





**Conference Paper** 

# Juvenile Delinquency as a Form of Coping in Broken Home Children

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### Abstract.

Juvenile delinquency is often considered to be a criminal act caused by a lack of education or attention from parents. However, when viewed through personality psychology, juvenile delinquency can occur due to other things. This study aimed to determine whether a broken home can cause delinquency in adolescents, assess the effect of family control on juvenile delinquency, determine the coping mechanisms that occurred in broken-home adolescents, and determine the impact of a broken home on adolescents' behavior. We chose to compile this article by conducting a literature study of scientific articles, theses, and journals on the internet media and then drawing conclusions. The results showed that juvenile delinquency, such as skipping school, clubbing, and gang motorist, can happen because Sigmund Freud's coping mechanism is to adapt to difficult situations in the form of a broken home and maintain his emotional health.

Keywords: Juvenile delinquency; coping; broken home

# 1. Introduction

Adolescence is the period or stage where the transition from childhood to adulthood occurs. At this time, the behavior of adolescents tends to be often restless, rebellious, and unstable. Still, they also have abundant physical and psychological energy and a great desire to find self-identity [1]. During the progress of life, it is not uncommon for us to see how teenagers in Indonesia are reported to be experiencing a moral decline in juvenile delinquency; this is now starting to make society anxious because it has crossed normal limits[2].

*Juvenile delinquency* is an act committed by a teenager contrary to social values. Juvenile delinquency can occur in a wide scope. Behavior that is said to be juvenile delinquency is inclusive, starting from behavior that is not socially accepted to criminal acts committed by teenagers [2].

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According to some experts, adolescence occurs in the age range of 11 to 21 years. According to WHO, adolescents are between 10 and 19 years old. Meanwhile, the BKKBN (Population and Family Planning Agency) divides adolescents ages 10-24 years and unmarried. Based on this explanation, the adolescent phase can be divided into 3 stages, namely, Pre adolescent (12-14 years), early adolescence (14-17 years), advanced adolescence (17-20 years), and late adolescence.

This pre-adolescent phase lasts briefly, but the behavior tends to be negative [3]. Furthermore, the early adolescent phase culminates in change and the search for selfidentity. Then late teens to late teens, which then happens. They have started to have idealism and have started to reach maturity emotionally.

Juvenile delinquency can occur due to 2 factors, namely internal and external factors. There is an identity crisis from internal factors, where adolescents can form a feeling of consistency in life but fail to achieve their role identity. Then there is weak self-control, where adolescents cannot distinguish which behavior is by the norm and which is not, or cannot control themselves not to do things that are not following the norm[2].

In addition to internal factors, external factors influence juvenile delinquency, namely the family environment, where broken home conditions and messy households covered in conflict can trigger juvenile delinquency. Then there are influences from the surrounding environment, such as bad friendships, that can affect adolescent behavior [2].

The coping mechanism is a pattern carried out to withstand tension that threatens him or solves his problem[4]. Each individual has a different coping mechanism for dealing with problems that occur. *Coping mechanisms* are resources owned by individuals subjectively. Coping mechanisms also control a situation in adolescents in dealing with something.

Freud's defense mechanisms (or coping styles) are automatic psychological processes that protect individuals against anxiety and from awareness of internal or external dangers or stressors. Individuals often need to be made aware of these processes while operating. Defense mechanisms mediate individual reactions to emotional conflicts to internal and external stressors[5]. Self Defense Mechanisms (Defense Mechanisms) according to Sigmund Freud, namely Repression (muffling emotional impulses into the subconscious), regression (mentally backward to the previous stage of development), displacement (venting emotions on objects or other people), reaction formation (doing things contrary to what he feels), sublimation (directing negative emotions to positive activities), Denial (rejection), Projection (throwing blame on other innocent people) and Rationalization (thinking positively about what happened)[6].



Coping mechanisms can be subjective due to differences in information obtained by individuals. A study obtained very significant results related to adolescents' coping mechanisms before and after being given information [4]. Information is also considered very important in improving coping mechanisms in adolescents [4].

*Broken Home* is a popular term for a family with problems. The divorce of parents usually causes this problem. Broken home problems affect the growth and development of children in the family[7]. The development of children in broken-home families will be different from those in families that do not have problems. The family is the first environment for children in emotional, physical, spiritual, and social development[7]. The development of children in broken-home families will be different from those in families.

The family is the first environment for children regarding emotional, physical, spiritual, and social development[7]. Teenagers with broken home families will usually experience short-term mental health problems. A broken home family affects academic achievement, the tendency towards bad things, low quality of life, and other problems. This problem arises because a child must adapt to a family crisis after the parent's divorce.

We created this article intending to know whether a broken home can cause delinquency in adolescents, determine the effect of family control on juvenile delinquency, find out the coping mechanisms that occur in broken-home adolescents, and determine the impact of a broken home on adolescent behavior.

The benefits of research that we hope can help the community include changing

perceptions and expanding public knowledge regarding juvenile delinquency. Juvenile delinquency has many causal factors, and family relationships at home are one of them. To inform readers that adolescents' mental state can affect adolescent behavior because adolescence is a time when thinking is still unstable, and to educate readers regarding internal conflicts and mechanisms of coping.

## 2. Method

The method used in research to compile this article namely research study of literature. Khatibah (2011) suggests library research as an activity carried out systematically to collect, process, and conclude data using specific methods/techniques to find answers to problems faced through library research. The selection of scientific articles as a source of literature has been adjusted to the topics to be discussed. Hence, the authors searched with several keywords, such as juvenile delinquency, coping, and broken home.



# **3. Result and Discussion**

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۱o.	Author	Title	Year	Result
	Nila Ainu Ningrum [8]	HUBUNGAN ANTARA COPING STRATEGY DENGAN KENAKALAN PADA REMAJA AWAL	2012	The result of this study is the finding of a relationship between coping strategy and juvenile delinquency in the early adolescent phase at Islamic boarding schools.
				Arrahmah Kediri
2	Tamama Rafiqah & Handayani Sitepu [9]	BENTUK KENAKALAN REMAJA SEBAGAI AKIBAT BROKEN HOMEDAN IMPLIKASINYA DALAM PELAYANAN BIMBINGAN KONSELING	2019	The results of this study are the causes of juvenile delinquency, such as clubbing, sucking on glue, joining motorcycle gangs, skipping/dropping out of school, and drinking alcohol, namely to satisfy the victim and make her feel more at calmer.
3	Yuli [10]	Perilaku sosial Remajayang Menyimpang akibat Broken Home	2020	This study found that children who live in broken home families tend to have deviant behavior that can disturb the environment's peace, such as drug use, staying out late at night, and skipping school.
Ļ	Dwi Winda Lestari [11]	PENERIMAAN DIRI DAN STRATEGI COPING PADA REMAJA KORBAN PERCERAIAN ORANG TUA	2013	The results of this study were answered by four subjects using coping strategies that focused on emotional problems in the form of escaping from problems, minimize their problem and
				and search for meaning. However, four sub- jects used different methods, two subjects focused on coping with finding meaning and accepting their parents' divorce, while the other two subjects did not.
5	Ardian Prapto- mojati [12]	DINAMIKA PSIKOLOGIS REMAJA KORBAN PERCERAIAN: SEBUAH STUDI KASUS KENAKALAN REMAJA	2018	The results obtained from this study are that juvenile delinquency is caused by a mistake in the mind of those who think that they will get attention if they commit juvenile delinquency and disturb other people. Because basically they need it.
5	Rianri & Rusandi [13]	STRATEGI COPING REMAJAPADA PERILAKU MENYIMPANG	2018	The results of this study found that coping in adolescents with deviant behavior uses displacement in dealing with problems in their lives. In other words, they are inclined.
7	Zahra & Kawuryan[14]	COPING STRESS PADA REMAJA BROKEN HOME	2015	The results showed that the three informants with broken family backgrounds experienced changes in behavior, emotions, cognitive, and physical due to the stress experienced. But the coping stress that they do is different. Coping strategies in the form of emotion focused coping tend to be more widely used by the three informants, such as escape avoidance, self control, accepting responsibility, positive reappraisal, and seeking for social support. While the coping strategies in the form of problem focused coping were used more by informants II, because they had high enthusiasm in solving problems as seen from the forms of coping they used, such as active

## TABLE 1



#### TABLE 1

No.	Author	Title	Year	Result
				coping, planning, dan seeking social support for instrumental reasons.
8	Dewi & Herdiyanto [15]	DINAMIKA PENERIMAAN DIRI PADA REMAJA BROKEN HOMEDI BALI	2018	The results obtained from this study include: first, the self-acceptance of bro- ken home adolescents in Bali is dom- inantly influenced by external factors, namely family and social, second, the form of each stage of self-acceptance dif- fers in each developmental phase, in the children's phase the form of acceptance Dominant self acceptance is in the form of emotion, in the early adolescent phase the dominant form of self-acceptance is in the form of behavior, and in the late adolescent phase the dominant form of self-acceptance is in the form of thoughts, and the third self acceptance in broken home teenagers in Bali is a dynamic process and there are
				differences in the dynamics of self acceptance between respondents with patrilineal custody and respondents with independent custody
9	Fradinata [16]	PENERAPAN TERAPI REALITAUNTUK MEN- GATASI KENAKALAN REMAJA PADA SISWA BROKEN HOME	2023	The results obtained from this study are counselors who invite counselees to understand and make them aware that broken home conditions are not always used as an excuse for acts of delinquency as a reason to fulfill their basic needs. Reality therapy functions in helping counselees face reality and meet their basic needs without having to do things that harm themselves or others.
10		KENAKALAN PADA REMAJA YANG MENGALAMI PERCERAIAN ORANG TUA	2013	The results obtained from this study are counselors who invite counselees to understand and make them aware that broken home conditions are not always used as an excuse for acts of delinquency as a reason to fulfill their basic needs. Reality therapy functions in helping
				counselees face reality and meet their basic needs without having to do things that harm themselves or others. this is due to several factors such as family processes, socioeconomic class, educa- tional expectations of values at school and the quality of the environment around where you live.

Juvenile delinquency is a moral decline in adolescent behavior caused by internal or external factors. One of the external conditions that can affect the formation of juvenile delinquency is the family environment. The family is the first environment for developing various aspects of life, such as emotional, physical, spiritual, and social[7,18].



It can be evidence that a less-than-optimal family environment can form a moral decline or juvenile delinquency. Juvenile delinquency can also occur due to internal factors such as identity crises and lack of individual control[19,20].

Almost all articles show that teenagers who have divorce problems with negative coping strategies will commit juvenile delinquency. Juvenile delinquency behavior takes various forms. The article compiled by Yulia with the title "ADVERSIONS OF ADO-LESCENT SOCIAL BEHAVIOR DUE TO BROKEN HOME" says that children who live in broken home families tend to have deviant behavior that can disturb the peace of their environment. In addition, the article written by Intaglia Harsanti & Dwi Gita Versari[17] also stated that their research subjects had done various negative things, such as using drugs, drinking, having free sex, destroying public places, and fighting with other people. They titled this article "DETERMINATION IN ADOLESCENTS WHO HAVE DIVORCE PARENTS".

Juvenile delinquency described in previous studies can be regarded as a form of coping in adolescents. As explained in Sigmund Freud's theory related to defense mechanisms, namely the control of individual reactions to emotional conflicts to internal and external causes of stress [5]. Each phase of development has different problems and different stressors. So, the coping strategies used can also be different. Research by Rianri Rachmayanie J. & M. Arli Rusandi[13], with the title "found that most youths used a displacement strategy. This strategy is carried out by avoiding, distancing, and diverting oneself from the stressor[13]. One form of this coping strategy is juvenile delinquency which they do as a form of diversion.

In every phase of life, developmental tasks must be fulfilled. The need for recognition and self-acceptance is strong, as in the adolescent phase. This is based on the results of research conducted by Ardian Praptomojati[12], entitled "PSYCHOLOGICAL DYNAMICS OF YOUTH VICTIMS OF DIVORCE: A CASE STUDY OF ADOLESCENT DEBT". The explanation study explained that juvenile delinquency was caused by an error in the thinking of adolescents who thought that when they caused trouble, they would be noticed.

This is not much different from the research conducted by Dewi, et. al.[15] which was entitled "DYNAMICS OF SELF-ACCEPTANCE IN ADOLESCENT BROKEN HOME IN BALI" that self-acceptance of parental divorce at the stage of adolescent development is shown through the behavior and thoughts of the teenager. The parenting style of parents who experience divorce has a role in the dynamics of adolescent self-acceptance. Self-acceptance is the beginning of coping with the problem of parental divorce in adolescents, some are able to accept themselves with positive behavior and thoughts



and some are negative as explained earlier. In the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency, many things can be done, such as finding a self-development community, looking for a positive environment, and reality therapy so that it can influence healthy adolescent behavior and thinking[16,21,22].

One is written by Suci Amaliya Fradinata [16]. They compiled an article entitled "APPLEMENT OF REALITY THERAPY TO OVERCOME ADOLESCENT DETERMINATION IN STUDENTS BROKEN HOUSE". This reality therapy serves to help them face reality and meet their basic needs without doing things that harm themselves or others.

# 4. Conclusion

From the discussion we have done, it can be concluded that children with a broken home background are closely related to juvenile delinquency, such as clubbing, smoking glue, joining motorcycle gangs, skipping class, having free sex, and drinking alcohol. Children with broken home backgrounds experience changes in behavior, emotion, cognition, and physical caused by stress which causes them to commit juvenile delinquency. In addition to stress, children think that by committing juvenile delinquency, they will get the attention they want. They do juvenile delinquency through one coping mechanism Sigmund Freud expresses, namely Displacement.

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