**Health Problems of Street Children in the Medan Amplas Station**

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**Abstract**—One of the social problems that require an immediate solution in Medan city is the growing number of street children, such as in the Amplas terminal area, which reaches 60 people. These children are vulnerable to health risks from long hours and a very vulnerable workplace social environment. However, attention to street children health problems has not been so great. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to see the health problems faced by street children in Medan Amplas terminal, especially physical, psychological, and social health issues. This research is a qualitative research, with in-depth interviews to 6 street children in Medan Amplas station, and then continues with thematic analysis for data analysis. From the research, obtained physical health problems suffered by all informants are fever, influenza, wounds, ulcus, scabies, and skin irritation. Three people have coughs and respiratory problems. A small part has itching, diarrhea, stomach acid and headache. As for the psychological health problem, 3 people feel the relationship with the family is less harmonious and only a small fear is asked for money by the Punk and Satpol PP raid and the fear of being beaten by the Punk and Satpol PP. Social health problems experienced are ngelem (breathe in glue addicted) (4 people), drop out from primary school (3 people) and smoking addicted (2 people). This physical health problem occurs due to poor personal hygiene and poor hygiene knowledge. This is exacerbated by exposure to dust on the road and the exposure of street children to sunlight for a long time, as well as poor lifestyles such as ngelem and smoking. Therefore, the promotion of health on street children is needed, especially about personal hygiene, prevent exposure to dust on the highway into the body, avoid exposure to sunlight, and how to live a good lifestyle.

Keywords: health problems; street children; Medan Amplas terminal

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**INTRODUCTION**

Due to the situation of economic crisis and excessive urbanization in big cities, one of the social problems that require immediate solution is the development of the number of street children who behind this increasingly worrying. In big cities, almost every intersection or red light is easily witnessed the number of street children continues to grow and develop, and one of them is located in the sandpaper terminal area of Medan.

Terminal Amplas is one of the terminal in the city of Medan as well as the largest and densest terminal in the city of Medan and surrounding areas. Automatic as one of the most densely populated in the city of Medan, of course, many economic activities will be met there one of them children who almost 24 hours spent time on the road to do economic activities such as singing, sweeping vehicles, selling newspapers, selling hawk and others - some their income is given to their parents. The street boy aims to help strengthen his family's economy because of the burden of poverty.

According to Putrantoin his qualitative study defines street children as children aged 6 to 15 who are not in school anymore and do not live with their parents, and they work all day to earn income on the streets, intersections and other public places. In the book "Psychosocial Interventions" street children are children who mostly ordain a great time to earn a living or roam the streets or other public places [1], [2].

The number of street children in the Amplasstation area reaches around 60 street children, each spread in two different locations around the Amplas terminal, namely in the Amplas terminal and under the flyover bridge of Sandpaper, they consist of small singers, street sweepers, street vendors, polishing shoes, newspapersellers and others.

The street children at the Amplasstation are growing even though there are already quite a lot of efforts being done by both government and NGOs to reduce the number of children living on the streets. From the results of our field review, we analyze that the background of street children running around in Amplas terminal is because at the Amplasstationas a...
gathering point of angkot that provides opportunities for these street children to work and earn wages. The street children in this Amplas terminal consist of various family backgrounds, education, residence, and so on which distinguish street children from each other.

Life being street children is not a fun option, because they are in an uncertain future, and their existence is not uncommon to be a "problem" for many people, families, communities and countries. However, attention to the fate of street children seems not so great, although there have been government programs on street children and regulations of the government on street children, such as Law No.23 of 2002 on Child Protection, Law No.13 of 2006 on Protection of Witnesses and Victims, Law No.11 of 2009 on Social Welfare, Law No.36 Year 2009 on Health, an and Child Social Welfare Program Year 2014 from the Ministry of Social Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia[3], [4], [5], [6].

Psychologically they are children who at some stage have not had a strong emotional mental formation, while at the same time they have to wrestle with a hard world street and tend to negatively affect the development and formation of his personality. This psychological aspect has a strong impact on the social aspect. Their emotional and mental livability, supported by a slum appearance, gave birth to a negative image by the majority of the community against street children identified with troublemakers, slum children, and stealing, public waste to be alienated. To some extent the stigma of this society will precipitate their alienate feelings which in turn will give birth to the introvert personality, tend to be difficult to control themselves and asocial[7].

Therefore, the purpose of this study is to see the health problems faced by street children in Medan Amplas station, especially physical, psychological, and social health issues.

**RESEARCH METHOD**

This research is a qualitative research, with in-depth interviews to 6 street children in Medan Amplas terminal in 2016, and then continues with thematic analysis for data analysis.

**RESULT**

The growth and development of the population is increasing, especially in Medan city, causing increasing economic family differences. One of the negative sides of this population growth is the number of street children. One side of life is seen as a child who is raised with luxuries economically and affectionately but on the other hand is seen as a child who must come to fulfill the economy both for the family and for their personal needs. Children like this finally decided his life to become street children.

In the 1945 Constitution, article 28 B of paragraph 2 states that every child has the right to survival, growth and development and is entitled to protection from violence and discrimination. But this is far from what happens to street children in the Terminal Amplas Medan City. The existence of street children is directly related to the non-fulfillment of the basic needs of children that includes physical, psychological, social and spiritual needs so that they are not able to carry out their social functions as children naturally. For that, the children make an effort to find the fulfillment of these needs by going down to the streets[8].

But instead of fulfilling the needs they get, they even cause physical health problems, psychological health problems and social health problems.

1. AM(16 years), from Padang Panjang
   a. physical health problems: stomach acid, fever, influenza, wounds, ulcers, scabies, skin irritation, coughs and respiratory problems
   b. psychological health problems: fear of Punks and Satpol PP raid and being beaten by the Punk and Satpol PP
   c. social health problems: -

2. TS (12 years), from Patumbak
   a. physical health problems: fever, influenza, wounds, ulcers, scabies, skin irritation, headache, itching, coughs and respiratory problems
   b. psychological health problems: relationship with family less harmonious
   c. social health problems: drop out from primary school (5th grade), love to suck glue

3. IB (12 years), from Patumbak
   a. physical health problems: fever, influenza, wounds, ulcers, scabies, skin irritation, coughs and respiratory problems
   b. psychological health problems: relationship with family less harmonious
   c. social health problems: drop out from primary school (2nd grade), love to suck glue
4. U (15 years), from Ampras
   a. physical health problems: itching, fever, influenza, wounds, ulcers, scabies, skin irritation, coughs and respiratory problems
   b. psychological health problems: relationship with family less harmonious
   c. social health problems: dropping out from primary school, love to suck glue, smoking addicted

5. S (13 tahun), from Patumbak
   a. physical health problems: diarrhea, fever, influenza, wounds, ulcers, scabies, skin irritation, coughs and respiratory problems
   b. psychological health problems: relationship with family less harmonious
   c. social health problems: love to suck glue, smoking addicted

6. A (12 years), from Patumbak
   a. physical health problems: fever, influenza, wounds, ulcers, scabies, skin irritation, coughs and respiratory problems
   b. psychological health problems: -
   c. social health problems: -

From the research, obtained physical health problems suffered by all informants are fever, influenza, wounds, ulcers, scabies, skin irritation, coughs and respiratory problems. A small part has itching, diarrhea, stomach acid and headache. This happens because of a fall at the time of doing work such as cleaning four-wheeled vehicles that enter the terminal, running when chasing the vehicle to be cleaned because of the many other street children who work. Environmental factors such as dust can cause fever, flu, cough and respiratory problems in street children. The heat of the sun and the lack of personal hygiene in street children cause skin irritation such as itchy skin and cause diarrhea.

This is different from what is experienced by street children in Ghana. Based on research results Fiasorgbor and Fiasorgbor, all informants, 15 street children, experienced headache and body ache. While the wounds only 80%, 12 street children, who suffer only 20% fever, 3 street children, and no one has influenza, ulcers, scabies, and skin irritation [9].

Street children fear of Punks and Satpol PP raid and being beaten by the Punk and Satpol PP. This is contrary to the Law No.11 of 2009 on Social Welfare in Article 5 stated that the implementation of social welfare is prioritized to those who have a life that is not worthy in humanity and has criteria of problems such as the neglect of victims of violence, exploitation and discrimination.

Of great concern is that street children love to suck glue (4 people), although it has not been explored clearly whether this is what causes them to experience frequent headaches and headaches. Street children also say if they are also smoking addicted (2 people) because they think that smoking has become a trend, social factors with peers and sources of peace of life. Smoking at an early age to be a health problem that can not be allowed to smoke because at an early age can cause street children quickly feel tired because if someone smokes at this age will cause disrupt the development of the lungs. According to Law No.36 of 2009 on Health in Article 11 it is stated that everyone is obliged to behave in a healthy way to realize, maintain, and promote the highest possible health.

The problem of street children is one thing that needs to be addressed by various parties, because street children do not get the right to education. From the interviews found street children not in school, only up to grade 2 and grade 5 elementary school, drop out from primary school (3 people). This is not in line with the government's 9-year compulsory education program and which aims to educate the nation in accordance with the mandate of the law.

The fulfillment of education is also very important for street children. As stated in Article 9 paragraph (1) Law No. 23 of 2002 on child protection is described "Every child has the right to receive education and teaching in the context of his personal development and his level of intelligence according to his interests and talents including street children"[10], [11].

Education that essentially can change one's thinking and behavior for the better. Facilities in the field of education for example through working education packages A, B, and C for street children who had experienced dropping out of school. Seeing the real phenomenon in the field of neglect in children is largely due to unintentionally causing children to become street children. Conditions of unintentionality so that parents can not meet the needs of the child. Conditions of unintention so that children become street children because of many low socioeconomic conditions that cause children to help the parents make a living or forced to meet the needs of himself who in the end children hang out with social environments such as on the streets.

This condition occurs because of the low understanding of the community about the responsibilities of parents to children. From the results of research shows that street children diterinal sandpaper experiencing conditions
that are not harmonious with parents. But the phenomenon of neglect that occurred in the community makes street children have to live on the streets away from the welfare that they should get.

In overcoming this social phenomenon of street children actually need to involve cross-sector and cross program and the most important is the role of society. In Law No.23 Year 2002 on Child Protection, explained that in the development, development and protection of children, the role of the community, whether through child protection institutions, religious institutions, non-governmental organizations, community organizations, social organizations, the media business community or educational institutions.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION

This physical health problem occurs due to poor personal hygiene and poor hygiene knowledge. This is exacerbated by exposure to dust on the road and the exposure of street children to sunlight for a long time, as well as poor lifestyles such as ngelem and smoking. Therefore, the promotion of health on street children is needed, especially about personal hygiene, prevent exposure to dust on the highway into the body, avoid exposure to sunlight, and how to live a good lifestyle.

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