

People's View on Communication Behavior of *Koplo Pills* Users in Socializing with Others

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Abstract: *Everyone has a different point of view of the phenomena that occur in his surrounding environment. In this study, the phenomena being studied are the interaction between pill koplo users. The result of the study shows that there was a difference in the communication between the pills users when they were using or not using koplo pills. This statement can be seen from the way they socialized with others that had a special sign, such as stuttering, tired facial expressions, trembling body, and low intonation. Also, some things were different in koplo pills users; namely they could do heavy work without any obstacles. It happened because they used koplo pills with excessive doses.*

Keywords: *people's view, communication behavior, koplo pills users*

Introduction

Recently, drug cases in Indonesia have become worse. The use of drugs has damaged the country's economy. Not only can drugs disrupt a system in the community, but it can also damage the younger generation and more future generations. Narcotics are known as psychotropic or addictive substances, which refer to hazardous substances. The term was introduced by the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia. Drugs have an addictive effect on the users (Jowena et al., 2001).

At first, the drug was used to anesthetize patients who were taking surgery, but because it had an extraordinary effect, it began to be misused. Many people know the drug ingredients, where the materials grow and develop wildly in the house yard or forest. Drugs consist of *cannabis, cocaine, marijuana, or tobacco*. Initially, this material was only used for treatment, then developed into a substance for people who look for pleasure (Sembiring, 2006). Through the development of science in medicine, these ingredients contain psychoactive substances that can have a particular effect on a person. The effects include changes in consciousness, thoughts, and feelings that create a comfortable and happy feeling, thus give convenience in socializing with others (Sembiring, 2006).

Narcotics are artificial substances or drugs that are formed from plant or non-plant materials, both recycled and non-recycled, which cause changes in one's consciousness, the disappearance of pain, and can cause dependence if consumed continuously (Law No. 35 of 2009). Narcotics are classified into 3: *Papaver plants, raw or ripe opium, and cannabis*. While psychotropic substances are substances that are not included in narcotics, psychotropic substances are substances made from chemical elements. When used excessively, they can affect or change a person's behavior. Some of the

types include *Ecstasy, Inex, or Methamphetamines* (Wilson & Kolander, 2010). Addictive substances are substances, drugs, or active ingredients that can cause dependency and is difficult to stop. Someone who stops using it usually feels a terrible headache. Other substances are not classified into narcotics and psychotropics but can cause addiction, such as coffee, cigarettes, alcoholic drink, etc.

In the digital era, many drug cases are not handled properly, especially under a legal matter. It was reported that only about 10% of drug cases were successfully handled in court (Afiatin, 2010). It happens because drug trafficking was run very neatly and well-organized, especially in big cities (Makara, Suhastri, & Zakky, 2003). These drug transactions are usually circulated in entertainment places, as well as family, community, work, and even educational environments. Drug use will cause a person addicted, where the addiction is very difficult to get rid of. Someone addicted will do everything possible to get rid of the addiction, which results in the emergence of negative behaviors such as lying, stealing, killing, or even becoming a drug dealer. Besides causing addiction, if used continuously, it will result in death for its users. Nationally, the average number of drug abuse in each provincial capital reaches 3.9%. However, the number in 10 provincial capitals is above the national average, including Medan (6.4%), Surabaya (6.3%), North Maluku (5.9%), Padang (5.5%), Bandung (5.1%), Kendari (5%), Banjarmasin (4.3%), Palu (8.4%), Pontakan (4.1%), and Yogyakarta (4.1%) (Sianipar (2004), as cited in Afiatin (2010).

In 2017, BNN (National Narcotics Agency) revealed that 46,537 drug cases were circulating throughout Indonesia, with the discovery of 68 new types of drugs widely circulated in Indonesia. Among these, only 60 new types of drugs had legal provisions related to drug

abuse, as stated by the Head of the National Narcotics Agency Komjen Budi Waseso (Adhithia, 2017). The use and abuse of drugs and illegal drugs such as narcotics and psychotropic substances have become a problem in both developing and developed countries. This becomes a more serious problem that needs to be handled in developed countries. Drug circulation that previously targeted urban areas in Indonesia has now been spreading into villages on the north coast of Java. Psychotropic cases are even more shocking to many parties because psychotropic problems have spread everywhere. It was initially found in big cities, but now it has spread to small cities and residential areas. The circulation and use of psychotropics have also been found in all levels of communities, including the upper, middle, or lower class. The spread of drugs has increased gradually and quickly, especially with the help of technology.

The East Java Tribune Tribe once revealed that 3 fishermen were arrested for selling *koplo pills* (*carnopene pills*) for their fellow fishermen. In the hands of the suspect, the police found 104 *carnopene pills*, 1 black hat, Rp2,207,000 money, 2 white Vivo Y15 cell phones, and 1 black Samsung cell phone (Surya & Mansuri, 2018). *Koplo pills* are illegal drugs that are included in psychotropic substances, according to Law No. 5 of 1997 Psychotropic. Meanwhile, according to the people in the north coast village, the grains of medicine are classified as drugs that trigger stress, exhaustion, and addiction. There is another fact that has been revealed by East Java Times.com that District X is prone to the spread of psychotropic drugs. Also, the police destroyed *G.Carnophen pills, distributions, inxes* consisting of 7,276 items, 5,427 *L double pills*, and 27.93 grams of *methamphetamine narcotics* obtained along the north coast of Java Sea (Jir, 2016). Until now, it has been revealed that the users of *koplo pills* in District X range from elementary school children to parents (Qathumnada, 2013).

Koplo pills, if not used according to the right dosage, will cause hallucination and addictive effects. Then it will affect the communication and relationship of the drug users. Communication behavior is an act or response of someone in the surrounding environment (Irmasari, 2013). According to Kwick in Notoatmodjo (2007), the behavior is an action that can be discussed and learned. According to Lawrence Green, behavior can involve several factors, namely knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, values, and motivation. Then there are driving factors consisting of environmental and community factors. There are 3 forms of communication, namely closed-form, open form, and communication behavior in verbal and non-verbal communication (Ruben & Stewart, 2013).

Communication behavior can be learned through a person's communication habits. The definition of communication behavior cannot be separated from the notion of behavior and communication. The results of

communication are usually related to the actions taken by someone (Effendy, 2003). Communication behavior will show the way someone achieves his communication goals, which can be seen in the interpersonal communication techniques he uses, for instance, whether he communicates properly or not, or whether he uses verbal and non-verbal communication (Effendy, 2003). Interpersonal communication itself is communication that occurs between two or more people, which are used in socializing with other people. The interpersonal communication model is divided into 3, namely linear, interactive, and rational models.

Firstly, the linear model is the same as the unidirectional model, which is a process of direct communication with other individuals. Secondly, the interactive model is reviewed by the communicant as a process where the listener must be able to provide feedback. Thirdly, the rational model emphasizes more on dynamic communication patterns and the various roles a person undertakes during the interaction process (Wood, 2013). One example of communication can be seen from various perspectives that exist in our everyday environment, starting from the phenomena around us to other aspects of our lives, such as discussions about interactions with families, or *koplo pills* user interactions in socializing (Shipley, 1976). Based on the phenomena that have been explained, this research is conducted based on cognitive dissonance and symbolic interaction theory. Cognitive dissonance theory is a theory in social psychology that discusses a person's feelings of discomfort because of conflicting thoughts and relationships that motivate a person to take steps to reduce discomfort. This term was first popularized by a psychologist named Leon Festinger in the 1950s (West & Turner, 2008). Symbolic interaction theory was introduced by George Herbert Mead, who stated that in interaction, people would give meaning to everything that can support their attitude (West, 2008).

Methods

This research uses qualitative descriptive research to explain and consider the phenomena that are happening now (Sugiyono, 2016). This study was conducted in a village on the north coast of Java, Indonesia. The research subjects were selected using the snowball technique, that is, a sampling technique by requesting information from related samples to obtain future samples (Machmud, 2016). Using the snowball technique, 2 categories of research subjects were obtained: the key informant (Chairperson of the RN) and the informant (the community in the north coast coastal village of various social, educational, economic, occupational, and ideological status).

Data were collected from interviews, observations, and documentation using recording aids and stationery. The data were then analyzed by taking all the results of

the interview verbatim. The method used in this study began with gathering information, searching for literature, looking for suitable participants, and collecting material for conducting interviews. Furthermore, the interview began with conducting interviews with participants, asking for the results of interviews, processing data, analyzing data, and making conclusions (Sukmadinata, 2005).

Discussions

Based on the results obtained, the community's view of the communication behavior of *koplo pills* users in socializing with others is in the form of non-verbal and verbal communication, even though non-verbal communication is mostly found (Ruben, 2013). Non-verbal communication refers to every message that accompanies and complements language, such as the vocal form spoken by each individual, actions, gestures, and expressions (Ruben, 2013). The symbolic interaction theory introduced by George Herbert and Mead said that the stimulus in the form of *koplo pills* has a significant influence on someone's behavior (West, 2008). Only by consuming a few items can have an extraordinary effect on changing the behavior of every individual, be it in terms of work, socializing, and communicating with other individuals.

Some changes in things that can be seen from *koplo pills* users are the way they work, which looks more uplifting compared to workers without *koplo pills*. This is because *koplo pills* were used as doping by its users (West, 2008). The users performed higher when using the pills than their usual performance without the pills. People who use *koplo pills* consume a lot of drugs, so it affects their physical condition, makes them experience a decrease in the nervous system and the tendency to fall asleep for quite a long time. It makes them unable to do anything. Even if there are users who can last a long time, but the results of the work produced will not be maximal or may not be in accordance with what is expected (Pryor, 2011).

In addition to working, *koplo pills* can also affect the way users interact in social life. The users of *koplo pills* socialize more easily with the surrounding environment when using the pills. It happens because *koplo pills* users are believed to have increased confidence when using *koplo pills* (Ismail, 2017). The more *koplo pills* a person takes, the better he will be and the more confident he is to socialize with the surrounding environment. Also, vocal communication is an understandable part of *koplo pills* users. It is proven that each pill user has a different vocal form of communication, depending on the number of *koplo pills* they take and their nature (Mahrabian, 2007). If they use *koplo* with large doses, the paralinguage they create will also have different results.

In addition to communication vocals, expressions can also be observed in the changes that occurred to each

koplo pill user, where there is a body movement that will also be seen if *koplo pills* users use *koplo* with large doses (Ruben, 2013). With the use of more doses, they will look excessively drunk. However, if they use *koplo pills* only with stitched doses, the function of *koplo* itself is only useful as a reliever and tiredness needed by its users. The use of the pills also affects the way the users communicate. They usually show a slow response, repetition of conversation, a stuttering tone, or even inability to hear the question clearly.

This is due to the lack of consciousness of the *koplo pills* users, which caused the communication process not run smoothly. Smoothness in communication is also influenced by nonverbal behavior, where someone can manage his interactions with the right attitude (Wood, 2013). Leon Festinger in his book "Science, Theory, and Philosophy of Communication" also said that this cognitive dissonance can psychologically give changes to attitudes, thoughts, and behaviors (West, 2008).

Also, if used continuously, the pills can lead to death. It is also stated that users could not behave properly. In other words, they behave inconsistently depending on how many pills they take and how long they take them. In this case, the interaction symbol can provide a statement, which will give meaning or symbols in non-verbal communication.

Conclusion

From the results of the research, it was revealed that psychologically, an individual who uses *koplo pills* has some differences from other individuals, both in socializing and in carrying out daily activities. When they socialize with others, they seem to get along more easily with the surrounding community. Likewise, when doing work, they seem to be able to do more heavy work compared to people who do not use *koplo pills*. This was obtained from the results of the 13 participants who had more of the same views, with the support of observational evidence as the study progressed.

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