

# *Model to handle Street Girls' Problem in Serang City, Banten Province*

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**Abstract**— Street children are kids who have daily economic activities in the street. In this case, street girls, the female street children, are one of the complex social problems and are related to other social problems, especially related to poverty. The characteristics of street girls in this study will be described from the background why the street girls become ones, their age, their education, and their jobs. Economy problem was not the only reason why the street girls become ones. They thought being street girl was also part of their culture. Moral value and norm violation is often happened in the society, this can be seen from the street girls' behavior, they tried to get money for snacking, buying internet data and daily needs, some of them also smoked and did drugs.

**Keywords**—street Children, education, Economy

## I. INTRODUCTION

Children, as the nation's assets, have the right to grow and develop optimally. Living in a street, like street children, is very dangerous for them. They often experience economic exploitation by the adults, including their parents; they may get physical, social, and sexual violence; many of them are also forced to become drug users and dealers or involved in crimes.

Street children are kids who have daily economic activities in the street. In this case, street girls, the female street children, are one of the complex social problems and are related to other social problems, especially related to poverty. The population of the street girls keeps increased in time. This can be an indicator that shows the numbers of poor families are also increased in line with the number of street girls. Social anxiety which is caused by the street girls, because they make places such as markets, bridge vaults, sidewalks, or other open spaces as their living areas, creates a sense of not safe and uncomfortable for others.

The number of street children, especially the street girls, is one of the phenomena of complex social problems. This phenomenon is seen as a result of the inability of parents and / or family to carry out their obligations, so the street girls cannot fulfil their physical, spiritual and social needs naturally.

The problem of street children must be continued to be studied. The major problem also has to be found, so that it can be handled properly and thoroughly. Some programs to handle street girls have been carried out by the government, in terms of preventive, curative and rehabilitation, but these problems can never be solved completely.

Serang City has a policy that regulates the problems of street children, it is stated in the Regional Regulation of Serang City No. 2 of 2010 concerning prevention, eradication and overcoming community diseases. It is said in article 9 section 1, 2, and 3 concerning prohibition on giving compensation to persons with social problems such

as beggars and prohibitions on someone influencing others to become beggars and prohibition for being beggars.

The program has not been carried out optimally by the Governor of Serang City, especially for the issue of enforcement of the Regional Regulation of Serang City Number 2 of 2010. Added by the absence of strict sanction from the City Government of Serang, it shows that Serang City has not been able to overcome the community diseases such as street children and beggars who are located in the center of the city, especially at the traffic light. People thought that it is because The City Government of Serang has not socialized the regulation maximally. The purpose of the Regional Regulation of Serang City No. 2 of 2010 was made to overcome the community diseases, especially street girls in Serang City. However, in fact, there are still a lot of street girls whose actively busking, begging and being hawkers in the center of Serang City, such as at the traffic light at Kebon Jahe, Pisang Mas, Sumur Pecung, Ciceri and Pakupatan terminal.

These are some problems regarding to the street girls' problem:

- a. There has not been any socialization to society and street girls about the Regional Regulation of Serang City No. 2 Of 2010 yet.
- b. There have not been any alternative programs to handle the street girls.
- c. There are not any strict sanctions from the City Government of Serang in giving punishment such as fines and confinement to society and street girls in Serang City.

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

### • The Concept of Street Children

According to UNICEF, street children are children aged 16 years old who left their family, school and community to live in a street. This definition is only for the ones who surely live in the street. However, in fact, street children do not really leave their parents and live in the street all day long. If this definition is used, it means there are a lot of street children in Indonesia who is not stated in the definition. Thus, it can cause the handling of this problem become incomprehensive and undone.

Model to Handle Street Girls' Problem Social Department, cited by Krismiyarsi et al (2004), explained that to handle street children, especially street girls, should be done by giving service method and technique includes.

#### 1. Street based

Street based is an approach in the street to reach and accompany children in the street. The purpose of this approach is to know the numbers of the street children, to accompany children, and to maintain the relation and communication by doing activities, such as: counseling, discussion, games, literacy and etc. Accompanying them in

the street is done continuously to monitor the fostered children and to be acquainted with the new street children. Street based is oriented to prevent them from getting negative influences and to give them positive perceptions.

#### 2. Community based

Community based is an approach which involves the street children's family and community. Family empowerment and community socialization is done by this approach which is aimed to prevent children to live in the street and to urge the fulfillment of children needs' supplies. Community based aims to arise awareness, responsibility, and participation of family and community members in handling street children.

#### 3. Social guidance

Social guidance method is for rebuilding the street children's attitude and behavior in line with the norm, by giving explanation and rebuilding moral value for children, by attitude and behavior guidance and by case guidance to solve critical problems faced by them.

#### 4. Empowerment

Empowerment method is done to increase the capacity of street children in fulfilling their own needs. The activities include education, skill, giving fund, giving another work and etc.

### III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

- Research Object

This research was located in Serang City. This city is a part of Banten Province which is targeted by the immigrant from other cities and there are a lot of street children, both male and female, who disturb societies in the capital city of Banten Province. This study will describe and analyze the suitable model to handle street children, especially street girls, which has not been found yet.

- Research Design

This study used analytic descriptive method as the research design, which tried to describe and explain about the phenomenon of street children characteristics in Serang City.

Qualitative approach was used in this study based on the consideration that this approach is relevant and suitable with the research problem through interpretation from one social indication which will be used for building comprehension later and giving explanation to the research phenomenon.

### IV. DISCUSSION

- Characteristics of Street Girls

Children who live or stay in the street are called street children. Mostly, they will live and have their daily life somewhere in the street of big cities. You can see lots of street children, both male and female, in the heart of the cities where there are a lot of people passing by as happened in Banten Province. Street girls in Banten Province are scattered in some regency and city, such as Serang City, Cilegon City and Tangerang City. The characteristics of street girls in this study will be described from the background why the street girls become ones, their age, their education, and their jobs.

- The Reasons Why Street Girls live in the Street

There are many different reasons why the street girls decided to live in the street. The reasons they told usually because of family internal factor such as economic status or poverty and low education.

People who like doing charity by giving some money to the street children create the behavior of street girls. This is one of the reasons why the numbers of street girl was increased. The street girls and their family or parents usually also expect some money from the pedestrian who have high solidarity with the problem of poverty.

Economy problem was not the only reason why the street girls become ones. They thought being street girl was also part of their culture. Moral value and norm violation is often happened in the society, this can be seen from the street girls' behavior, they tried to get money for snacking, buying internet data and daily needs, some of them also smoked and did drugs.

Children who decided to do that job were not only because of poverty, but the mentality problem also has to be an important issue. They do not have enthusiasm or motivation to think about their future, they were easily influenced by adults to live freely and to get money to be used anytime they wanted. In this age, they do not have any skill to survive in the working world these days. Besides, their parents have not supported them in their mental development so their life becomes worst.

- Model to Handle The Street Girls' Problem in Serang City

A model, which was applied to handle the street girls and was headed to reach the purposes of the policies made by the Governor, Regional Regulation of Serang City No. 2 of 2010 concerning prevention, eradication and overcoming community diseases, has been done by the Governor.

There are some models of Approaches done by the Serang City Governor, social department and police officers, to handle the problem. The models are:

#### 1. Child Based Services

In this model, children were placed as basis service receiver done by Serang City Governor. However, it has not gone deeper to the problem. It means the model has not covered the street children's needs yet. From the interview of street children activist in Serang City said that the Governor has given a help to the street girls in 2009 which was known as the Street Children Savings. It was money, around 1 million rupiah, sent to their bank account every year. However, the problem was there was not any guidance by the social worker to the street children. The street girls' problems were poverty and economy status of their parents so they did not use the money for their education. They used it to buy food for their parents and families.

#### 2. Institutional Based Services

Institutional model for street children has not been done by the Governor. But, there are lots of activist who have done the children empowerment and accommodation, especially for street children. One of the institutions is Yayasan Bina Wanita Bahagia. This institution was not focused only for poor girls' empowerment, but also boys'. The institution has some educational programs such as writing, reading, and counting with limited facilities. The institution's funds came from donations.

The obstacle faced by the Governor was there were not any places for the people who have economy problems, like street children, to stay. So the street girls' problem in Serang City has not been solved yet until now. That is why the Governor should prepare a place for the street children to stay.

There was a program of this model called Child Postal Friend Program. This program is a policy from the Governor of Banten Province which was monitored and done by the Regency/City Governor. There were two places for Child Postal Friend found in Serang, at the Ciceri traffict light and Serang Town Square. However, the places seemed abandoned and they looked like a place for monitoring the street children only, because there was attendance lists for the officer to do data collection of the street children in certain times. It means that the Governor has not maximized the use of the Child Postal Friend program yet in Serang City.

### 3. Local Based Services/Street Based Services

This model was done by doing raids by police officers who have a job to control and monitor some troubled locations.

These police officers do not only take actions for people who break the law, but also, monitor the street children along the street. They sent some officers to the post near a place where the street children usually gathered.

From the study, it was found that the society has seen the police officers handled the street children well based on the SOP and did not do any violence while doing their job.

While doing the program, there might be some obstacles that will make the Regional regulation hampered. That is

why the Governor soon solved the problem regarding to Regional Regulation of Serang City No. 2 of 2010.

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