self-esteem, lack of confidence, talk late, decrease appetite, and so on. The punishment that parents sometimes don't realize is to blame the child by using sentences that hurt the child's feelings and feelings. One of the sentences is to mention the lack of children. This condition is the beginning of verbal abuse in children. When a child gets unpleasant treatment which includes verbal violence, then it will all be stored in his memory and will shape the child's character so that it can hinder the child's development. (Mahmud, 2020).

The following are the factors that cause verbal violence in children, sometimes the behavior caused by children is caused on the basis of high curiosity, but does not get a positive response from their environment. Bad behavior caused because they want to attract attention from the people around them. However, the child does not receive attention and/or appreciation from the people around him, but instead receives bad sentences in the form of reproaches. When children are unable to complete their tasks, parents give unpleasant sentences related to their abilities. Parents should provide positive support when children are unable to complete their abilities and give praise because children are willing to try. The harsh parental character has great potential to commit verbal abuse to children. The conditions of the house are deplorable and the relationship between parents and children is just a biological one. The true form of acceptance of children is to give love, praise when children succeed in doing something good, and provide enthusiasm to continue learning to be better when children experience failure.

Efforts to prevent verbal violence against children are carried out to minimize the negative impact on the child's psychology. Prevention efforts are expected to be carried out early, and starting from the environment to improve the way of communication between mother and child. When communicating with children, the first thing to pay attention to is controlling emotions, especially in unpleasant conditions. When a child makes a mistake, don't rush to scold the child but first ask the child the reason for doing that action. Understand that every child is a star in their respective fields. When a child shows their inability in a field, parents should not immediately criticize it. Children may fail in one field, but are able to complete assignments in other fields (Putri, 2012).

Verbal violence that is perpetrated by parents against children continuously will result in children experiencing emotional disturbances, children not having a good self-concept, and being able to make children more

aggressive. So, if parents feel they have verbally abused their children, they should apologize. Because when a parent hurts a child's feelings by means of verbal violence, it results in injury to the child which will later affect the child's growth and development process.

CONCLUSIONS

The results of this study indicate that respondents experienced abuse in the mild category and were dominated by form psychological violence through verbal abuse. Even though child development was identified as good, the correlation results showed that there was indeed a relationship between child abuse and the level of development of toddlers in Pakisaji, Malang Regency.

SUGGESTION

The next suggestion is necessary a strategy is planned to overcome this as early as possible to minimize the impact in the future.

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