Analysis of the Impact of Covid-19 in the Pandemic Era on the Socio-Economic and Health of Scavengers in Medan Denai District, Medan City

Efendi Agus

Universitas Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara, Medan, Indonesia
efendiagus1959@gmail.com

Abstract. The study entitled Analysis of the Impact of Covid-19 in the Pandemic Era on the socio-economic life and health of scavengers in the Medan Denai District, Medan City was carried out because the Corona Virus (Covid-19) is a new virus that has spread from 2020 to 2022 quickly resulted in social and economic problems that occurred where the scavenger community also felt the impact of Covid-19. The job as a scavenger is often underestimated by some people because it is close to a dirty environment and low income results. This study aims to analyze how the socio-economic and health impacts of the Covid-19 Pandemic Era waste scavengers around Temporary Disposal Sites (TPS) in the area of Jalan Perjuangan and Jalan Menteng Raya, Medan Denai District. The method used in this research is qualitative with a descriptive approach. The method of data collection using observation and interviews. The results showed that the socio-economic and health conditions of the scavengers in the areas of Jalan Perjuangan and Jalan Menteng Raya, Medan Denai District, overall experienced a decrease in turnover and income by up to 50%, as well as their social life and health decreased. The implication of this research is that it is hoped that people who work as scavengers during the Covid-19 period pay more attention to health protocols such as wearing masks, washing hands, and keeping a distance when working as scavengers so that their income can increase and can meet the family’s living expenses, especially expenses. child education.

Keywords: Impact of Covid-19 · Socio-Economic · Health of Scavengers

1 Introduction

In early December 2019, a number of patients with unknown diseases came to the central hospital of Wuhan, China. The disease that causes pneumonia is thought to be caused by a virus that originated in the Huanan fish market, which also sells wild animals. After entering 2020, the Chinese authorities announced a new type of Corona virus. The death toll has fallen into the thousands and patients outside China are also reported to be increasing. WHO has declared the Corona (Covid-19) outbreak a global pandemic.
and called on the world community to work together to end these difficult times. The rampant Covid-19 pandemic has made world conditions unstable, not only dealing with residents exposed to the deadly virus, but another effect of the Covid-19 virus, namely the instability of the world economy, resulting in social problems.

In Indonesia, almost all areas are affected by social and economic changes, such as in Medan Denai District, Medan City, the scavenger community in meeting the needs of daily life has difficulty. Working as a scavenger is to earn a living by finding and collecting and utilizing used goods (such as cigarette butts) by selling them to entrepreneurs who will process them back into commodity goods. Activities such as picking up trash and collecting it can make the body dirty and embarrassing just like a scavenger [1].

Their life which cannot be separated from dirty objects and items when choosing garbage makes them also considered as dirty, slovenly, and have an unhealthy lifestyle. Regarding the socio-economic conditions of scavengers, they are identified with poverty. Poverty is a condition of income incompatibility to meet basic human needs that occurs continuously for a relatively long time in line with the rhythm of daily life and will affect the level of consumption, health, and decision-making processes [2].

The problem of scavengers is a social phenomenon that cannot be avoided in the lives of Indonesian people, especially in urban areas. The urban poor have many problems. One of them is the problem of scavengers, where one of the dominant factors that influence the development of the scavenger problem is poverty. Poverty problems in Indonesia are like a natural reality. Suyanto [3], where poverty has a negative impact on the increasing flow of urbanization from rural areas to big cities, resulting in population density and slum areas which become the settlements of the urbanites. Actually, urbanization has various meanings, but in general, urbanization is defined as a process of urbanization, namely the process of urbanizing/developing an area (village). Urbanization is a shift of population from rural to urban areas [3]. The presence of scavengers who pick up used goods for recycling is important so that the garbage that builds up in landfills is no longer a high mountain [4].

The scavenger community in facing life certainly experiences difficulties and the limited knowledge and skills causes many of them to earn a living to survive by being forced to become scavengers. Viewed from the aspect of welfare, the conditions of daily life are very worrying. They have a low level of education and inadequate skills, as well as minimal work experience.

In terms of health, this job poses a big risk because their exposure to hazardous materials such as dirt, paper saturated with toxic materials, bottles and containers with chemical residues, contaminated needles and heavy metals from batteries are very susceptible to disease, plus low nutritional levels and minimal access to health services. Human life cannot be separated from socio-economic conditions where needs always increase from time to time in accordance with the guidelines of human life, including during the COVID-19 period.

Transmission of COVID-19 can be done in various ways, firstly by accidentally inhaling saliva splashes from a COVID-19 patient sneezing or coughing, holding the mouth or nose without washing hands first after touching an object that has been splashed with saliva from a COVID-19 patient and contact distance with COVID-19 sufferers, for example touching or shaking hands. In accordance with what was revealed by Livana PH
in Estro 2020. COVID-19 has had many impacts in various sectors, one of the sectors that has an impact is the economic sector. The increasingly widespread spread of COVID-19 will prolong the period of the fall of Southeast Asian economies, including Indonesia. The existence of COVID-19 creates global problems that bring about a new social order or recovery, this requires people to adapt to new habits that have been institutionalized.

One of the worrying conditions of the State of Indonesia is the high level of population density but not matched by the level of urban economic growth, the high population growth in cities is caused by the migration of rural residents to cities called urbanization, urbanization in developing countries can increase the number of urban residents to be very large, but the quality that is owned is very. Villagers who come to the city because of economic factors are generally people who do not have a high social position in their village.

The analysis of the socio-economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic era for the scavenger community in the Medai District of Medan City started from a concern over the life of scavengers who generally live in slum areas due to the socio-economic impact, but they are still able to survive with all the opportunities and obstacles that exist. Work as a scavenger is not the main choice, but limited education and skills make some people want to do this kind of work. Studies like this need to be investigated because it sees some people competing to work in the formal sector, the form of work and social relationships that occur between scavengers, lapak, and the community, is interesting to study because this relationship guarantees survival.

The city of Medan is one of the cities in Indonesia, the city of Medan is the capital city of North Sumatra, this city is one of the largest metropolitan cities on the island of Java and the third big city in Indonesia after Jakarta and Surabaya. All kinds of culture, ethnicity, race, and culinary variety in Medan are characteristic of the city with a very high population of Medan City, namely 2,567,288 people, with a high number of community activities both in the Social and Economic fields which makes the people of Medan City become a consumptive society to fulfill their daily needs.

The city of Medan provides a promising picture of life for some people to earn sustenance in all fields in order to improve their standard of living. The increase in the flow of urbanization is a phenomenon that cannot be avoided, in fact it continues to increase every year. The problem is different for people who are urbanizing, because the lack of job space in the village causes people to prefer to look for work in the city, but for people who have low education it will bring new problems in finding work, so they have no other choice but to become scavengers. Scavengers play an important role in regional development, especially in the city hygiene program.

The reduce mechanism that they implement by scavenging waste, is able to reduce the burden of urban waste, the reuse and recycle mechanism will also be seen in the waste sales flow carried out by scavengers, collectors and the recycling industry. Becoming a scavenger is an alternative choice that must be chosen and must be done, because of the imbalance in the implementation of development and the inability or inability of the government to create jobs, so that the scavenger group or the community cannot enjoy the results of current development. The scavenger community really hopes for a better life in improving the standard of living of their families. But in reality scavengers cannot
increase their welfare expectations for their families, and continue to live in poverty even though they are able to survive in life with very sad conditions.

The Ministry of Social Affairs noted that the number of scavengers in Indonesia in 2019 was 154,249 people and 109,919 families/households. North Sumatra ranks 4th with the number of individual scavengers (people) 8,151 and household scavengers (KK) 5,323. The Covid-19 pandemic has forced scavengers to keep looking for used goods. They dare to fight Covid-19 in order to keep getting money from scavenging. The economy has a huge impact on scavengers, starting from the decline in the price of waste to the difficulty of finding waste during PPKM (Enforcement of Community Activity Restrictions) and it is not uncommon for scavengers to get infected with Covid-19 because they come into direct contact with waste.

The life of garbage scavengers for society in general is often considered an unworthy job, even some people despise this job because it mixes with dirt, many of them do not know how important the role of garbage scavengers is in our lives. People sometimes don’t want to know that the garbage they usually throw away is very valuable for garbage scavengers. We should know that having scavengers at the TPS (temporary shelter) means reducing the volume of waste, as well as increasing the lifespan of the TPS itself.

The presence of scavengers who pick up used goods for recycling is important so that the garbage piled up in landfills is no longer a high mountain. Scavenging is one of the activities in the informal sector related to waste and used goods such as newsprint, plastic, cardboard, old/used iron, bottles, other glassware made of plastic and iron and so on. The presence of waste in the TPS (temporary shelter) is also used for the consumption of livestock belonging to scavengers. The waste consumed by livestock is in the form of rotten vegetables, leaves, and fruits that are no longer suitable for human consumption.

2 Methodology

The type of research is descriptive quantitative. Qualitative research is research that intends to understand the phenomena experienced by research subjects such as actions, behavior, motivations and views, explained thoroughly in the form of words and natural language [5]. The purpose of qualitative research aims to describe and describe the data that has been collected as it is based on the results of the questionnaire obtained in the field. In general, how to collect data can use techniques: interviews, questionnaires, observations, and document studies [6]. The object of research is scavengers, this research was carried out at Temporary Waste Disposal Sites (TPS) on Menteng Raya street and Perjuangan street, Medan Denai District, Medan City for two months collecting literature studies, data collection, data analysis and final report preparation.

The resource persons in this study were 9 scavengers consisting of heads of scavenger families at TPS on Jalan Menteng Raya and Jalan Perjuangan, Medan Denai District, Medan City. The sampling process in this study was carried out using a purposive sampling technique, namely taking samples only according to the criteria, thoughts or knowledge of the sample takers. The selected sample is automatically influenced by the sampler’s understanding of the population. However, in practice, this method is often used in surveys with a small number of sample units. For example, there is a researcher who wants to take a purposive sample of one city that represents the population that
covers the entire city, then the researcher should be sure that the selected sample is truly representative of the population [7].

The criteria referred to in this study are scavengers who work in Temporary Waste Disposal Sites (TPS) on Jalan Menteng Raya and Jalan Perjuangan, Medan Denai District, Medan City, only 9 people. The analytical technique used in this research is descriptive analysis. Descriptive analysis is intended to determine the characteristics of each variable and can perform an objective representation of the research problem. Secondary data sources Secondary data sources are data taken from any party who can provide additional data to complement the shortcomings of the data obtained through primary data sources [8]. This secondary data source is from the Medan Denai District office.

The informants in this study were nine people consisting of 5 men and 4 women. Their age ranges from 35 to 70 years. 1 person elementary school education, 1 junior high school education person, while the others have high school education. Furthermore, in terms of overall livelihoods are scavengers.

3 Result and Discussion

3.1 Research Data Analysis

Research with the title “Analysis of the Socio-economic Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic Era on Scavengers in Medan District, Medan City”. Based on the results of interviews from resource persons with a total of 9 people below: First is Mrs. Marni Frisca, 35 years old, Christian, educated in high school and working as a scavenger. During the Corona-19 Virus pandemic, Mrs. Marni Frisca, in carrying out her daily work, always complies with the overall Health Protocol regulations. And in doing work as scavengers every day there are no health problems. Based on the results of an interview with Mrs. Marni Frisca, she already has BPJS membership, and has been used for treatment during a pandemic and stated that BPJS is very beneficial for family health. And at this time, Mrs. Marni Frisca already has a house to live in, but the place where she lives is still rented with an annual rental fee of 5 million Rupiah. The rental house owned by Mrs. Marni Frisca is in good condition. Furthermore, Mrs. Marni Frisca explained that in the environment where they lived, it turned out that there was no effect on the high number of Covid-19 cases. In the housing environment of Mrs. Marni Frisca, environmental mutual assistance activities are carried out, but not every month.

Mrs. Marni Frisca in her daily living activities using her own Honda rickshaw transportation, her income is quite high compared to scavengers who rely on walking, of course her income is small. Until this pandemic, Mrs. Marni Frisca did not have any biological children, so they were husband and wife. Mrs. Marni Frisca’s income from the scavengers that are carried out every day earns IDR 1,200,000, - every month. Income from livelihoods during the Covid-19 period has an effect on monthly income. Likewise, income during this pandemic has decreased compared to the period before the
pandemic, but in meeting the needs of daily life. Sometimes it’s sufficient, sometimes it’s not enough for the family’s needs.

Mrs. Marni Frisca said that during the pandemic the government provided assistance in the form of rice, cooking oil, sugar and eggs, and even then it was only given once. Then there is also assistance during this pandemic from the private sector in the form of rice, edible oil, sugar and eggs. The assistance from the private sector was from Pemuda Pancasila and from churches in Medan Denai District. According to Mrs. Marni Frisca, the assistance from the government and the private sector did not meet the daily needs of the family. The second is Mrs. Rosmawati, 64 years old, Christian, has a high school education and works as a scavenger. During the Corona-19 Virus pandemic, Mrs. Rosmawati in carrying out her daily work always complied with the overall Health Protocol regulations. And in doing work as scavengers every day there are no health problems. Based on the results of an interview with Mrs. Rosmawati, she already has BPJS membership, and has been used for treatment during a pandemic and stated that BPJS is very beneficial for family health. And at this time Mrs. Rosmawati already has a house to live in, but her place of residence is still rented with an annual rental fee of 3 million rupiah.

The rental house belonging to Mrs. Rosmawati is in good condition. Furthermore, Mrs. Rosmawati explained that in the environment where they lived, it turned out that there was no effect on the high number of Covid-19 cases. In Mrs. Rosmawati’s housing environment, mutual cooperation activities are carried out, but not every month. Mrs. Rosmawati in her daily living activities does not have a means of transportation, her income is somewhat less than that of scavengers who have means of transportation, of course, her income is not much. Mrs. Rosmawati has no school-age children. Mrs. Rosmawati’s income from the results of scavenging carried out every day earns 5 hundred thousand rupiah every month. Income from livelihoods during the COVID-19 period has an effect on monthly income. Likewise, income during this pandemic has decreased compared to the period before the pandemic, but in meeting the needs of daily life. Sometimes it’s not enough for the family’s needs.

Mrs. Rosmawati said that during the pandemic the government provided assistance in the form of rice, cooking oil, sugar and eggs, and even then it was only given once. Then there is also assistance during this pandemic from the private sector in the form of rice, edible oil, sugar and eggs. The assistance from the private sector was from Pemuda Pancasila and from churches in Medan Denai District. According to Mrs. Rosmawati, the assistance from the government and the private sector did not meet the daily needs of the family. The third is Mr. Otlin Sinaga, 38 years old, Christian, educated in high school and working as a scavenger. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Mr. Otlin Sinaga, in carrying out his daily work, always complied with the overall Health Protocol regulations. And in doing work as scavengers every day there are no health problems.

Based on the results of an interview with Mr. Otlin Sinaga, he already has BPJS membership, and has been used for treatment during a pandemic and stated that BPJS is very beneficial for family health. And at this time Mr. Otlin Sinaga already has a house to live in, but his place of residence is still rented with an annual rental fee of 3 million rupiah. The rental house belonging to Mr. Otlin Sinaga is in good condition. Furthermore, Mr. Otlin Sinaga explained that in the environment where they lived, it turned out that
there was no effect on the high number of Covid-19 cases. In the residential area of Mr. Otlin Sinaga, environmental mutual assistance activities are carried out, but not every month.

Mr. Otlin Sinaga in his daily living activities has a means of transportation, his income is rather low compared to scavengers who do not have means of transportation, of course the income is different. Mr. Otlin Sinaga has a school-age child. Mr. Otlin Sinaga’s income from the results of scavenging carried out every day earns IDR 1,200,000, - every month. Income from livelihoods during the COVID-19 period has an effect on monthly income. Likewise, income during this pandemic has decreased compared to the period before the pandemic, but in meeting the needs of daily life. Sometimes it’s not enough for the family’s needs.

Mr. Otlin Sinaga said that during the pandemic the government provided assistance in the form of rice, cooking oil, sugar and eggs, and even then it was only given once. Then there is also assistance during this pandemic from the private sector in the form of rice, edible oil, sugar and eggs. The assistance from the private sector was from Pemuda Pancasila and from churches in Medan Denai District. According to Mr. Otlin Sinaga, the assistance from the government and the private sector did not meet the daily needs of the family. The fourth is Mr. Charlin Sianipar, 38 years old, Christian, educated in high school and working as a scavenger. During the Corona-19 Virus pandemic, Mr. Charlin Sianipar in carrying out his daily work always complies with the overall Health Protocol regulations. And in doing work as scavengers every day there are no health problems.

Based on the results of an interview with Mr. Charlin Sianipar, he already has a health card, and has been used for treatment during the pandemic and stated that this card is very beneficial for the health of the family. And at this time Mr. Charlin Sianipar already has a house to live in, but the place where he lives is still rented with an annual rental fee of 3 million rupiah. The rental house belonging to Mr. Charlin Sianipar is in good condition. Furthermore, Mr. Charlin Sianipar explained that in the environment where they lived, it turned out that there was no effect on the high number of Covid-19 cases. In the residential area of Mr. Charlin Sianipar, environmental gotong royong activities are carried out, but not every month.

Mr. Charlin Sianipar in his daily living activities has a means of transportation, his income is rather decent compared to scavengers who do not have means of transportation, of course the income is different. Mr. Charlin Sianipar has two school-age children. During the outbreak of Covid-19, the children went to school online, namely from home, but at this point in time they have been carrying out face-to-face schooling. Furthermore, in the learning process during the Covid-19 pandemic there was an influence on children’s education, negatively during the past pandemic period with an online learning process where parents had to buy communication tools for schools, then parents were told to accompany children to study, while parents were busy looking for a living for the survival of the family, plus parents do not understand doing the tasks that the teacher gives to their children. From the positive side, children do not travel and stay at home during Covid-19, this will certainly have a positive impact on not contracting the Corona-19 Virus for family members.

Mr. Charlin Sianipar’s income from the scavengers carried out every day earns IDR 1,200,000, - every month. Income from livelihoods during the COVID-19 period has
an effect on monthly income. Likewise, income during this pandemic has decreased compared to the period before the pandemic, but in meeting the needs of daily life. Sometimes it’s not enough for the family’s needs.

Mr. Charlin Sianipar said that during the pandemic the government provided assistance in the form of rice, cooking oil, sugar and eggs, and even then it was only given once. Then there is also assistance during this pandemic from the private sector in the form of rice, edible oil, sugar and eggs. The assistance from the private sector was from Pemuda Pancasila and from churches in Medan Denai District. According to Mr. Charlin Sianipar, the assistance from the government and the private sector did not meet the daily needs of the family.

The fifth is Mrs. Tuninar Br. Siahaan, 52 years old, Christian, high school educated and working as a scavenger. During the Corona-19 Virus pandemic, Mrs. Tuninar Br. Siahaan in carrying out his daily work always complies with the overall Health Protocol regulations. And in doing work as scavengers every day there are no health problems.

Based on the results of interviews with Mrs. Tuninar Br. Unfortunately, he already has BPJS membership, and has been used for treatment during the pandemic and stated that this BPJS is very beneficial for family health. And at this time, Mrs. Tuninar Br. Siahaan already has a house to live in, but his place of residence is still rented with an annual rental fee of 3 million rupiah. The rental house owned by Mrs. Tuninar Br. Siahaan is in good condition. Furthermore, Mrs. Tuninar Br. Siahaan explained that in the environment where they live, it turns out that there is no effect on the high number of Covid-19 cases. In the residential area of Mrs. Tuninar Br. There are a number of environmental gotong royong activities carried out, but not every month.

Mrs. Tuninar Br. Siahaan in his daily earning activities have means of transportation, his income is rather decent compared to scavengers who do not have means of transportation of course the income is different. Mrs. Tuninar Br. Siahaan has a child but has graduated from LSTA. Ms. Tuninar Br’s Income. Siahaan from the results of scavengers who are carried out every day earns 1 million rupiah every month. Income from livelihoods during the COVID-19 period has an effect on monthly income. Likewise, income during this pandemic has decreased compared to the period before the pandemic, but in meeting the needs of daily life. Sometimes it’s not enough for the family’s needs. Mrs. Tuninar Br. Siahaan said that during the pandemic the government provided assistance in the form of rice, cooking oil, sugar and eggs, and even then it was only given once. Then there is also assistance during this pandemic from the private sector in the form of rice, edible oil, sugar and eggs. The assistance from the private sector was from Pemuda Pancasila and from churches in Medan Denai District. According to Mrs. Tuninar Br. The assistance from the government and the private sector did not meet the daily needs of the family.

The sixth is Mr. Herman Pohan, 32 years old, Muslim, educated in high school and working as a scavenger. During the Corona-19 Virus pandemic, Mr. Herman Pohan in carrying out his daily work always obeyed the overall Health Protocol regulations. And in doing work as scavengers every day there are no health problems.

Based on the results of an interview with Mr. Herman Pohan, he already has BPJS membership, and has been used for treatment during a pandemic and stated that BPJS is very beneficial for family health. And at this time Mr. Herman Pohan already has a
house to live in, but his place of residence is still rented with an annual rental fee of 3 million rupiah.

The rental house belonging to Mr. Herman Pohan is in good condition. Furthermore, Mr. Herman Pohan explained that in the environment where they lived, it turned out that there was no effect on the high number of Covid-19 cases. In the residential area of Mr. Herman Pohan, environmental gotong royong activities are carried out, but not every month. Mr. Herman Pohan in his daily living activities has a means of transportation, his income is rather low compared to scavengers who do not have means of transportation, of course the income is different. Mr. Herman Pohan has a child who is of elementary school age, during the outbreak of Covid-19, children carried out school online, namely from home, but at this time they have carried out face-to-face school. Furthermore, in the learning process during the Covid-19 pandemic there was an influence on children’s education, negatively during the past pandemic period with an online learning process where parents had to buy communication tools for schools, then parents were told to accompany children to study, while parents were busy looking for a living for the survival of the family, plus parents do not understand doing the tasks that the teacher gives to their children. From the positive side, children do not travel and stay at home during Covid-19, this will certainly have a positive impact on not contracting the Corona-19 Virus for family members.

Mr. Herman Pohan’s income from the scavengers carried out every day earns IDR 1,300,000, - every month. Income from livelihoods during the COVID-19 period has an effect on monthly income. Likewise, income during this pandemic is the same as the period before the pandemic, however in meeting the needs of daily life sometimes it is not sufficient for the needs of the family. Mr. Herman Pohan said that during the pandemic the government provided assistance in the form of rice, cooking oil, sugar and eggs, and even then it was only given once. Then there is also assistance during this pandemic from the private sector in the form of rice, edible oil, sugar and eggs. The assistance from the private sector was from Pemuda Pancasila and from the National Mosque Agency in Medan Denai District. According to Mr. Herman Pohan, the assistance from the government and the private sector did not meet the daily needs of the family.

The seventh is Mr. Rico Silitonga, 47 years old, Christian, educated in high school and working as a scavenger. During the Corona-19 Virus pandemic, Mr. Rico Silitonga in carrying out his daily work always complies with the overall Health Protocol regulations. And in doing work as scavengers every day there are no health problems. Based on the results of an interview with Mr. Rico Silitonga, he does not have BPJS membership. And at this time Mr. Rico Silitonga already has a house to live in, but his place of residence is still rented with an annual rental fee of 3 million rupiah.

The rental house owned by Mr. Rico Silitonga is in good condition. Furthermore, Mr. Rico Silitonga explained that in the environment where they lived, it turned out that there was no effect on the high number of Covid-19 cases. In the residential area of Mr. Rico Silitonga, environmental mutual assistance activities are carried out, but not every month. Mr. Rico Silitonga in his daily living activities has a means of transportation, his income is rather decent compared to scavengers who do not have means of transportation of course the income is different. Mr. Rico Silitonga has no children he is not married. Mr. Rico Silitonga’s income from the results of scavengers who are carried out every day
Mr. Rico Silitonga said that during the pandemic the government provided assistance in the form of rice, cooking oil, sugar and eggs, and even then it was only given once. Then there is also assistance during this pandemic from the private sector in the form of rice, edible oil, sugar and eggs. The assistance from the private sector was from Pemuda Pancasila and from the Church Council in Medan Denai District. According to Mr. Rico Silitonga, the assistance from the government and the private sector did not meet the daily needs of the family. The eighth is Mrs. Marian Sihombing, 69 years old, Christian, educated in junior high school and works as a scavenger. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Ibu Maria Sihombing in carrying out her daily work always complied with the overall Health Protocol regulations, she wore a mask, kept her distance, and always washed her hands. And in doing work as scavengers every day there are no health problems.

Based on the results of an interview with Mrs. Maria Sihombing, she already has BPJS membership, and has been used for treatment during the pandemic and stated that this BPJS is very beneficial for family health. And at this time Mrs. Maria Sihombing already has a house to live in, but the place where she lives is still rented with an annual rental fee of 3 million rupiah. The rental house belonging to Mrs. Maria Sihombing is in good condition. Ibu Maria Sihombing explained that in the neighborhood where they live, it turns out that there is no effect on the high number of Covid-19 cases. In the housing environment of Mrs. Maria Sihombing, environmental mutual assistance activities are carried out, but not every month.

Ibu Maria Sihombing in her daily living activities does not have any means of transportation, her income is meager. Mother Maria Sihombing does not have any school-age children. Mrs. Maria Sihombing’s income from the scavengers who do it every day earns 5 hundred rini rupiah every month. Income from livelihoods during the COVID-19 period has an effect on monthly income. Likewise, income during this pandemic is the same as compared to the period before the pandemic. However, in meeting the needs of daily life, sometimes it is not sufficient for the needs of the family.

Ibu Maria Sihombing said that during the pandemic the government provided assistance in the form of rice, cooking oil, sugar and eggs, and even then it was only given once. Then there is also assistance during this pandemic from the private sector in the form of rice, edible oil, sugar and eggs. The assistance from the private sector was from Pemuda Pancasila and from churches in Medan Denai District. According to Mrs. Maria Sihombing, the assistance from the government and the private sector did not meet the daily needs of the family. The ninth is Mr. Rico Silitonga, 47 years old, Muslim, educated in high school and working as a scavenger. During the Corona-19 Virus pandemic, Mr. Rico Silitonga in carrying out his daily work always complies with the overall Health Protocol regulations. And in doing work as scavengers every day there are no health problems.

Based on the results of an interview with Mr. Rico Silitonga, he does not have a BPJS card. And at this time Mr. Rico Silitonga already has a house to live in, but his place of...
residence is still rented with an annual rental fee of 3 million rupiah. The rental house owned by Mr. Rico Silitonga is not in good condition. Furthermore, Mr. Rico Silitonga explained that in the environment where they lived, it turned out that there was no effect on the high number of Covid-19 cases. In the residential area of Mr. Rico Silitonga, environmental mutual assistance activities are carried out, but not every month.

Mr. Rico Silitonga in his daily living activities has a means of transportation but it is not good, his income is very less. Mr. Rico Silitonga has 3 children, one of them is still in Kindergarten school age, the other two are not yet in school. According to him, during the pandemic, the children did not go to full school, but only for a few days, and now their children have attended full school in six days. Mr. Rico Silitonga’s income from the scavengers he does every day earns only 1 million rupiah per month. Income from livelihoods during the COVID-19 period has an effect on monthly income. Likewise, income during this pandemic has decreased compared to the period before the pandemic. However, in meeting the needs of daily life, sometimes it is not sufficient for the needs of the family.

Mr. Rico Silitonga said that during the pandemic the government provided assistance in the form of rice, cooking oil, sugar and eggs, and even then it was only given once. Then there is also assistance during this pandemic from the private sector in the form of rice, edible oil, sugar and eggs. The assistance from the private sector was from Pemuda Pancasila and from the National Mosque Agency in Medan Denai District. According to Mr. Rico Silitonga, the assistance from the government and the private sector did not meet the daily needs of the family.

3.2 Research Discussion

Based on the description of the research results above, it can be seen that the social and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic era for the scavenger community in Medan Denai District, Medan City which includes the social and economic conditions of the community occurs due to social interaction. Social interaction can form certain social norms in community groups. This was emphasized by Sherif, that social interaction between members of a group can lead to a social norm in society that applies in that society [9]. Human life as a social creature has a tendency to relate to someone in order to realize the needs they need, both for their personal interests and the interests of others. Society as a system of ways of working and procedures, authority and mutual assistance which includes groups and social divisions, a system of controlling human behavior and freedom. Complex and ever-changing system of social relations.

Humans in social society, both interact individually and in groups. Likewise with the habits of the scavenger community, what always puts their personal interests at work for their families. Every day they do this work without feeling tired in their work even though the economic condition of these scavengers is mediocre but they think that this work is a livelihood that they really rely on, even though it is not comparable to the income of office work that has certain hours of rest and have a fixed income every month while the scavengers work every day from morning to night to meet the needs of their families and their income is below average. This is in accordance with what Aristotle said that humans are zoon politicon creatures, namely humans are social creatures who always need other humans to work together in achieving a goal. There are no other
scavengers’ work activities at this temporary garbage disposal site. Regarding the social status of these scavengers, in general they are in the lower class, almost the same as the buskers whose income is below the daily average.

In the social problems of scavengers, namely the type of social that is based on every effort and goods obtained by scavengers who can generate their opinion from the goods they collect. They take various used goods taken from roads, garbage dumps, people’s yards, markets, terminals, shops, stations, airports, tourist attractions, houses of worship, schools, campuses and cemeteries [10]. According to Nawardi [2], scavengers are people who look for, pick up, take, collect and look for waste both individually and in groups which are then sold to collectors. This type of income is always a problem for scavengers, the price is very low, so scavengers are looking for additional work to meet their outgoing needs. Regarding the economic situation of the scavengers, it can be explained that the income they get every day is not sufficient to meet the minimum (basic) needs because of the low income level, the situation of deprivation that occurs is not solely the will of these scavengers but because of the power they do not have low income and limited opportunities for development.

Their inability to meet the needs of their daily lives causes them to be at a low standard of living compared to the general standard of living. Scavenger communities generally do not have their own production factors such as sufficient land, capital or skills because they have very few production factors, causing their ability to be very limited in obtaining income. In addition, the level of education is low, namely the level of elementary school graduation and even never going to school because it has no money, because time is consumed to help parents in finding additional income, which will make them for generations always trapped in backwardness below the poverty line.

The economic situation of the family is closely related to the level of prosperity and welfare, this is because the economic level of the family greatly determines the ability of the family to fulfill all its needs. Food sufficiency and economic needs for the community can only be reached if their household income is sufficient to cover household needs and the development of their businesses. Rich people can be categorized as people of good standard, while poor people can be categorized as poor or not good. The purpose of welfare is to eliminate poverty and bring people together with their needs so that it can be achieved [11]. Likewise with the economic situation of the scavengers in temporary waste disposal sites, due to the limited production factors they have such as land, money, education, skills and expertise which make it difficult for them to obtain maximum income. The low level of income they get causes their low standard of living, namely that they are not able to meet all their needs including to pay for their children’s education.

The inability of the scavengers to increase their income also affects the level of prosperity and welfare of the scavenger families, this is indicated by the inability of the local government to overcome problems that occur in the field due to the economic crisis so that assistance from the local government can only serve the poor who have a household card, registered at the municipal office. Poverty is a condition of income incompatibility to meet basic human needs that occurs continuously for a relatively long time in line with the rhythm of daily life and will affect the level of consumption, health, and decision-making processes [12].
The role of the Village Government is very important because it can start from the smallest to be able to develop the potential of scavengers, then it needs support from the City government so that this will be a good solution to continue to improve the welfare of scavengers. If all stakeholders are able to be invited to work together so as to form a collective desire to solve the problem of the covid-19 pandemic. In an effort to achieve success, one must be able to avoid consumptive cultures, buy and consume goods without limits and rational considerations or consume goods that are actually not needed in excess. So that if you are able to minimize unnecessary expenses, at least keep the economic situation stable. Because it is known that the covid-19 pandemic affects all lines of life and has an impact on everything, so you have to be smart to see opportunities and also have to eliminate consumptive culture that has a bad impact, especially during a pandemic.

4 Conclusion

Based on the results of research and discussion on the analysis of the impact of Covid-19 on the socio-economic life and health of scavengers during Covid-19 in Medan Denai District, Medan City, where the variables of this study include social conditions, health including age, religion, education, BPJS membership, occupation, number of family members, tools used for work and economic conditions including income, home status, domicile, all of which have been described in the previous chapter, it can be concluded as follows: Temporary Garbage Disposal Sites on Menteng Raya Street and Jalan Perjuangan Medan Denai District, Medan City, during the Corona-19 Virus pandemic, the scavengers carry out their daily work by always complying with the overall Health Protocol regulations. And in doing work as scavengers every day there are no health problems. On average, they already have a house to live in, but the place where they live is still rented with an annual rental fee of 2 to 3 million rupiah. The income from scavengers who are carried out every day on average earns only 1 million rupiah per month. Income from livelihoods during the COVID-19 period has an effect on monthly income. Likewise, income during this pandemic has decreased compared to the period before the pandemic. However, in meeting the needs of daily life, sometimes it is not sufficient for the needs of the family. This lack of income is reflected in the lifestyle of scavengers who are classified as less normal unlike other communities, namely they do not have a proper place to live, do not all have private vehicles, have not been able to send their children to school, do not have their own house. Even though the situation is like that, they still survive as scavengers, the reason for choosing the profession as scavengers is because scavenging is a job that can fulfill their daily needs.

References


Open Access This chapter is licensed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/), which permits any noncommercial use, sharing, adaptation, distribution and reproduction in any medium or format, as long as you give appropriate credit to the original author(s) and the source, provide a link to the Creative Commons license and indicate if changes were made.

The images or other third party material in this chapter are included in the chapter’s Creative Commons license, unless indicated otherwise in a credit line to the material. If material is not included in the chapter’s Creative Commons license and your intended use is not permitted by statutory regulation or exceeds the permitted use, you will need to obtain permission directly from the copyright holder.