

Conference Paper

Trafficking Sexuality Power Relations to Women and Children in Makassar City

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Abstract.

This study aims to determine the factors that cause the sex trafficking of women and children in Makassar City. This research is a qualitative descriptive study using a bibliography study to obtain comprehensive research results. The research location is located in Makassar City, South Sulawesi. The types of data used include primary data, secondary data, and tertiary data. Data techniques were used in interviews and literature studies. Data analysis uses an interactive analysis model. The findings of this study are that there are power relations that result in women and children becoming victims of vulnerable groups. Perpetrators have higher power so they can oppress victims to carry out trafficking to violence. Sexual violence in personal relationships also includes violence perpetrated by husbands as a representation of the power of sexuality. In addition, there are other factors such as poverty, job seekers, low education levels, broken families, and a history of sexual violence.

Keywords: power relations, trafficking, women and children

1. Introduction

There are 5 (five) crimes that are the most difficult to handle in almost all countries. The five crimes are drug trafficking, illegal arms trafficking, human trafficking, intellectual property crimes, and money laundering. The country's leaders have made all efforts, including enacting laws to prosecute the perpetrators of these crimes. However, this did not show a significant decrease in crime rates (Harkrisnowo, 2003).

The practice of trafficking women and children is one of them. This trafficking case is a fact and social phenomenon that becomes a crucial problem and is almost never interrupted. In Indonesia, for example, women trafficking has even existed since the royal era and has undergone transformation along with the times. According to Ramadan in his

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research, trafficking is a form of slavery or servitude that has existed since ancient royal times, women have been used as a complement to the feudalism system of government. At that time, the legitimacy of the power of a great and noble King, who had full power was reflected in the number of concubines he had (Suryaningsi et al., 2021).

Hull said that some of these concubines were noble daughters who were presented to the King as a sign of loyalty, some were offerings from other kingdoms, but others were from lower-class circles who were “sold” or handed over by their families with the intention that they would have a direct connection to the royal family (Ramadhan et al., 2018). This system of feudalistic government did not yet show a sex industry taking place, but the system of government among the former kingdoms had formed the initial basis by placing women as merchandise to satisfy men’s desires and to show power, knowledge, and prosperity. It should be noted that human trafficking of women and children is a gross violation of human rights resulting in physical and mental suffering of victims, disrupting children’s growth and development, contracting sexually transmitted diseases and eliminating the future.

This crime must be the focus and concern of all communities, especially the government in cutting the rate of trafficking in women and children. Socialization from community institutions in and the role of activists and health observers should take part. Women and children are important foundations for humanity. If we cannot allow this problem, then we will lose humanity in the future.

In the end, ongoing human trafficking is increasingly concerning and concerning when the consequences have shackled the human rights and independence of the majority of female victims or hindered the growth and development of the child’s personality, which will further hinder the development process. Potential and quality human resources for the nation and state.

2. Method

This study uses the constructivism paradigm where researchers understand various discursive formations with the intention of focusing on the effects and consequences of representation which is not only how language and representation produce meaning, but also how certain discourses produce knowledge (Suardi, 2023), and how they relate to power in the power relations of trafficking sexuality in Makassar City. Therefore, the type of research that can explore this study is to use qualitative research which is expected to be more open to the possibility of deep understanding (vertehen) so that

it not only reveals the strategies used by trafficking actors, with the approach used is descriptive case studies (Andi Agustang, 2021).

3. Result and Discussion

There are many forms of evil in the world. Some of the most massive, high and very depraved are cases of trafficking or trafficking in women and children. Trafficking is a case that almost occurs in all countries. However, the forms of trafficking that occur in one country with another have different characteristics, but in general they include sexual exploitation, forced labor, domestic slavery, illegal adoption of children between countries, debt bondage, e-mail order brides, and trafficking in human organs (Aryana, 2022).

3.1. Power relations

Patriarchal culture is the source of gender-biased behavior, which privileges men and places women in a controllable position (Michel Foucault, 1977). These controls can take the form of space restrictions, positioning, and behavior. Patriarchal values, which are a reflection of social, cultural, and religious values, affect respect for women, so that there are often treatments that degrade women both physically and psychologically (Sasha, 2005). This is a remnant of cultures in the royal era that positioned men as rulers in the household, society, or government. This is maintained by the emergence of religious doctrine that calls men the leader in the family and women to be the second being (Rachim et al., 2017).

3.2. Trafficking in women and children

Sexual exploitation is one of the most dominating forms of trafficking Sexual exploitation of women and children is widely used by perpetrators to obtain high economic benefits. The neat and structured work structure makes this crime difficult to detect and eliminate because it is almost entrenched in society. Therefore, this crime is a crime with a very high social impact on humanitarian issues and is one of the fastest-growing crimes in the world (Chicago-Kent College of Law., 2005). And sadly, this case generally occurs in women and children.

Indonesia is one of the countries that has a very high number of trafficking cases. This trafficking case is a serious problem because it harms victims, both social and psychological losses, because victims experience violence, both physical and psychological. One study estimates that 25 to 50 percent of children worldwide experience physical violence, and about 20 percent of women and 5 to 10 percent of men experience sexual violence (Ebadi & Zamani, 2018) The Indonesian state is included in a country that contributes a lot to trafficking crimes. Its strategic territory allows perpetrators to access many countries in this criminal activity. Therefore, cases of trafficking and violence become a kind of frightening scourge for the future of the nation. Indonesia can be said to have a trafficking emergency because the cases are piling up and increasing every year. Victims of trafficking are generally women and children. They generally fall into the sexual industry due to various factors. Women are the most victims in this trading industry. This is because women are considered to have special needs. Women generally account for the largest constituent of trafficking victims, and often have special needs (Chicago-Kent College of Law., 2005).

This is exacerbated by the occurrence of acts of commercial sexual violence that are then induced by violence, fraud, or coercion, or where the person persuaded to commit the act has not reached the age of 18. Some mechanisms are practiced such as recruiting, sheltering, transporting, providing, or acquiring a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion. Thus, there is no protection for victims who are not subjected to "severe" forms of human trafficking (Mutiarra et al., 2020).

In addition to the above mechanism factors, Suryaningsi wrote that there are five factors that are at the root of the increasing cases of trafficking in women and children, namely poverty, low education, family problems or broken homes, sexual experiences that are too early and work or economic needs. Five factors were found to cause trafficking in children (especially girls) with the aim of prostitution, namely Poverty Factors, Factors of Low Level of Education, Broken Home Factor, Factors of Early Sexual Experience, and Work Needs Factor (Chicago-Kent College of Law., 2005).

In addition, in some regions in Indonesia, cases of trafficking in women and children are based on the factor of the father's sexuality to his wife or child. This has become the focus of resistance from feminist activists and some social institutions that observe sexual crimes against women and children (Wulang et al., 2013). According to reports, victims are usually in a circle of sexual power that cannot be cut. The victim can only surrender and accept the crime as normal in order to survive. Among them, wives or daughters, for example, are considered important assets to be transformed into

economic benefits. They are sold because of economic pressures, unbroken debt cycles, and tempted by high fees from the prostitution business.

Families who are supposed to protect their children are actually perpetrators of child trafficking. This happens when parents or guardians who are supposed to protect the children have the heart to sell their children to brokers to become prostitutes (Michel Foucault, 1978). In certain areas in Indonesia, there is a view that girls are one of the assets that bring huge profits, so that biological parents have the heart to sell their daughters because of the very high price, especially the price of virginity. In addition, the factor that causes parents to sell their own children is due to debt bondage, parents sometimes borrow money from a moneylender who turns out to be a pimp. When due and it turns out that the debt that was borrowed has not been paid off, the daughter of the debt is asked to work for the moneylender, but it turns out that the job she was asked to do was as a prostitute. This action is not limited to that, sometimes if the work is far away then the travel costs are also counted as debt (Aryana, 2022)

Deypend Tommy in his journal on combating trafficking in persons through national and international legal instruments states that one of the factors that cause trafficking cases is discrimination and patriarchy. A major problem of trafficking in Indonesia is weak law enforcement and government measures, particularly in relation to smuggling people overseas, such as to Australia (Wulang et al., 2013). In addition, the level of public awareness, especially the families of victims involved in trafficking cases, is very low regarding knowledge of the consequences of these crimes.

The negative consequences of trafficking are rarely felt by families in the areas of origin of the victims, especially areas that are sociologically in an environment of conflict or poverty. In addition, trafficking victims are often embarrassed to return home if they do not make money, contract sexually transmitted diseases, or lose social status. Human trafficking is often facilitated by widespread greed and repression of women (Chicago-Kent College of Law., 2005). In some societies such as Makassar, women and children have almost no social status, and their lives are not valued like men. The power factor of sexuality is the trigger for this crime. Men have the capital of power in regulating and committing crimes that harm women and children. Thus, women are very easily caught up in human trafficking schemes carried out by male power or husbands (Desyllas, 2007).

4. Conclusion

Power relations in cases of trafficking women and children are crimes involving power relations between perpetrators and victims. As a crime related to power relations and contrary to human values, the victims of this crime are usually vulnerable groups, namely women and children. They must receive serious attention, both from the government and the surrounding community. This case cannot be seen as an ordinary case, because trafficking is a crime that almost occurs in all countries. Trafficking cases can occur because of personal relationships both in husband and wife, family or even boyfriend relationships. Legal protection is provided by the state in the form of provisions in the Law on the Elimination of Sexual Violence. Victims have the right to physical remedy; Psychological; economics; social and cultural; and indemnity.

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