

# THE DESIGN OF COMIC DEVELOPMENT AS EFFORT TO PREVENT EARLY CHILDHOOD SEXUAL ABUSE

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**Abstract-Child sexual abuse is a phenomenal issue. In 2016, Indonesia is stated to be in an emergency condition due to sexual abuses. Many efforts done to minimize the number of the abuses toward early childhood children. A synergic intervention among schools, parents, and societies is needed to prevent early childhood abuse. One of the efforts to make children having understanding about their body parts, be able to understand condition and situation with potency of sexual abuse occurrence, face the dangerous situations is by using serial comics. This research uses *research and development*. The stages done in the first year covers potency and problems, data collection, product design, design validation, design revisions. The second stages are product trial run, product revision, massive trial run, product revision, and mass production.**

***Keywords-design, comic media, prevention, sexual abuse, early childhood***

## INTRODUCTION

Anti-Woman Abuse National Commission (Komnas Perempuan) accounted in 2015 321.752 cases of woman abuses, meaning that about 881 cases occurred daily. The numbers are gained from court of religion, 305.535 cases, and institutions under Anti-Woman Abuse National Commission partnership, 16.217 cases. According to their observation, the number of woman abuse increases 9% annually. According to the commission note in 2016, from the cases of woman abuses, sexual abuse is in second rank, with number of total cases until 2.399 cases (72%), cases of rape about 601

cases (18%), sexual abuses reaching 166 cases (5%)

(<https://www.dakwatuna.com/2016/11/15/83596/ak-anak-era-digital-dan-media-sosial/#ixzz4xmdd9gHl>).

Meanwhile, based on the data of child abuse in Central Java, 1.443 children become victims of physical, sexual, psychic, and abandon. From the numbers, then Central java is one of the provinces with high childhood abuses. Therefore, there is a need to prevent such cases toward children including sexual abuses.

Child sexual abuse, based on [1] is a force, intimidation, or powerless-ness of a child in sexual activity. The activity covers rubbing, penetrating, sexual abuse and rape. [2] states some factors causing sexual abuse, such as child personal characteristic, perpetrator characteristics, physical and cultural environment. Not prevented sexual abuses experienced by children will put the children in disadvantage. The influences may vary from one child to another

One of the efforts to prevent is by promoting sex education to children. When children have early understanding about sexuality correctly, then children can respect to their own body. They will understand which parts are not allowed to touch by other people. Sex education is still considered debatable, having pro side and contra side in society, however it is actually an educational effort to inform or introduce (names and functions) of body parts, understanding genders, explaining behaviors (relationship and intimacy), sex and knowledge about norms and values in society dealing with genders [3].

As an educational sex effort toward children and as one of preventive efforts to child sexual abuse, an assertive serial comic with genital

body part development is designed as effort to prevent early childhood sexual abuse. Currently used media as the effort to prevent are still limited. Therefore, the effort to do is by designing a model of assertive comic as child sexual abuse prevention.

#### Literature Review Comic

Comic, according to Scott [4] is medium to collect various notions and pictures. Comic is a visual medium with two dimension forms and is printed. As a medium to learn, comic functions as learning message transmitter. Comic has characters and story plot designed to deliver the message to readers. Thus, it can be concluded that comic is two dimension and printed medium to deliver message through pictures and words packaged into systematic story plot.

[5] states that comic as learning medium has some strength points: a) being able to motivate students during learning process, b) consisting of pictures as media to improve learning quality, c) permanent, d) having ability to trigger reader interest and drive students whom dislike reading to read, and e) part of popular cultures. Some weaknesses of comic as learning media are: a) limiting and killing imagination, b) very simple learning material transmitting meant, c) becoming effective only for visual type students.

#### Sexual Abuse Prevention

Prevention has three programs: (1) primary prevention with purpose to decrease mental problems in society generally, (2) secondary prevention with purpose to decrease duration or relieve the effect of already occurred problems, and (3) tertiary prevention with purpose to decrease the effect of already developed problems and prevent any re-occurrence again. Prevention program can be done from workshop, seminar, training, group discussion, watching film, posters, and free boredom traditional event. The program can be executed in an open area.

Sexual abuses involving children in its activity, where the children do not fully understand and are powerless to agree, are indicated by sexual activities between children to adults or other children with purpose to satisfy the perpetrator .

Perpetrator of sexual abuse, beside unrecognized someone, he can be also from close family. The perpetrator usually attracts his victims to follow his order. There are some matters creating children vulnerable to experience sexual abuse, such as: parenting patterns, parents' knowledge about sex education for early childhood children in which considered low, and the use of information technology.

The impacts of sexual abuse can be physical or psychics [6]. Other impacts are: anxiety [7] fear, *Post Traumatic Stress Disorder* [8], behavior, sexual, and personal respect

disorders. Temper tantrums, full of hatred, in which initially addressed to the perpetrator then it spreads toward other objects or people. Pregnancy, exposures to contagious sexual infection, and high risk sexual behavior [9]. Sexual abuse in childhood also has long term impact such as mental problem in later adult age, poor relationship to parents, and problem to adjust with the next generations [10].

#### Early Childhood Children

[11] defines early childhood children as young human or kids experiencing childhood age between 0 until 6 year with grown and treated emotion to make their adult ages having great intelligence. It aligns with statement from Montessori that early childhood is *absorb mind* phase.

The characteristics of early childhood children based on [12] as follow: a) having high curiosity, b) having unique personality, c) like to fantasize and imagine, d) becoming the most potential age to learn, e) showing egocentric attitude, f) having short concentration interval, and g) a member of social creatures.

According to general requirement of Article 14, National Education Rules Number XX Year 2003, it is explained that early childhood education is a intervention addressed to children from their birth until 6 year old, done through stimulus of educations to develop their physics and religiosity so that they will have readiness in learning into higher education because in their current stage they have strategic role to improve the next national generations.

#### Discussion

Early childhood children are future generation. The necessity of them to be stimulated appropriately in order to optimally grow can be done by teachers and parents, one of them through sex education. Sex education for children is still debatable, with pro side and contra side in nature. The pro side states children need to learn sex education accordingly to their age. Meanwhile, the contra side assumes when children know about sex education, it will put them in danger. According to Halstead [13], there are some purposes to teach sex education to early childhood children: a) to help them knowing biological topics such as growth, puberty and pregnancy, b) to prevent child sexual abuse, c) to decrease guilty, pudency, and sexual anxiety, d) to prevent female teenagers to have intercourse, g) to decrease contagious sexual infection, h) to help young men asking the role of boys girls in society.

In early childhood children, there is a need of technique of sex education delivery by teachers or parents as follows:

- a) Helping children to feel comfortable with their body

- b) Giving touch and hug to children so they feel compassion of parents.
- c) Helping children to understand behavior differences whether allowed or not allowed to show in public, for example, wearing clothes after taking a bath in a bedroom. Children are told personal things are not allowed to touch by other people.
- d) Teaching children to realize differences of man and woman anatomy..
- e) Explaining the process of growth, pregnancy, and giving birth in simple ways.
- f) Giving understanding to know the correct names of body and their functions.
- g) Teaching the understanding of body part functions in normal ways to avoid from pudency and guilty upon their body shapes and functions.
- h) Helping children to understand personal concept and teaching them if talks about sex are personal matters.
- i) Supporting and providing conducive situation for them to consult about sex questions.
- j) Giving additional sex education technique by giving them understanding about family orders so they understand social structures and religious teachings related to man and woman interaction and relationship.
- k) Driving them to always dress up appropriately based on their genders in daily life and also to pray with purpose to ease them understanding and respecting their body parts.

Synergic roles among parents, teachers, and students are absolute matter in guiding them to have appropriate and well sex education. Teachers are the central role in students potency growth. Pre-school teachers will be able to give them understanding and skills through various, creative, and innovative learning media. Fun learning media through comics is expected to give them understanding when they learn the condition through theme: me and my body. As one of the efforts to prevent sexual abuse through comic, the media is expected to attract children due to the story plots delivered by having interesting pictures. It is expected through interesting media because of the pictures and the presentation can make the children more interested, aware of the condition,

some regencies involving 200 preschool children under 4 until 6 year old age.

(9) Revising product. After limited product trial run, researcher revise the product based on the

and able to respect and keep themselves from sexual abuse action.

In its implementation, the design of the research uses *research and development*. The method of the research has purpose to create product and test its effectiveness from certain product [14]. Therefore, to do this research, the researchers use research with necessity analysis and product test in natures to be accepted by society. There are ten steps to achieve in this research:

(1) Determining the potency and problem. Problem is basically potency[14] . Problems can be found because there is a gap or deviation between theory and facts happened. In the first step of potency and problems, researcher must be able to show empirically through previous studies both from other researchers or previous studies with *up to date* natures.

(2) Collecting data. In this step, researchers collect the data used by doing an effort to design a product. Collecting data can be in the form of information or the data can be done directly or indirectly from studying references by reading and comparing from books, and previous journal articles.

(3) Designing product. In this step, researchers design or create prototype in the form of comic. The method design is still hypothetic because the researchers have not done any test to figure out its effectiveness. The design product must use frameworks, scaffolding, or clear details. Therefore, it will ease other parties.

(4) Validating the research design. It is done by *expert judgment*. There are some experts to validate the prototype. They are from childhood child psychologist, media expert, and teachers. (5) Revising research design. Based on the validation and expert judgment, then this research design will be revised.

(6) Limited product trial run. This research will test the product in limited by testing them using experiment, that is by comparing the initial condition before intervention to later condition after intervention. It is expected to have differences between initial and later condition of the intervention.

(7) Revising product. Based on limited product trial run, then the researchers revise the previously created product. This revision can be addition or elimination some pictures, wording, writing and coloring revisions of the comic. Complete data collections as material to revise the products are using questionnaire or scale. produk.

(8) Massively testing product usage. In this step, researchers plan to test the product massively in

feedbacks given by teachers or students. The purpose is to revise again before going to produce massively.

(10) Massive production. In this step, after the revision are fully completed, the produc can be produced massively to contribute in larger social community.

The research design consists of ten steps stated from[15]. The steps to through are pretty long, but to solve it is divided into two years: first year and second year. The first year covers potency and problems, data collection, product designs, product revisions, product usage trial run, product revision and mass production. Therefore, from ten steps can create useful comic to prevent early childhood sexual abuses.

#### CONCLUSION

Here is the design of the research dealing with assertive serial comic with genital organ using ten steps. Based on the study of references, planning the prototype, limited product test, and larger product test are expected to contribute toward students, teachers, and parents to prevent early childhood sexual abuse through the development of assertive serial comic with genital organs is expected to contribute in increasing healthy mental of Indonesian children through healthy mental literation program toward early childhood children.

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