

SOCIALIZATION OF HANDLING INCREASING BULLYING AMONG CHILDREN IN MENUR, SUKOLILO DISTRICT, SURABAYA

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Abstract

Bullying is an increasingly common phenomenon, both in schools and in families. This is aggressive, repetitive, and deliberate behavior, aimed at hurting or dominating others emotionally, physically, or mentally. Bullying can occur in a variety of contexts, including at school, in the workplace, and online (cyberbullying). The causes of bullying vary, from unhealthy family conditions to mental disorders. The negative impacts of bullying are not only felt by the victims but also by the perpetrators, including emotional disorders and the risk of addiction. This phenomenon requires effective intervention to prevent bullying and protect individuals from legal and social impacts. The methods used include socialization about overcoming bullying in children, as well as discussions and questions and answers to ensure participants understand the importance of legal knowledge related to preventing, impacting, and overcoming bullying for both perpetrators and victims. This Community Service activity succeeded in raising awareness of the importance of overcoming bullying in children and protecting the rights of victims. Participants also understand that bullying can be carried out legally through the Child Protection Law and Article 1365 of the Civil Code.

Keywords: Bullying, Child Protection, Legal Protection, Prevention

INTRODUCTION

Bullying constitutes an aggressive behavior that is perpetrated repeatedly with the intent to harm, demean, or exert control over another individual. This phenomenon has escalated into a serious issue across various settings, including schools, families, workplaces, and even within the digital realm (cyberbullying). Bullying manifests in various forms—physical, verbal, or psychological—each of which inflicts significant negative effects on the victim's mental and emotional well-being. In educational settings, bullying frequently occurs among students, potentially leading to long-term trauma that adversely impacts academic performance and a child's social development (Smith, 2016). The causes of bullying are diverse and involve various factors, including unhealthy family conditions, mental disorders, and social pressures.

Children who grow up in environments marked by violence or instability within the family are more susceptible to becoming either perpetrators or victims of bullying. Additionally, a lack of empathy and understanding of the impact of bullying on others constitutes a significant contributing factor to such behavior. Social factors, such as peer pressure or the desire to dominate, frequently motivate children and adolescents to participate in bullying behavior (Olweus, 2017).

Bullying can manifest in various forms. All forms of bullying inevitably have negative impacts, not only on the victims but also on the perpetrators of such behavior. Legal provisions can be applied as a means to address the issue of bullying. These measures are relevant in both criminal and civil law contexts. In criminal law, much of the regulation is outlined in the Child Protection Act, considering that both the victims and the perpetrators of bullying are often minors. However, civil law also applies, as outlined in Article 1365 of the Indonesian Civil Code (Abdullah, 2020). Both the victim and the perpetrator will experience the effects of bullying. Victims of bullying often suffer emotional disturbances such as depression, anxiety, and lowered self-esteem, which can persist into adulthood. Meanwhile, perpetrators are also at risk of future behavioral problems and mental health issues, including addiction to alcohol or drugs. Therefore, society and educational institutions must implement effective interventions to prevent and address bullying, as well as to provide legal protection for victims. Public awareness campaigns and bullying prevention programs can increase societal understanding of the dangers of this behavior and the importance of protecting individual rights (Walker, 2023).

Several steps can be taken to prevent bullying, including education and awareness-raising, active involvement of schools, and the promotion of tolerance and diversity policies. Additionally, the role of parents and guardians is crucial, as is the teaching of social skills and conflict resolution. Facilitating a positive environment, providing support, encouraging reporting, and involving the community are also necessary, including educating about the safe use of technology. Preventing bullying requires a collective commitment from all parties (Smith, 2016).

IMPLEMENTATION METHOD

To address the issue of bullying behavior among children, a socialization activity was conducted for both victims and perpetrators of bullying, aiming to prevent and mitigate the occurrence of such actions, with the goal of reducing or even eliminating bullying in the future.

1. Preparation Stage

During the preparation stage, the facilitators conducted initial coordination with various community institutions, village heads, and local community leaders. The purpose of this coordination was to ensure the smooth implementation of the activity and to secure full support from the authorities and influential figures within the community. The designed socialization activity was primarily targeted at adults, particularly parents within families, to raise their awareness of the issues to be discussed. The socialization was scheduled for the evening, starting at 7:00 PM and continuing until completion, with the expectation of optimal participation from the local community.

2. Implementation Stage

The socialization on combating the rise of bullying among children was carried out on July 12, 2024, at Jl. Manyar Rejo 23a, Kel. Menur Pumpungan, Kec. Sukolilo, Kota Surabaya, with the following details: a. Presentation of material on: mitigation and prevention, along with the impacts on both victims and perpetrators of bullying; b. A discussion and question-and-answer session to clarify the material; c. A summary, where participants were emphasized on the mitigation of the rising bullying behavior among children.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This Community Service Activity was attended by community members who displayed a warm awareness and an extraordinary enthusiasm for the importance of knowledge on addressing the rise of bullying among children. Following the socialization on legal awareness within the community, it is expected that the public will better understand that every family member has the right to protection as a victim of criminal acts. Bullying can be addressed through legal channels, both criminal and civil. In the criminal domain, this is thoroughly regulated under the Child Protection Act, while for the civil domain, relevant regulations can be found in Article 1365 of the Indonesian Civil Code. Bullying is an aggressive act that is carried out repeatedly and deliberately, with the intent to harm, demean, or dominate others emotionally, physically, or mentally. This behavior can occur in various contexts, such as schools, workplaces, online environments (cyberbullying), or public places. Bullying is a form of oppression or violence perpetrated by individuals or groups to hurt or suppress others. Although bullying can happen to anyone, it is more frequently observed among adolescents (Olweus, 2017).

Every individual has a different background and motivation, and the combination of these factors can influence bullying behavior. Some of the factors that can trigger bullying behavior include negative experiences in unhealthy family environments, such as violence or neglect, which may drive an individual to exhibit aggressive behavior outside the home. Additionally, individuals can be influenced by behavioral models around them, where bullying is perceived as a norm, whether in school, society, or the media. The sense of power and control felt by the perpetrator when dominating others, lack of empathy and understanding of the emotional impact on the victim, as well as mental disorders such as behavioral or personality disorders, also contribute to the causes of bullying. Social and environmental factors that support extreme competition or intolerance towards differences can further reinforce bullying behavior. Bullying can occur in various forms, each with unique characteristics that can significantly impact the victim (Smith, 2016).

1. **Physical Bullying:** This is the most recognizable form of bullying, where the perpetrator engages in physical violence such as hitting, kicking, pushing, or damaging the victim's belongings. This behavior aims to intimidate or directly harm the victim. Physical bullying often occurs in school environments and can lead to profound physical and psychological trauma for the victim (Olweus, 2017).
2. **Verbal Bullying:** This form uses words to hurt, embarrass, or intimidate the victim. It can include insults, teasing, threats, or spreading rumors. Although it does not involve physical

- contact, verbal bullying can significantly damage the victim's mental health, leading to stress, depression, and low self-esteem (Smith & Sharp, 2016).
3. **Social (Relational) Bullying:** Social bullying aims to damage the victim's reputation or social relationships. This can involve exclusion from groups, spreading gossip, or other forms of social manipulation. This type of bullying is often difficult to detect because it occurs behind the scenes and can have long-lasting effects on the victim's social and emotional well-being (Wolke & Lereya, 2019).
 4. **Cyberbullying:** With the advancement of technology, bullying has also evolved into an online form. Cyberbullying occurs through social media, text messages, or other online platforms. Perpetrators may spread false information, send threatening messages, or publicly embarrass the victim in a broad digital audience. The impact of cyberbullying can be as severe, or even more severe, than traditional bullying, as it can occur continuously without time and place constraints (Hinduja & Patchin, 2020).
 5. **Sexual Bullying:** This involves sexual actions intended to demean or embarrass the victim. This form can include inappropriate comments, sexual harassment, or even physical assault. Sexual bullying can have serious consequences, including long-term trauma and damage to the victim's self-esteem (Farrington & Ttofi, 2018).

Impacts of Bullying:

1. **Psychological Impact on Victims:** Bullying can have serious psychological effects on victims, including depression, anxiety, and low self-esteem. Victims often feel fearful, unsafe, and worthless, which can lead to post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). These impacts not only affect the victim's mental well-being in the short term but can also have long-term effects, disrupting their quality of life and mental health later in life (Smith et al., 2016; Gini & Pozzoli, 2019).
2. **Physical Impact on Victims:** In addition to psychological impacts, victims of bullying often experience significant physical effects. Chronic stress from bullying can lead to sleep disturbances, headaches, digestive issues, and even chronic illnesses. Some victims also suffer physical injuries due to direct violence from the bully, further worsening their health condition (Copeland et al., 2017; Wolke & Lereya, 2018).
3. **Academic Impact on Victims:** Bullying can also disrupt the academic performance of victims. Victims often lose interest in learning, feel anxious in school environments, and have difficulty concentrating, which can result in declining academic achievement. Some victims might even choose to skip school or drop out entirely due to the intimidation they face (Juvonen & Graham, 2018; Kowalski et al., 2020).
4. **Social Impact on Victims:** Victims of bullying often experience social isolation and difficulties in building interpersonal relationships. Fear and low self-esteem can cause them to withdraw from social interactions, which in turn can worsen feelings of loneliness and isolation. These social impacts can continue into adulthood, affecting the victim's ability to form healthy and meaningful relationships (Olweus, 2016; Arseneault, 2018).
5. **Impact on Perpetrators:** Perpetrators of bullying also face negative consequences. They are likely to develop aggressive behavior patterns that can persist into adulthood, increasing the risk of involvement in criminal activities, difficulties in maintaining employment, and

problems in interpersonal relationships. Perpetrators are also at high risk of becoming domestic violence offenders in the future, indicating that bullying harms not only victims but also the perpetrators (Ttofi et al., 2016; Thornberg et al., 2020).

CONCLUSION

The socialization of bullying issues aimed at the community, including both victims and perpetrators, seeks to prevent and address such actions to ensure they do not recur in the future. The preparation phase involves initial coordination with community organizations, village heads, and local leaders to facilitate the implementation of the activities. The socialization targets adults, particularly parents, with content covering intervention, prevention, and the impacts of bullying on both victims and perpetrators. Following the presentation of the material, a discussion and Q&A session is held to clarify participants' understanding. The methods used in this activity include socialization and interactive discussions to ensure that participants grasp the importance of legal knowledge related to the management and prevention of bullying.

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