

# Fostering Community Awareness in Preventing and Handling Pedophilia

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**Abstract**—From January to May 2015, National Commission of Children Protection has received 500 reports of children sexual abuse cases, and Indonesia is also mentioned as the tourism destination of pedophilia doers (CNN Indonesia, 5/7/2015). This descriptive qualitative study is aimed at investigating the parents' awareness in educating and detecting their children to prevent pedophilia, and also discovering the readiness of the investigators in dealing with pedophilia victims. The findings show that most parents do not have sufficient awareness to prevent and detect pedophilia. The investigators are also unready to handle pedophilia victims properly. It is suggested to community to improve its' awareness to cope with the pedophilia issue appropriately. Further, the increase of pedophilia case can be prevented by early sexual education. And it is the government responsibility to equip the investigators with specific skill and knowledge in dealing pedophilia victims who are still underage.

**Keywords:** Awareness; Pedophilia; Parents; Investigators; Victim; Children

## I. INTRODUCTION

Pedophilia is a clinical diagnosis usually made by a psychiatrist or psychologist. It is not a criminal or legal term, such as forcible sexual offense, which is a legal term often used in criminal statistic. By the lack of law enforcement related to pedophile, the number of pedophilia case in each nation has been bigger. There are huge number of sexual abuse case that put children as victims. The sexual harassment such as pedophile may cause psychological trauma that cannot be cured in a short time. The impact of sexual violence are also diverse, depending on how the treatment of the perpetrator to the victim. The victims that have grown also disturbed mental adulthood so it will be difficult to build the harmonious marriage. They usually tend to lose sexual desire and difficult to love their spouse. In the most of severe level, victims can become the pedophile in the future because most of them can imitate what they experienced during childhood.[4]

Adrianus Meliala [4] as a criminologist divides pedophile into two types: first, hormonal pedophile, which is a biological disorder and innate from birth, and the second, habitual pedophile, a sexual disorders that are formed from the social condition of the sufferer. These activities range from exposing themselves to children (exhibitionism), undressing a child, looking at naked children (voyeurism), or masturbating in the presence of children to more intrusive physical contact, such as rubbing their genitalia against a child (*frotteurism*), fondling a child, engaging in oral sex, or penetration of the mouth, anus, and/or vagina.

Pedophilia is a world threat, each country encounters problem with pedophile lately. The number of pedophile case is increasing by years. It is called as a threat because the victims are children and it is been the biggest concern in every society.

Regarding the issues above, this research aimed at investigating the parents' awareness in educating and detecting their children to prevent pedophilia, and also discovering the readiness of the investigators in dealing with pedophilia victims.

## A. Children

Children when viewed from the judicial aspect in Indonesia commonly are defined as a person under age (*minderjaring*).

In Indonesia according to Law No. 11 Year 2012 in Child Criminal Justice System: In article 1 (3) child is a child over the age 12 (twelve) years, but not yet the age of 18 (eighteen) years allegedly committing a crime. So the child restricted condition between the ages of 12 years to 18 years.

## B. Characteristic of pedophilia

Pedophiles are subdivided into several classifications. One of the first distinctions made when classifying pedophiles is to determine whether they are "exclusively" attracted to children (exclusive pedophile) or attracted to adults as well as children (nonexclusive pedophile). Pedophiles are usually attracted by the range of age of the victims which is

the child. The research categorized male pedophiles by whether they are attracted to only male children (homosexual pedophilia), female children (heterosexual pedophilia), or children from both sexes (bisexual pedophilia).[5]

### C. Child's Characteristic that has Undergone Sexual Violence

There are behaviours that indicate a certain child has experienced sexual violence shown in non-trauma situation, therefore careful observation is compulsory. Here are child's characteristics physically and psychologically that has experienced sexual violence according to WHO Consultation on Child Abuse Prevention (1999):

Physical characteristics of children that have experienced sexual violence include inconvenient to sit and walk, underwear is bloody and dirty, anal or genitalia area is itchy, swollen and bloody on perineal area, genital disease, drug dependency, and early pregnancy. Psychological characteristics of children that have experienced sexual violence include Negative dignity, Not believing to others (difficult to be close with others), Cognitive and motor dysfunction, Suicidal idea and depression, Reporting sexual persecution, and Disturbed habit/destructive[5]

## II. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The method used in this study is a qualitative descriptive study. Qualitative descriptive study was employed for this research. The purpose of this study is to reveal the facts, circumstances, phenomena and circumstances that occurred while running the research and presenting what it is. Interpret qualitative descriptive study and said that the data concerned with the current situation, attitude and outlook that occur in the community (Creswell, 2007).[1]

To ensure the internal validity in the research design, several methods of data collection should be used for triangulation purposes (Yin, 2003). In this research, some instruments were used to collect the data, i.e., including close-ended questionnaires, and semi structure interviews.

The research was conducted in Cianjur. As it has been discussed earlier, this research was aimed at finding out the parents awareness in educating and detecting their children to prevent pedophilia, and also discovering the readiness of the investigators in dealing with pedophilia victims. Based on those considerations, the researcher selected the participant for the present study. The participants of the research were 10 parents and 5 people as investigators and P2TP2A (*Pusat Pelayanan Terpadu Pemberdayaan Perempuan dan Anak*).

In the present study, the data analysis was conducted to answer two research questions. The data were obtained from closed-ended questionnaire, observation, and interview. Then the data were categorized into two themes based on the research questions.

## III. RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS

This descriptive qualitative study is aimed at investigating the parents' awareness in educating and detecting their children to prevent pedophilia, and also discovering the readiness of the investigators in dealing with pedophilia victims.

### 3.1 The Parents' Awareness in Educating and Detecting Their Children to Prevent Pedophilia

For answering the first issue, the closed ended questionnaire was distributed to 10 respondents. They were parents of approximately 32 years old with high level education background. From the questionnaire it was found that most respondents have ample understanding on pedophilia definition. They know that parents should give sexual education from phallic period in preventing pedophilia, as they also understand the symptoms of children who have undergone sexual harassment. However, most respondents did not recognize the phallic phase on children developmental stage. Respondents also did not realize that pedophilia can be included into prosecutions. The results of the questionnaire can be seen at the following table.

**Table 2 the Results of Parents' Questionnaire**

Item	Parents' Awareness	Percentage (%)
1	Pedophilia definition	100
2	Children developmental stage	70
3	Phallic phase	10
4	The beginning of sex education	90
5	Sex Education for children	100
6	Cautious area	100
7	Advise to prevent pedophilia	70
8	Symptoms of children who have undergone sexual abuse	100
9	Pedophilia is a prosecution.	20
10	Post healing therapy for sexual abuse	100

The result showed that even at a high level education background community, the parents understanding on pedophilia and children development stage is still questionable. Many of them do not realize that it is included into prosecution that has legal consequence. They only viewed paedophilia as extraordinary case. The parents also misunderstood phallic phase as the period when children gain social identity not as the phase when children have a kind of interest to their opposite sex, in this case their mother and father. As for the prevention act, many parents only give the

children a kind of warning to be careful when the children are outside, not specifically to have a companion when they cross empty street or area.

In short, the parents' awareness on paedophilia and steps to prevent it is still very low. In solving this issue, prevention program is needed. It can be in form of workshop, seminar, training, group discussion, movie playing, poster, or tradition facility is considered attractive. Prevention program can be organized in public, nature, or group meeting (Stockdale, 1996). Early prevention program can be performed by health promotion. Health promotion is an effort to increase and control someone's health (Elwes & Simmet, 1994).

The other effort is by raising society's participation via community empowerment strategy. Community empowerment is performed through health promotion strategy including advocacy, social support and society empowerment. Advocacy strategy is addressed to the decision maker either on health or the other sectors besides health; social support is addressed to the public figure either formal (teacher, headman, sub-district head) or informal (religious leader) figure, while society empowerment is addressed directly to the society.

### 3.2 The readiness of the Investigators in Dealing with pedophilia Victims

Since pedophilia is included into prosecution, the other important party that should have high awareness on this matter is police officer as investigator. The investigators should have adequate knowledge in dealing pedophilia victims that are still underage.

Regarding the Law - Child Criminal Justice System Act through Article 26, Paragraph (3). There are some requirements for police officer to be involved in pedophilia case as investigators as follow: 1. Experienced as an investigator; 2. Having an interest, attention, dedication and understanding the problems of children. 3. Have attended a technical training on judicial Kids. 4. In handling cases, Children Victims and / or the Child Witness, Supervisor Community, Professional Social Workers and Social Welfare Workers, Investigator, Public Prosecutor, Judge and Advocate or other legal aid provider is obliged to consider the best interests of the Child and cultivate an atmosphere the family is maintained. 5. Investigators shall examine the suspect in a family atmosphere. 6. The provisions of Article 18, as it is reflected on the legal protection of children.[6]

According to the results of observation and interviews with the police as an investigator or investigators of paedophile cases, they have not been

able to conduct investigations as mandated by Law No. 11 of 2012 Article 26, paragraph (3), particularly on the obligation investigators to obtain technical training on juvenile justice. They said they did not receive such technical training in dealing with children case while the paedophile occurrence has increased sharply not only that the supervisor mostly is a hospital psychological which is not even a P2TP2A. Even in some cases, the district police office should borrow the professional investigators from other or bigger police office area.

Actually, this condition should be anticipated by the government since it has been mentioned in Children Court System Regulation of 2012. It requires every police office to have children specialized investigators since the victims of paedophilia who are commonly underage children should receive different treatment from adults. Even the legal institution is given 7 years to prepare and fulfil the requirements, but the sexual harassment cases that involved children has been tremendously increasing. Therefore, the government should pay bigger attention in training or educating the investigators who would deal with children that are trapped in crimes as victims or doers

## IV. CONCLUSIONS

The increased number of pedophilia cases can be prevented by early sexual education, sexual education adapted for the children from age 3. Education in a conventional way is considered ineffective; therefore innovation is needed by using modern educational program that is expectedly easy to comprehend and to memorize.

This educational model needs to be done holistically by the stakeholders in every area. The procurement of educational program facility and the preparation of trained companion need to involve private parties (Corporate Social Responsibility fund), government, counsellor, and society.

Universities can organize seminar attended by parents since the funds given to technical training on juvenile justice for investigators is quite large, it is also proposed to conduct training with the online system. Investigator gathered in one place with optimum internet access for obtaining the materials and reporting the results of field practices related to pedophilia cases, and it is later submitted to the committee for evaluation training.

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