Resilience in Children of Drug Abuse Families: A Case in Pattingalloang, Makassar City, Indonesia

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Abstract: This study analyzed the problems commonly encountered by children of drug abuse families and their resilience afterward. The research method was qualitative research with a case study approach. In collecting data, this study applied semi-structured interviews and observations of both research subjects and documentation. The data analyzed qualitatively. The results found that both subjects A and B often exposure some negative social problems; bullying, ostracism, and having no playmates. As a result, subject A becomes inferior, and subject B becomes lazy to formal school. The resilience is as follows; subject A has ‘I am’ in the form of empathy and optimism, ‘I can’ in the form of responsibility, and ‘I have’ in the form of confidence; ‘I can’ in the form of diligence and responsibility, and ‘I have’ in the form of appraisal support exposure by significant person D.

Keywords: Resilience, Children, Drug, Family, Pattingalloang, Makassar city.

INTRODUCTION

The increase of drug trafficking and abuse (narcotics and any dangerous drugs, psychotropic drugs, and illegal drugs), especially in Indonesia, has now come up to an alarming point. The impact is not only threatening its exploitation, but also the sustainability of this country until it becomes an urgent and complex problem within its people. The term of drugs refers to a group of substances that generally have an addiction risk for its users. Initially, narcotics were an opiate type of drugs that are commonly called opium. Here, narcotics are used as a means of religious rituals and healing (Adi, 2009). However, to its further headway, the drug use was significantly misinterpreted due to overdosage.

At present, the level of drug trafficking has got through various levels of society, both in urban and rural areas, including Pattingalloang, Makassar City, in which this study took place. Drug trafficking and abuse in Pattingalloang has become the most urgent problem. It was revealed when the researchers conducted the Methodology Participatory Assessment (MPA) on March 10, 2020, to find out the current issues undertaken by the Pattingalloang community. This activity took place at the residence of the head of the neighborhood association and was attended by 60 Pattingalloang residents. Of all the participants present, 75% of respondents revealed that drugs were the most urgent problem in Pattingalloang.

Libertus stated that many studies on the same issue found that the causes of someone committed to drug abuse are very diverse, either personal or interpersonal. Terminologically, both are so-called internal and external factors (Libertus in Amanda et al., 2017). Libertus further stated that economic circumstance is one of the internal factors that cause someone to perform drug abuse. The hardship to earn money from a legal job unwillingly pushes someone to be a drug dealer (Amanda et al., 2017). Relate with this case, Sakaria (2011) proposed that one of the causes, why some people are having difficulty finding a job, is dealing with fertility. The high fertility rate can accelerate the rate of population growth, which in turn has an impact on increasing food needs and low employment opportunities. Limited job opportunities trigger someone to misuse drugs. To top all off, becoming a drug dealer is considered as one of the alternative jobs that are very profitable and make money.
According to Hawari (2006), one tends to misuse drugs for the interaction of predisposing factors, contributing factors, and precipitating factors. First, the predisposing factor is when a person is unable to participate appropriately in various environments such as at home, at school, at the workplace, or in a daily social environment. Second, the contribution factor is when someone is circumscribed in such harmful environmental conditions. It like an evil family (family dysfunction): not-whole family, irresponsible parents, and inharmonious interpersonal relationships. And the third, precipitating factors, which are environmental influences, involve peer influence, availability, and easy access to drugs.

In line with the Hawari’s statement, Alatas (2006) argued that the wider social environment influences drug abusers. The surrounding community greatly influences someone who is abusing drugs. Someone who grew up in a slum environment, high population density, and a deep sense of togetherness can increase one's tendency to become a drug user. Based on the result of several studies on drug abusers, Lukito (in Hidayati, 2016) concluded that there are two main factors, namely external factors and internal factors, which drag someone down to perform drug abuse.

Factors that influence an individual to be a drug abuser are very complex, as is the impact resulting from drug abuse itself. Drug use has a negative effect, both for the drug abuser himself and for other family members, especially children who are in the growth-ages. The light impact might get drug abusers are such as sensitive feelings and self-control disorders. At the same time, the effect on family members, especially children, will experience tremendous suffering, feelings of sadness, shame, disappointment, paranoia, and other senses. These feelings become worse and eventually led to a broken home, even chaos (Dahlan, 2009).

Moreover, the children will undertake some lousy deal in their daily life, both coming from their own families and their social environment. As a result, children will experience feelings of stress and depression (Keye & Pidgeon, 2013). This study answers the following two questions. First, what do children of drug abuse families often face social problems? Second, how is the resilience in children of drug abuse families?

**Literature Review**

In describing social behavior in Pattingalloang, this research used the Max Weber Social Action approach. Weber defines social action as all human behavior when and to the extent that an individual gives subjective meaning to that behavior (Sumai & Naumi, 2019). Activities here can be open or hidden, can be a positive intervention in a situation, or deliberately remain silent as a sign of agreement in the case. According to Weber, actions have social significance, based on their subjective meaning given by individual or individuals, to the extent that those actions take into account the behavior of others and are therefore oriented in their appearance. For Weber, it is clear that human actions are fundamentally meaningful, involving interpretation, thinking, and deliberation. Social action for him is intentional action, intentional for others, and for the actors themselves, whose thoughts are actively interpreting each other behavior, communicating with each other, and controlling their response following the purpose of communication. So, they direct each other partner interaction behavior before it. Therefore, for Weber, society is an active entity consisting of people thinking and doing meaningful social actions (Mulyana, 2018).

In addition to the first theory of social action, this research also refers to the approach that is indirectly shaded by Max Weber, namely symbolic interactionism that is proposed by George Hebert Mead. In this process, the individual anticipates the reaction of others, looks for alternatives to the words or actions he will take. In other words, individuals imagine how others will respond to their words or actions.

Etymologically, resilience is adapted from the English word ‘resilience,’ which means the ability to return to normal. The term resilience also comes from the Latin word ‘resilire’ meaning bounce back. Resilience can be interpreted as a person's ability to survive and rise from adversity (Cohen & Kallimanis, 2011). Individuals who have resilience are able to survive and to grow up and have the strength to recover from stressful conditions. Besides, resilience helps individuals adapt positively to different circumstances and environments in their lives (Kumpee, 1997). With this adaptation process, it is expected that individuals will have the ability to pass through significant difficulties.

To this point, McEwen added that resilience combines several aspects of one personal growth as the manifestation of lessons encountered on each bad experience, not only to improve coping but more to arrange the next life when dealing with trouble (McEwen, 2011). Related to this, someone will enhance a way to manipulate the stressful situation to be a positive opportunity for personal development. In this case, someone seems to be insisted to afford any crisis that requires open-minded thoughts; openness to learn, accepting the change, and the ability to treatment interventions as a trial or adaptive management (Gunderson, 2002). Resilience will visibly be shown up when individuals get such bad pressure and know, afterward, how to deal with or adapt to it (Rojas, 2015).

Similarly, Grothberg states that resilience bears from the following three components: *I am, I can,* and *I*
have. I am - an encouragement coming up within the individual, such as; attitude, optimism, respect, and empathy. I can includes interpersonal mastery and problem-solving skills. I have can support that comes from outside the individual (Grotberg, 1995).

Social support is any kind of attention, appreciation, enthusiasm, acceptance, and assistance. Social support is derived from people who have a close relationship with the aim of helping someone pass through the problem (Sarafino & Smith, 2011). Correspondingly, Nasution et al., (2020) state that social support dramatically influences the ability of a victim to survive. Cohen and Hoberman (in Isnawati & Suhariadi, 2013) argue that social support is divided into four forms. First, appraisal support; advice relating to problem-solving to help reduce stress. Second, tangible support; substantial or concrete assistance by providing actions or physical doing in completing tasks. Third, self-esteem support; the support provided by others for self-endurance or individual self-esteem or feelings as a part of a group in which the members have mutual support related to self-esteem. Fourth, belonging help, a kind of support that shows the feeling of being accepted as a part of a group, and having a sense of togetherness.

**RESEARCH METHODS**

This study used a qualitative approach with procedures that produce descriptive data, both written and oral, from people whose behavior is observed. The aim is to gain an authentic understanding of experiences, like what they have undertaken (Mulyana, 2018). Creswell (1998) stated that the focus of case studies is the development of an in-depth analysis of a case or several cases. A case study is an exploration of a limited system or a situation (can be many cases) in detail, in-depth data collection of in many ways information.

In addition to conducting observations as primary data, the researchers also interviewed six respondents consisting of two children of drug abuse families-background (research subjects) and four significant persons. This study also required secondary data taken from written material, such as books, newspaper clippings, internet magazines, photos, and government regulations and laws that were relevant to this research. The location of this research is in Pattingalloang, Makassar City.

Research instruments were tools used to collect data in the field. The instruments used in this study were the researchers themselves because qualitative research methods cannot be separated from the observations and participation of researchers who determine the overall scenario. Moreover, the data collection techniques used in this study are as follows (Neuman, 1991). First, in-depth interviews, the researchers got the information needed in compiling this research. The interview consists of two parts, namely, structured interviews and unstructured interviews. Second, observation; researchers used all of their senses, seeing what they see, hearing, smelling, tasting, or touching. The researchers became instruments that record all sources of information. Third, documentation study; this technique was used to obtain data and information needed in this study utilizing a literature study of books and other relevant documents.

Meanwhile, the data analysis was carried out qualitatively with the following steps. First, data reduction. It was by summarizing, choosing the main points, focusing on the essential things, and looking for patterns. Second, data analysis. Generally, the technique most often used to analyze data in qualitative research is through narrative text. Analysis of data is intended so that researchers can see a full description of the research that has been conducted so that the researchers do the report more efficiently. Third, drawing conclusions and meanings.

**RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

Social problems encountered by children of drug abuse families

Humans are individual creatures, as well as social creatures. Likewise, children, in living social life in society, who have families as drug abusers often experience social problems. Social problems are a mismatch of cultural elements that can endanger the life of a social group. Social problems occur because of social interaction in the middle of society in meeting their needs, either between individuals, between groups, or between individuals and groups. Simply put, the social problem is a condition that is not expected by a part of society.

Weber, in his analysis of social action, introduced the concept of the meaning of an act. The essence of his thesis is that human action is full of meaning. Thus, the theory of social action is closely related to the role of humans as social creatures who always take actions to achieve their life goals. According to him, social action is all human behavior when someone gives subjective meaning to the behavior. So, it can be concluded that social problems are part of social action.

In principle, the social problems experienced by the two subjects of this study; A, a 16 years old boy, and B, a nine years old girl, are the same. They both are ostracized by peers, got bullying, so they become inferior and lazy to attend formal school.

"I did not go to school because my parents did not have enough money. From a young age, I have offered help..."
to earn money at the Fish Auction Place (TPI).”  
(Statement of subject A)

"I prefer getting into this school (non-formal) to formal school. In this school, I have many friends. Unlike my recent school, I used to be teased and driven to cry.”  
(Statement of subject B)

The following significant person statements confirmed statements of subjects A and B.

"At first, she (B) got into formal school and always looked glum after all. It was different when she (B) began to join in non-formal school. Even now, she (B) starts to look cheerful and wants to share her problem.”  
(Statement of significant person D)

(Statement of D/family of subject B)

"A was once active in the confident-building primary school (non-formal), but not for so long, maybe he was about to be a teenager and used to be working since he was a child. So, working became a preferred choice compared to school.”  
(Statement of significant person F)

"All of my children do not have formal schooling, including A. Because we do not have money to send them to formal school.”  
(Statement of significant person C)

"It is true that the child is not getting into formal school, based on the parents’ acknowledgment because they do not have money, while A has many siblings who also do not go to school. His mother became the backbone of the family, while his father did not work and often had problems due to drug abuse, too.”  
(Statement of significant person E)

Thus, social problems undertaken by subjects A and B are felt ostracized, bullied, have no friends, and are lazy to go to school. All of that is a result of the drug abuse family.

Resilience in children of drug abuse families

The perspective of symbolic interactionism is better known in sociology, and even it influences other scientific disciplines. This theory is the base-line to understand the process of resilience takes place in humans. George Herbert Mead is the founder of the symbolic interactionism model. According to Mead, the fundamental characteristic of symbolic interactionism is a relationship that occurs naturally between humans within society and the community with individuals (Wirawan, 2012). This theory explains the use and the formation of symbols in interactions (Susilo, 2017). Society is a state where mind and self come up. In social interaction, individuals will shape and be shaped by the social environment.

Mead, also, stated that society is an essential element in forming patterns of interaction between individuals that shape one’s point of view and self-concepts (Wirawan, 2014). Thus, the flow of human social life that always changes from time to time. It happens because of human adaptation to environmental demands as a form of resilience.

Indeed, every individual comes to this world together with the ability to be able to withstand disappointment, suffering, and challenges. For resilient individuals, resilience makes their lives stronger. That is, resilience makes individuals successful in adjusting appropriately and quickly to the pressures, disappointments, obstacles of life they experience. However, the level of resilience of each individual is different, as is the resilience of children with a performing drug abuse family—background in Pattingalloang. I am a source of resilience that contains attitudes, self-confidence, and feelings. Resilience can be increased when a person has internal strengths such as self-confidence, optimism, respect, and empathy.

Based on the results of the analysis with subject A, known the complexity of life problems experienced by family A certainly has a significant impact on the daily life of A as part of a family. Starting from economic issues, slum dwellings, as well as the limited skills possessed by parents, subject A became a logical reason for parents A to choose work as a drug trafficker. As a result, A feels inferior and withdraws when in a play environment.

"I did not go to school because my parents did not have enough money. Since I was a child, I helped work for money at the fish auction place. It because I can get money for snacks, there is also lots of friends to play with, so that I can laugh while earning money. If I go home, no friends want to play with me.”  
(Statement of subject A)

The following significant person statement reinforces the expression of A.

"It is true that the child is not in school, based on his parents’ acknowledgment because they do not have money while A has several siblings who are also not in school. His mother is the backbone of the family, while his father does not work and has several problems due to drug abuse.”  
(Statement of significant person E)

On the other hand, A has a high empathy, responsibility, and optimism so that he can manage his confidence as he is in his peer environment. Subject A has a sense of empathy for his mother, who is the backbone of the family. Besides, a sense of responsibility for being the eldest child. These two senses trigger an optimistic attitude to rise from all the misery he experienced.
"I feel sorry for you, mom, who works for all of our lives. I can’t bear to keep burdening her, so I help my mother to make money as much as possible, let alone I am the first child.” (Statement of subject A)

It is not much different, anyhow, from subject B after having the analysis of this study. Since her mother was arrested due to drug abuse, B was taken care of by her close relatives. B herself has a younger brother and is raised by a different person, while his father goes somewhere. As a result, subject B experienced severe life pressure, a feeling of fear, and no playmates. B takes a lot of time to get better.

"When my mother left away for the first time, I liked to cry in silence because I was afraid. I also did not have a playmate who would like to help me. I like getting school here (non-formal) better than to formal school. Here I have a lot of friends. At my old school, I like to be teased that made me cry.” (Statement of subject B)

The following significant person then reinforces the statement of subject B.

"Once B entered formal school, she always looked glum. It is different when she began to join non-formal schools. Actually, at this time, she began to look cheerful and not mind to share her problem. This moving on also has an impact on subject B academic grades, both to formal and non-formal schools.” (Statement of significant person D)

One factor that encourages B to be able to resilient is self-efficacy. Self-efficacy is a specific context and is very important when B gets into trouble. When B has positive beliefs, motivation will be able to reject negative thoughts about her abilities.

"Yes, I used to keep my problems alone until Mrs. D raised me with love. It turns me up and begins to believe that I could be better than yesterday.” (Statement of subject B)

So, that is the way of working, which is a form of strength in B. The way how significant person of D does parenting to subject B can build up B self-efficacy. So, B is able to enhance a source of strength in the form of empathy, self-confidence, and optimism.

Furthermore, I can is something that can be done by someone in the form of interpersonal skills and problem-solving. Talking about interpersonal skills and how to solve problems, of course, the ways taken by A and B are different. It can be seen from the way they are responsible for the work given by the people closest to them. According to C, A often does things not on time but a target. In comparison, B can be described as a figure of a child who is diligent and full of responsibility for the work given.

"Subject A usually washes his clothes by himself but likes to soak them first for a few days before doing the washing. He also never complained about our situation.” (Statement of significant person C)

"Subject B is a diligent girl and likes to learn. She is also diligent in her studies and likes to help me at home. She woke up and slept in its time regularly.” (Statement of significant person D)

The statement of the significant person above is corroborated by the following comments of subjects A and B.

"I feel inconvenient to share my problem. It is better to solve it by myself. I feel sorry for my mother, burden her life.” (Statement of subject A)

"I like to offer help for Mrs. D; washing dishes and cooking. If I have homework from school, I do it by myself”. (Statement of subject B)

Naturally, every individual needs social support so that s/he can grow well. It is likewise with children with a performing drug abuse families-background. Parents who perform drug abuse have to pay what they did by a bunch of problems that may get the children. Children feel stress, depressed, sad, and ashamed because they get ridicule from their peers.

Social support is support coming from outside the individual that is well-known as I have. Social support is believed to be able to help increase individual resilience, just like the respondents in this study. Subject A became a man who worked hard even though he had never attended formal school and did not have many friends. Subject A turns up to be an independent man because he has a caring and tough mother. It is the same way with informant B. Subject B grows and develops to be a cheerful and independent girl thanks to the love charged by significant person D through hugs and advice when subject B was sad or made a mistake.

"I make money, sometimes, until midnight, and my mom can not fall asleep unless I have reached home.” (Statement of subject A)

"Mrs. D teaches me to pray, always remind me not to miss prayer. Also, she teaches me washing dishes and cooking. Once I washed the dishes and the dishes fell down and luckily, she did not scold me but smiled. Mrs. D also hugged when I cried. I am also a non-formal schooler. Here from I learned to love fellow creatures created by God, respect, and not give up.” (Statement of subject B)
The following significant persons then reinforce the statement of subject A and B.

"Subject A often gives me money for our needs to eat, to buy soap and other needs. So, if subject A has not come home, I can not sleep." (Statement of significant person C)

"Educating and caring for B is my duty. I hope that subject B will become a good-hearted and religious child. That is why, when B stayed with me in the earlier, the first thing I emphasized was about prayer. Then, I guide her to do some house works, such as: helping me in the kitchen and cleaning the house. She is also a non-formal schooler, that is where she starts to feel accepted by her peers and feels valued." (Statement of significant person D)

Social support is generally to help someone who is in trouble. Social support can be manifested through attention, appreciation, enthusiasm, or help in other forms. Social support can increase resilience. A gets appraisal support from Mrs. C, while B not only gets appraisal support like attention, affection, advice, and hugs from Mrs. D but also gets belonging help from the social environment, especially in non-formal schools.

CONCLUSION

Both subjects A and B are often exposed to the following social problems: bullying, being ostracized, and having no playmates. As a result, A becomes inferior, and B becomes lazy to formal school. Resiliency in children of drug abuse families in Pattingalloang, Makassar City, is as follows. Subject A has I am in the form of empathy and optimism, I can in the form of responsibility, and I have in the form of appraisal support as a kind of affection from Mrs. C. Subject B has I am in the form of empathy, optimism and confidence, I can in the form of diligence and responsibility, I have the form of appraisal support obtained from Mrs. D and belonging support from non-formal schools.

REFERENCES