

Guidance and Science Skills for Street Children

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Abstract: Various programs were developed in response to the street children problem in Indonesia. The government (social services) has implemented a policy to overcome the problem of street children in the city of Jambi, including creating a shelter home policy for street children to study and provide skills in the field of science. This research aims to determine the effectiveness of skills in the field of science in handling street children. This research uses empirical demonstration and juridical methods using research specifications, population, samples, informants, data collection, data processing, and analysis. The results of the research show that skills in the field of science are very effective in developing street children in the city of Jambi, although they have not optimally reduced the number of street children in the city of Jambi due to several factors, both internal and external.

Keywords: Evaluation; Owned enterprise program; Program; Science skill

Introduction

In Indonesia, discussing street children is of course an endless topic because the population of street children is increasing every year so it is a case that must be closely monitored because we know that to advance a country relies on the young generation who have good qualities, but on the contrary, if advancing a country will be slow because the young generation is not qualified (Dwivedi et al., 2023; Demeke, 2022). Of course, the phenomenon of street children is quite a complex problem for big cities in Indonesia. If you look closely, it turns out that street children are very easy to find in big cities (Fantahun & Taa, 2022; Chowdhury et al., 2017; Julien, 2022). Starting from red light intersections, train stations, terminals, markets, shops, and even malls, they are places where street children carry out their activities. The state's goal is stated in the preamble to the 1945 law, namely to protect the entire Indonesian nation and all of Indonesia's blood to promote the general welfare, and to make the nation's life intelligent. For the State's goals to be achieved, human resources are needed who can carry them out well, so they need to be prepared from an early age. Therefore, child development has become an

important concern (Shao, 2019; Meriem et al., 2020). Starting from an early age, children need to be educated so that they will be able to compete internationally (Akkari, 2022).

Children are an investment and hope for the future of the nation and as successors to future generations (Gauthier & De Jong, 2021). In the life cycle, childhood is a phase where children experience growth and development that determines their future (Halfon et al., 2018). There is a need to optimize children's development because apart from being crucial, children also need attention and love from parents or family at that time so that fundamentally the rights and needs of children can be met properly. Children can grow and develop into people who are physically and spiritually healthy, intelligent, happy, have high morals, and are commendable (Eaude, 2009). Street children in the city of Jambi, it is quite troublesome for the city government, because in handling street children it is not enough to just give them compensation because after the compensation runs out, they will return to the streets as usual, therefore they need quite extra and detailed handling because they think about the many impacts on them, not only It's just a halfway house to stay in and

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continuous counseling and education without any good solutions and offers for them, all of these things are useless.

From the existing reality, we can see that there are still a lot of street children in Jambi City. The phenomenon of street children in the city of Jambi can be found very easily if you want to see the condition of street children in the city of Jambi, which is one of the places where there are often street children in the Telanai Pura sub-district, Jambi city. With so many street children still living in cities in Indonesia, one of which is Medan, it is questionable whether the Medan city government's policy in dealing with cases of street children in the city of Medan has been effective or not.

Method

The research methods used in this research are demonstration and non-doctrinal sociological research. Non-doctrinal sociology means that this research will use empirical data obtained from interviews and field observations of informants (social services and street children). The purposive sampling technique is deliberate sampling to obtain important information, namely people who know it correctly and can be trusted. The technique used to test the validity of the data in this research is the data triangulation technique (Hanson-DeFusco, 2023). This technique is a data examination technique to check whether the process and results can be understood by researchers based on what informants convey regarding the effectiveness of government policies towards street children in the city of Jambi as well as the current situation in the field.

Research Sites

The target location for this research is in the Telanai Pura Kota subdistrict. This location is very suitable for exploring data related to the research formulation because it is based on data obtained from the Jambi City Police. Trends in reports of cases of exploitation of children from January to October 2023 were reported in the Telanai subdistrict. Pura is the sub-district with the highest rate of child exploitation out of 9 other sub-districts in the city of Jambi.

Informant

In determining informants, researchers used a purposive sampling technique, where according to Awalia et al. (2022), purposive sampling is a data collection technique taking into account that the data source is considered to know best what we expect. In this case, the researcher chooses sources from informants who know and are reliable so that the resulting data will be accurate, therefore the informants in this research are:

Parents of children who are victims of exploitation; Children who are victims of economic exploitation; Community Shop (RT/RW); Government shop (Jambi City resort police child investigator); The community around where you live; Family around where you live.

Result and Discussion

Street children are children who spend a lot of time on the streets. Children who are called street children are children, both women and men aged 5-21 years who carry out erratic or unclear activities and wander around on the streets or in public places for at least 4 hours/day a day a period of 1 month ago. Activities carried out include hawking, begging, playing, busking, and others where the activities carried out can endanger themselves or disturb public order. Many have backgrounds or reasons for being on the streets, namely economic factors, cultural factors, family factors, educational factors, environmental factors, and legal factors (De Jesus et al., 2023; Vafaie et al., 2023; Baysal, 2023). The background of the family is financially poor and the parent's level of education is low, there is wrong care in the family (poor communication between parents and children, conflict within the family, lack of early education for children) given by parents to children (Mphaphuli, 2023; Tsolou & Babalis, 2020). It has become a habit for children to play on the street, which previously could have been influenced by wrong relationships (Judah et al., 2018).



Figure 1. Activities of street children who carry out their activities on the street (Source: Personal Documentation)

A crucial issue that deserves the attention of local governments is Jambi City regarding the handling of street children because there are no regulations that discuss it. Until now, street children are still classified as a social disease, which is stated in Jambi City Regulation No. 29 of 2016, Eradication and Control of Community Diseases, which explains that the classification of community diseases includes prostitution and sexual deviation, transvestites and peddling, alcoholic drinks, homeless people and beggars, street children, activities

that are prohibited during the month of Ramadan. It should be the local government to create new regulations that specifically discuss street children and how to deal with them. This is to be more focused so that the problem of street children can be resolved quickly. The following is some documentation of the activities of street children who carry out their activities on the street.

As part of child labor, street children themselves are not a homogeneous group. They are quite diverse and can be differentiated based on work, relationship with parents, and gender (Pozas et al., 2023; Wang & Cheung, 2023). Based on field studies, street children are generally divided into three groups.

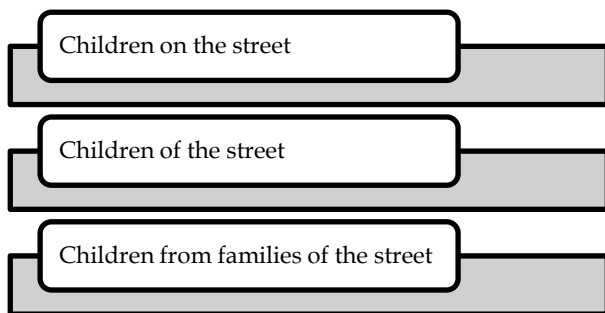


Figure 2. Generally divided into three groups

Of the three categories above, street children who are in Jambi City can enter into these three categories, namely the categories of children on the street, children of the street, and children in the street. This is due to the condition of street children in the city of Jambi City is already complex, not only that which originate from the

beautiful Jambi City but there are also street children from outside Jambi City or even outside the island. Therefore, there needs to be a sustainable commitment to dealing with street children so that overcoming this problem is not just limited to discourse and plans but is realized with full responsibility.

Effectiveness of Handling Street Children by the Jambi City Social Service

Discussing the effectiveness of a treatment can be seen from the actions and the impact of these actions, whether the actions taken can reduce the problems currently being faced, namely the street children in Jambi City, who are very numerous and rampant, especially in the Telanai Pura sub-district, who we often encounter on the streets because, In terms of handling children, you have to be painstaking because changing children and pulling them back to the path and life they should be living is not an easy matter because a habit certainly cannot be changed in a short period.

According to the Social Welfare Department, street children are children under 18 years of age who spend 8-24 hours on the streets earning a living through various jobs so they can earn money to survive. In this case, several legal issues arise regarding the treatment of these children such as that they often receive inappropriate conditions and various kinds of crimes against children, namely the occurrence of economic exploitation of children, one of which is turning them into street children to work and earn a living.

Table 1. Differences in Characteristics of Street Children

Differentiating factor	Living on the street	Working on the street	Vulnerable to becoming a street child
Long time on the road	24 hours	7-12 hours	4-6 hours
Relationship with family	Breakup	I don't go home regularly	Still living with my parents
Residence	On the street	Renting (living together)	With family
Education	No school	No school	Still in school

In handling street children, the table above is a guide or reference for street children who receive attention in their handling, so the things above must be taken into account in determining which children will receive help in this case so that they can get a life they deserve and be free from the vicious circle that ensnares them they are in for a steep future (Hou et al., 2022; Tang et al., 2023; Almeida et al., 2023). So that in this case the social services can pay attention and be on target in carrying out their duties to select street children who really should be saved.

Street children are not valued because they do any work and it is not clear that they even lower their self-esteem so that they can only get food for today (Choi & Kim, 2017). Conditions like this are victims of mistakes or inaccuracies in the selection of the development

model carried out. Because most of the development process only focuses on big cities, namely the process of regional development and development (Widianingsih et al., 2023; Bibri et al., 2020; Priambodo et al., 2021). Unequal development policies between regions have an impact on social disparities and economic growth (Kumar & Rani, 2019; Suparman & Muzakir, 2023). When Indonesia's economic growth is quite good, the number of street children also increases.

Based on the table 2, there is population growth in Jambi province from year to year. Children who spend most of their time on the streets think that they are better off working and earning money for snacks than going to school because they are too lazy to think. They can earn approximately Rp. 10,000 to Rp. 100,000 per day of their income on the streets. They feel at home on the streets,

so street children become lazy when invited to normal habitats, generally like children their age. There are no exact figures regarding the number of street children. Data released by the Jambi City Social Service in 2023 shows that the number of street children in Jambi City is the highest, reaching (50%) of all street children in the districts in Jambi. This happens because Jambi City is the provincial capital which has greater attractiveness compared to other regencies. Another reason shows that Jambi City has faster urban development compared to other regencies in Jambi Province.

Table 2. The population of Jambi Province is Increasing Every Year (Source: BPS Jambi Province)

Year	Number (soul)
2020	3.54
2021	3.58
2022	3.63
2023	3.72

Street children according to Republic of Indonesia Law No. 23 of 2002 concerning child protection in Article 1 paragraph, Heriansyah (2020) states that street children are children whose needs are not met properly both physically, mentally, and spiritually, therefore street children are children who do not obtain their rights from the parents and nuclear family of the child where we know that children are the responsibility of the parents and family (Zewude et al., 2023; Setyowati et al., 2022). It is stated in the guidelines for social services for street children, the problems of children on the streets can be seen from there are various points of view (Bekaert et al., 2021; Embleton et al., 2020), namely street children who experience problems in the way and system of upbringing and experience violence both physically and psychologically, as well as orphans, children from single parents, children from families who marry young and whose origins are unclear, children who need not fulfill (Setyowati, 2021).

The participation of children on the streets is a normal part of their lives, whether they are just playing or participating in earning a living, the participation of street children can endanger themselves, other people, and peace in public places and also make them targets for child exploitation and that is a big problem because can interfere with their growth and development (Chimdessa & Cheire, 2018; Aufseeser, 2018). Becoming street children is not a life choice for people and street children are considered a problem for many parties and are often called "society's trash (Abdullah et al., 2014). The law governing street children and the poor is contained in Article 28 B of the 1945 Law which states that the state guarantees every child to live, grow, and develop and has the right to protection from violence and discrimination. Article 34 Paragraph 1 of the 1945

Constitution states that the poor and neglected children are cared for by the state. Article 34 Paragraph 1 of the 1945 Constitution means that homeless and street children are cared for or empowered by the state which is implemented by the government.

In general observations, street children are looking for a living and are willing to do so, spending all or part of their time in public places wandering around to earn a living, some of them have their desire to make money and it cannot be denied that some are of course forced to make money because of economic reasons. The low one (Purnomo & Suryono, 2023), the existence of street children in the city of Jambi, right in the Telanai Pura sub-district, is certainly a very disturbing thing for the people of Jambi because there are too many street children at every traffic light stop, terminal, market, and other crowded places which makes people unable to carry out their daily activities freely. Because it is disturbed by street children who are everywhere, therefore this must also be a concern to maintain order together.

Conclusion

The program that has been attempted by the government is the establishment of a Shelter Home Program. However, as time went by this program did not work effectively. This is because the goal of dealing with street children has not been achieved, which shows that the number of street children is increasing. Apart from that, there is a lack of outreach to the community regarding the Shelter Home Program and there is no lack of developing consensus and communication with various elements who have an interest (both government and non-government) in dealing with the problem of street children. Another thing that makes this program not run effectively is the lack of funds and lack of human resources also due to the government's lack of seriousness in dealing with the problem of street children. It is necessary to make special regulations governing street children that discuss how curative and rehabilitative efforts are made for street children and who the parties involved are. The government needs seriousness to be able to make Jambi City free from street children.

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original draft preparation, E. P. S.; writing—review and editing, F., and M. M.; visualization, D. S. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

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Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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