Conference Paper

Exploitation of Children's Criminal and Economics To Become A Drug Course In The Urban Of Makassar Indonesia

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Abstract.
Many studies have examined the sexual exploitation of children few have explored the economic and criminal exploitation, mostly using qualitative research. In addition, not many studies have been done on children who are economically exploited by their own parents who force them to work as drug couriers. This study used a mixed methods concurrent embedded model to obtain more comprehensive data with 15 child victims of exploitation and 150 respondents as informants. Data collection, data analysis, and data validity were done using qualitative and quantitative methods. The results showed that drug couriers were a form of economic exploitation as well as criminal exploitation of children by families. The contributing factor is the child's fear of parents who always commit violence, although children worked as drug couriers because of their own desire to help the family economy and personal needs. The social environment contributes to the exploitation of children because it is in the social environment of children that helps parents work, thus undermining parents’ care for their children. Various methods are used if the child does not want to work as a drug courier, such as physical violence, psychological violence and threats, and sometimes giving gifts and freedom of association. The actions of parents are economic exploitation and crime against children.

Keywords: exploitation, drug couriers, economic, family

1. Introduction

Makassar City in Indonesia is the capital of South Sulawesi Province which is also a major center for drug distribution. Drugs such as shabu-shabu, ecstasy pills and marijuana have been distributed throughout the city of Makassar, making the city of Makassar a national narcotics agency (BNN) to strive to prevent drug trafficking [1], in collaboration with the police [2]. The increasing demand for drugs in making drug trafficking is also increasingly involving child couriers [3], as a form of child exploitation. The crime that
often occurs in society is the exploitation of children [4]. The research found that the city of Makassar has been flooded with drug dealers, although it is fluctuating because from year to year it fluctuates [2]. Drug trafficking not only makes children as drug couriers but also victimizes children [5], the goal is to maximize profits in drug distribution [6]. On the other hand, it costs the South Sulawesi government up to 1.9 trillion due to drug trafficking and drug users up to 131,200 [1]. This phenomenon poses a critical challenge to the government, the national narcotics agency, the police and the general public for not only making children victims but also dealers, see [7] [8] [9].

In a research report [10] Drug abuse in Indonesia has reached a very worrying stage. Drugs no longer recognize age limits. Parents, young people, adolescents, and even children are drug abusers and traffickers. About 1.5 percent of the total population of Indonesia are drug users. Although the applicable law in Indonesia regarding the trafficking of narcotics is subject to a minimum sentence of 15 years in prison [11]. However, not only the Indonesian people, but even the world community in general is currently faced with a very worrying situation due to rampant illegal use of various types of narcotics [10]. Drug trafficking not only involves adults but also involves children as drug couriers [3]. This is a form of exploitation of children. The results of research found by the commercial sexual exploitation of children [12] requires knowledge, beliefs and actions of parents who tend to take protective action against their children. The research results found by [4] Parents have the responsibility to care for the child and on the other hand the child has the right to be protected from exploitation, both economic and sexual exploitation, not only government parents and has the responsibility to provide protection for children from exploitation, so the government needs to do so. socialization to the community about the importance of children's rights and imposing sanctions on perpetrators and parents need to review various jobs performed by children [4].

The research results found by [13] Commercial sexual exploitation of children presents risks, dangers and challenges in providing care for children. The research results found by [14] the economic system creates opportunities for child exploitation, children are used by parents as a means of making money, because damage to family institutions encourages exploitation of children in addition to economic, social or political factors [14]. The research results found by [15] Economic exploitation of children can lead to sexual abuse of children such as children who work on the streets to beggars and even live at home. While the research results found by [16] changes in household structure can lead to child exploitation, especially when the first child has the obligation to help increase the income of their parents, girls tend to experience sexual violence. All these
studies focus more on economic and criminal exploitation by families, namely fathers and mothers.

Criminal exploitation of children as drug couriers is closely related to family, because the parents of drug users have a contribution to make children as drug couriers. Even if there are children who are drug couriers because of debt bondage, coercion, intimidation, or violence. This article aims to explore the contribution of parents to making children as drug couriers, as a form of economic exploitation and child criminalization by analyzing findings of children's commercial exploitation. Very few have explored the economic and criminal exploitation of children by their own families. The article describes going beyond the focus of the problem investigated by the researcher and neglected in the study. For this purpose, the authors used the data to answer two research questions: (1) how family causes children to choose to become drug couriers; (2) The reason why children choose to be drug couriers and (3) how is the mechanism of exploitation for children to become drug couriers?

2. Methods

This study uses mixed methods. Model mixed methods concurrent embedded. In this research, the first stage uses qualitative research methods and the second stage uses quantitative research methods simultaneously or together but with different weights. The research location is Ujung Tanah Subdistrict, Pattingalloang Village, Makassar City, State of Indonesia. The qualitative method instrument used the researcher as the main instrument using a checklist of observation guidelines, interview guides, documentation sheets, photo cameras and recording devices. Meanwhile, the quantitative method uses a validated questionnaire. The informants of the qualitative research method used purposive sampling totaling 15 children victims of exploitation, 1 person from the empowerment of women and children, 3 parents, and 1 person from the community development apparatus. While the quantitative method research respondents used simple random sampling technique, amounting to 150 respondents. Primary data is obtained directly such as data from interviews, questionnaires and observations, while secondary data is data obtained from documents related to research. The data collection technique used was the distribution of closed model questionnaires, direct observation, guided interviews, field notes and documentation. Qualitative data analysis was carried out through the stages of data reduction, data display and conclusion drawing, while quantitative data analysis used questionnaire verification, tabulation of questionnaire
data and percentage of questionnaire data. The validity of the qualitative data used source triangulation, time triangulation and method triangulation, while quantitative data used reliability (accuracy) and validation (correct) tests.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Exploitation of children by parents to become drug couriers

The work carried out by children as drug couriers in Makassar City is economic exploitation as well as criminal exploitation. Parents use children as drug couriers to improve the family economy and provide many benefits to drug dealers. Even so, there are pros and cons from drug courier families, child drug couriers and the general public, especially community development apparatus and child empowerment against child labor as drug couriers which is against children's rights. The results of the responses of parents, children, child empowerment and community development officials showed that there were families and children who agreed to work as drug couriers.

![Figure 1: Children who become drug couriers are influenced by several factors, namely internal factors and external factors, namely (1) Fear of parents who always commit physical and psychological acts of violence against children if the child does not work and makes money every day, more physical violence is committed by fathers. (2) Willingness of children to help parents. Children help parents as a form of participation in helping poor and divorced parents (3) Children's awareness and desire to fulfill children's personal needs that parents who are drug addicts cannot afford (4) Easy work with lots of financial rewards. While the external factors are (1) The social environment of the child, where the majority of children work to help the family economy, so that working as a child is considered normal or normal, (2) Motivation and coercion of parents on children.](image-url)
to work, including being a courier drugs, (3) Low parental care for children, so that whatever is done by children is not very important for parents, (4) Low socioeconomic status of parents. The results of the responses of parents, children, child empowerment and community development officials showed that internal and external factors had an effect on children's work but internal factors were more dominant in the aspects of fear of parents and children's desires.

![The percentage distribution of the causes of children working as drug couriers](image)

**Figure 2:**

The mechanism of economic exploitation of children to become drug couriers is carried out in various ways, such as (1) physical and psychological violence. Children get physical and psychological violence if they don’t work and earn a lot of money. (2) Threatening. Children get threats from their parents to be expelled from the house if they don’t work as drug couriers. (3) Giving gifts. Children will be given gifts as desired if they have carried out their assigned tasks to become drug couriers. (4) Freedom of association. Children are allowed to hang out with their peers until late at night and may even miss school, if the child has finished working as a drug courier. The results of the responses of parents, children, child empowerment and community development officials show that the mechanisms of physical violence and threats are the most widely used methods for families to turn children into drug couriers.

### 3.2. Exploitation of children by parents to become drug couriers

Research on child exploitation is divided into five forms, namely (1) sexual exploitation [6], sexual exploitation of children [19], sexual exploitation of children (Hodgson, 1995), [21] [22] [23] [24] [25] [26] [27], (2) commercial exploitation of children [12], [4] [13], (3) child criminal exploitation [14] dan (4) sexual and commercial exploitation of children [28] [29] [30] [31] [32] [33] [34] [35] [36] [37] [38], (5) economic exploitation of children [15][16]. However, not many studies that focus on economic exploitation and child crime
have been carried out by parents to use child labor for work in order to gain economic benefits. Not just the first child [16] but also all children to change the family structure. So that children have a social role in contributing to the family economy but on the other hand are victims of exploitation [39]. Work performed by children, such as couriering illegal drugs, is both economic exploitation as well as criminal exploitation [6], using children as drug couriers is a series of conspiracies [40] and ways to increase profits in drug distribution [6].

3.3. Factors that cause children to become drug couriers

Internal factors of children choosing work as couriers of drugs and goods resulting from theft because (1) fear of parents who always commit acts of physical and psychological violence against children if the child does not work and makes money every day, more physical violence is committed by fathers [41] who is a drug addict [17], resulting in the destruction of family institutions that lead to child exploitation [14] and cause all kinds of problems for the child [42]. Economic factors are one of the causes for children to experience physical violence, including neglect [43], One of the causes of child exploitation is economic, social and economic factors [4] or encourage child exploitation [14] (2) Willingness of children to help parents. Children help their parents as a form of participation in the economic aspect [41], because the father who works odd jobs doesn’t even work [44], or father and mother are not working [43], both families of divorced and intact parents [41], (3) Children’s awareness and desire to fulfill personal needs [45], which parents cannot fulfill. Parents who cannot meet the economic needs of their children because the father is a drug addict [17] (4) Easy job with lots of financial
rewards [45], also as one of the effects of parents who use drugs so that children become involved in drug trafficking [17]. The external factor is that the child chooses to work as a drug courier and goods resulting from theft [1]. The social environment of the children, where the majority of the children work to help the family economy so that working as a child is considered normal or normal, the social environment is also a factor in the exploitation of children [4] [14]. Drug courier children are not playing like children in general, although playing is very important for child development and the relationship between parents and children [45] (2) Motivation and coercion of parents to children to work in any way, including being a drug courier, (3) The lack of parental concern for children, so that whatever the children do is not very important for parents, (4) The low socioeconomic status of parents so that children's education is disrupted, socioeconomic status greatly affects children's education, children's education is not the main thing for poor families but works to make money for the family, economic difficulties of parents affect children's behavior to help parents [43] Parents have the perception that education does not provide guarantees for children to work in the future, so it is very social security [14].

3.4. The mechanism of exploitation of children to become drug couriers

The mechanism of economic exploitation of children to become drug couriers is carried out in various ways such as (1) Physical and psychological abuse. Children get physical and psychological violence if they don't work and make a lot of money, one way to get a lot of money but the easy way is to become a drug courier [45], more physical violence done by fathers [41], meanwhile, psychological violence is mostly committed by mothers. Every child is given an economic target by the parents every day, the results of the child's work are taken by the parents [15], achievement of economic targets is a way of avoiding physical violence such as beatings and psychological violence such as being scolded and yelled at. (2) Threats. Children get threats from their parents to be expelled from the house if they don't work as drug couriers. (3) Gift-giving. Children will be given gifts as desired if they have carried out their assigned tasks to become drug couriers. Giving more gifts in the form of money, because money can give happiness to children even though they are very weak relationships [46] (4) Freedom of association. Children are allowed to hang out with their peers until late at night and may even miss school, if the child has finished working as a drug courier. Freedom is important...
for children as a way to avoid physical and psychological violence that occurs in the household [47].

4. Conclusions

The work that children do as drug couriers is economic exploitation as well as criminal exploitation for the sake of improving the family economy. The contributing factor is the child’s fear of parents who always commit violence, even though there are children who work as drug couriers because of their own desire to help the family economy and personal needs. The social environment contributes to the exploitation of children because it is in the social environment of children that helps parents work, thereby degrading parents’ care for their children. Various methods are used if the child does not want to work as a drug courier, such as physical violence, psychological violence and threats, although sometimes giving gifts and freedom of association, the actions of parents are economic exploitation and crime against children.

Acknowledgments

Thank you to the lecturer who teaches independent study courses who have contributed to the thoughts in this article.

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