

Correlation of the Covid-19 Pandemic and Act of Violence against Children in the Family

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Abstract

The COVID-19 pandemic has had various impacts on people's lives. One of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic is believed to be the increase in acts of violence against children in families. The research will explore the factors that have made the COVID-19 pandemic a trigger for increased acts of violence against children in families in Indonesia. By using qualitative research this research was conducted from 2020-2022. Data collected by interview and observation. The participants involved in this research were parents, children, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the community. The results of this study indicate that the COVID-19 pandemic can trigger factors of violence against children in the family. These factors include factors of religious teachings, economics, divorce, psychology, education, and social. This study concludes that there is a strong correlation between the COVID-19 pandemic as a trigger and factors for acts of violence against children in the family. By looking at the results of the research above, it is necessary to pay attention to the government and society from various aspects to prevent and minimize violence against children in the family, especially during difficult times such as disasters or pandemics.

Keywords

COVID-19 pandemic;
Violence against children;
Protection of children



I. Introduction

Violence against children in Indonesia is always increasing every year. The number after covid from 2021 to 2022 quoted from the Central Statistics Agency website, the number of the workforce in February 2022 was 144.01 million people, an increase of 4.20 million people compared to February 2021. The Labor Force Participation Rate (TPAK) increased by 0.98 percent point. The Open Unemployment Rate (TPT) for February 2022 was 5.83 percent, down by 0.43 percentage points compared to February 2021. Ironically, violence against children during the Covid-19 pandemic increased drastically as stated by KPPPA which recorded an increase in the number of incidents of violence against children and women during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Minister of PPPA, I Gusti Ayu Bintang Darmawati said that as many as 643 incidents of violence against children and women have been reported via the Online Information System (Symphony PPA) experiencing an increase in the amount of violence against children. Factors that support violence against children, as stated by an expert from Malaysia, he stated that there are six driving factors or causes of violence against children, namely economic factors, family problems, divorce, birth of children out of wedlock, psychology and not having religious or religious education. It turns out that the Covid-19 pandemic has also become a tool to trigger and support the existing factors of violence against children. So that this time of pandemic

makes violence against children easier, so that violence against children is rampant during the Covid-19 pandemic.

II. Research Method

This study uses qualitative or empirical juridical research. This research was conducted from 2020-2022. Data collected by interview and observation. The participants involved in this research were parents, children, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the community. The results of the interviews will be transcribed and grouped based on the problems of this study. After that, the data will be analyzed descriptively.

III. Result and Discussion

Child is defined as a person born in the mother's womb, both male and female or khunsa which is the result of intercourse between two opposite sexes. According to this source, the notion of a child is solely attributed to the context of birth and position as a man or a woman. Then, Irma Setyowati Soemitro took the boundaries of the difference in age limits in Indonesian positive law, then the boundaries of the meaning of children were taken, applied to children aged 18 (eighteen) years.

Potentially, children are buds, and the younger generation is the successor to the ideals of the nation's struggle, which have a strategic role and have special characteristics and characteristics that guarantee the continued existence of the nation and state in the future. In order for every child to be able to assume this responsibility one day, he or she needs to get the widest possible opportunity to grow and develop optimally, both physically, mentally and socially and with noble character.

The issue of legal protection and children's rights is one side of the approach to protecting Indonesian children. In order for Indonesian children to receive protection in an orderly, orderly and responsible manner, laws or regulations are needed that are in harmony with the development of Indonesian society which are fully animated by Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia.

Furthermore, regarding the rights and obligations of children, we can see in the Child Protection Act, namely Article 4 to Article 18 No. 35 of 2014 concerning changes to Law no. 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection, then there are at least 19 children's rights, including:

- a. Every child has the right to be able to live, grow, develop, and participate fairly in accordance with human dignity, and to receive protection from violence and discrimination (Article 4);
- b. Every child has the right to a name as identity and citizenship status (Article 5);
- c. Every child has the right to worship according to his religion, think and express according to his level of intelligence and age under the guidance of his parents or guardians (Article 6);
- d. Every child has the right to know his parents, to be raised and cared for by his own parents (Article 7 paragraph 1);
- e. If for some reason the parents cannot guarantee the growth and development of the child, or the child is in a state of neglect, the child has the right to be cared for and adopted as a foster child by another person in accordance with the provisions of the applicable laws and regulations (Article 7 paragraph 2);
- f. Every child has the right to obtain health services and social security in accordance with their physical, mental, spiritual and social needs (Article 8);

- g. Every child has the right to receive education and teaching in the context of developing his personality and level of intelligence according to his interests and talents (Article 8 paragraph 1);
- h. Especially for children with disabilities also have the right to get special education, while for children who have advantages also have the right to get special education (Article 9 paragraph 2);
- i. Every child has the right to express and have his opinion heard, to receive, seek and provide information according to his level of intelligence and age for the sake of developing himself according to the values of decency and decency (Article 10);
- j. Every child has the right to rest and take advantage of free time, associate with children of the same age, play, have recreation and be creative according to their interests, talents and level of intelligence for self-development (Article 11);
- k. Every child with disabilities has the right to receive rehabilitation, social assistance, and maintenance of social welfare stages (Article 12);
- l. Every child while in the care of parents, guardians, or any other party, who is responsible for upbringing, has the right to receive protection from treatment:
 - 1) Discrimination;
 - 2) Exploitation, both economic and sexual;
 - 3) Abandonment;
 - 4) Cruelty, violence and persecution;
 - 5) Injustice; and
 - 6) Other mistreatment (Article 13);
- m. Every child has the right to be cared for by their own parents, unless there are valid reasons and/or legal regulations indicating that separation is in the best interest of the child and is the final consideration (Article 14);
- n. Every child has the right to obtain protection from:
 - 1) Political abuse;
 - 2) Participation in armed conflict;
 - 3) Involvement in social unrest;
 - 4) Involvement in events that contain elements of violence; and
 - 5) Involvement in war (Article 15);
 Every child has the right to obtain protection from being subjected to persecution, torture, or inhumane punishment (Article 16);
- o. Every child has the right to obtain freedom in accordance with the law (Article 16 paragraph 2);
- p. Every child deprived of his/her liberty has the right to:
 - 1) receive humane treatment and place them separately from adults;
 - 2) obtain legal assistance or other assistance effectively in every stage of the applicable legal action; and
 - 3) Defending oneself and obtaining justice before an objective and impartial juvenile court in a closed session to the public (Article 17);
- q. Every child who is a victim and perpetrator of sexual violence or who is in conflict with the law has the right to keep secrets (Article 17 paragraph 2);
- r. Every child who becomes a victim or perpetrator of a crime has the right to receive legal assistance and other assistance (Article 18).
- s. Every child has the rights that have been regulated in the law, which are stated in detail and detail. Children's rights are included in Human Rights. When their rights are not given and obtained properly, many violations have occurred. Between rights and

obligations have a quality relationship or a causal relationship. So that when the obligations want to go well, the rights must also get well too.

John Galtung said that violence is a behavior that causes a person's actual reality to be below the potential reality. Then violence against children is an intentional act that causes harm or harm to children (whether physically, sexually, abuse, emotional, or neglect of children). Violence according to Article 13 of the Child Protection Act is discrimination, both physical and sexual exploitation, neglect, cruelty, violence, persecution, injustice, and another mistreatment. violence according to family psychology is violence that children receive from their parents, either in the form of physical or mental violence. Violence against children is a form of violation of rights that they do not accept. Many factors lead to violence against children.

According to Suharto, grouping child abuse into: physical abuse (physical violence), psychological abuse (psychological violence), (sexual violence), and social abuse (social violence). These four forms of child abuse can be explained as follows:

- a. Physical child abuse Is torture, beating, and maltreatment of children, with or without using certain objects, which cause physical injuries or death to children. The form of the wound can be in the form of abrasions or bruises due to contact or violence with a blunt object, such as bite marks, pinches, belts or rattan and burns from hot gasoline or patterns caused by burning cigarettes or irons. The location of the wound is usually found in the buttocks area, the occurrence of physical violence against children is generally triggered by the behavior of children that their parents don't like, such as naughty or fussy children, crying all the time, asking for snacks, urinating, urinating or vomiting anywhere, breaking valuables.
- b. psychological child abuse Includes rebuking, conveying harsh and dirty words, showing pornographic books, pictures or films to children. Children who receive this treatment generally show symptoms of maladaptive behavior, such as withdrawing, being shy, crying when approached, afraid to leave the house and afraid to meet other people.
- c. Sexual violence against children Pre-contract sexual behavior between children and adults (through words, touch, visual images, exhibitionism), as well as direct sexual contact between children and adults (incest, rape, sexual exploitation).

Things that cause violence against children are based on several factors, such as religion, education, social, divorce, and the economy. Then, this factor was increasingly triggered because of the pandemic that occurred and had a big impact on people's lives and made new habits happen. The impact of Covid-19 has had a huge impact on the economic sector, such as the large number of employee reductions, business closures which have resulted in the emergence of a large number of unemployed people.

Corona virus or severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) is a virus that attacks the respiratory system. The disease caused by infection with this virus is called Covid 19. The corona virus can cause mild disorders of the respiratory system, severe lung infections, and even death. Severe acute respiratory syndrome corona virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), better known as the corona virus, is a new type of corona virus that is transmitted to humans. This virus can attack anyone, both infants, children, adults, the elderly, pregnant women and nursing mothers. Corona virus is a collection of viruses that can infect the respiratory system.

The COVID-19 pandemic has also had a dire impact on investment, forcing people to choose to be very careful in buying goods and even making investments. This pandemic has also greatly affected market projections. Investors may tend not to invest due to changing market assumptions and unclear supply chains

The impact of COVID-19 not only disrupted Indonesia's export and import sectors, but also hit the trade sector, namely from tax revenues which also experienced a decline. This has a very serious impact because in terms of tax revenue, the trade sector has a major contribution in boosting state revenue, to be precise, which is in the second largest order.

Then there is still a lot of data showing that the Indonesian economy is having problems in society in everyday life. As the data found that:

"The composition of the Indonesian workforce is predicted to change due to the corona virus outbreak (Covid-19). The number of part-time and underemployed workers is predicted to rise sharply in 2020. This prediction refers to the composition of the workforce based on the classification of the economic sector, the type of business, and the duration of working hours. From this composition, this simultaneous crisis has great potential to increase the number of open unemployed by 3.5 million to 8.5 million people throughout 2020. This means that the unemployment rate has the potential to increase from the current range of 5.2 percent to 5.3 percent. between 7.7 percent on the moderate scale and 10.3 percent on the severe scale.

The details are that there are 2.56 million unemployed due to Covid-19, 0.76 million people are not in the workforce due to Covid-19, while 1.77 million people are not working due to Covid-19, and those who work experience reduced working hours by 24.03 million people."

The conclusion from the data above is that during the Covid-19 pandemic there was a lot of unemployment so that crime and emotional changes and people's mindsets during the pandemic were also not doing well. This means that this pandemic affects the level of domestic violence that occurs. We cannot deny that a person who loses his job then has a lot of burdens to think about and causes stress on a number of things.

The economy is also a trigger that can influence a person to act as a theoretical reference that researchers have adopted from a Fatimah expert which has previously been explained in the previous topic. When life was hard hit by an endless epidemic at that time, people were prohibited from carrying out their usual routines and then many were at home making changes to their lifestyle which then caused a lot of negative impacts.

The relationship between the Covid-19 Pandemic and the causes of violence against children, namely, as a quick trigger for violence against children. If we look at existing factors such as economic factors as a trigger for violence against children, during a pandemic the economy was difficult for the community, resulting in many cases of violence against children. When a person loses his job and causes emotion to some people who lack religious understanding, they will take out their frustration on children. So that children as victims of violence during the Covid-19 pandemic have increased.

However, the data contained during the post-covid transition period from 2021 to 2022 was quoted from the Central Statistics Agency website, the number of the workforce in February 2022 was 144.01 million people, an increase of 4.20 million people compared to February 2021. Labor Force Participation Rate (TPAK) increased by 0.98 percentage point. The Open Unemployment Rate (TPT) for February 2022 was 5.83 percent, down by 0.43 percentage points compared to February 2021.

Seeing the economic increase that has occurred from 2021 to 2022, it is hoped that it will also support the stability of life for the community, especially regarding acts of violence against children, which should also be reduced if the economy is the main factor causing violence against children. However, there are still many other factors that influence violence against children which can allow for the number or the same level not to decrease in cases of violence against children.

According to Fentini, the psychological impact of physical violence is in several categories, namely negative, aggressive and easily frustrated; passive passive; does not have its own personality and only obeys parents; unable to respect himself; difficult to establish relationships with other individuals; until a tremendous hatred for himself arises.

The Covid-19 pandemic has brought major changes to all levels of society in various aspects, including the socio-cultural aspects. The Covid-19 pandemic forced restrictions on social activities between individuals, giving rise to habits that were different from their previous life. In other words, this pandemic has given rise to a new societal culture to respond to existing policies of limiting social activities.

An outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic like this has certainly changed the social and cultural values of the community which has an impact on changing people's mindsets, views, and attitudes in everyday life. Always wearing a mask, diligently washing hands with soap, having hand sanitizer handy, keeping your distance, avoiding crowds, avoiding physical contact with other people, and implementing various health protocols has become a habit.

3.1 Analysis

In the Indonesian context, the rights of children included in the UN Declaration above are contained in Law Number 4 of 1979 concerning Child Welfare. Article 1 explains that what is meant by child welfare is as follows: "Child welfare is a system of life and livelihood for children that can guarantee their growth and development in a natural manner, both spiritually, physically and socially. Child welfare business is an effort to improve the welfare of children, especially the fulfillment of children's basic needs.

Child protection can be divided into 2 (two) parts, namely:

1. Juridical child protection, which includes protection in the field of public law and in the field of civil law.
2. Protection of non-juridical children includes protection in the social, health and education sectors.

According to Ahmad Kamil, child protection is the responsibility of parents, family, society, government and the state which is a series of activities that are carried out continuously for the protection of children's rights. Extra supervision of children, both personally and as part of society needs to be done. This is intended to protect children's rights and prevent the entry of negative external influences that can interfere with children's development.

Every child has the right to education, regardless of the child's background. This statement is in accordance with what is stated in article 9 paragraph (1) of law number 35 of 2014 concerning child protection, which clearly explains that, "every child has the right to receive education and teaching in the framework of developing his personality and level of intelligence according to his interests and talents. ". Furthermore, in paragraph (1a), that, "every child has the right to receive protection in an education unit from sexual crimes and violence committed by educators, educational staff, fellow educators, and/or other parties".

In Presidential Instruction (Inpres) No. 1 of 1991 concerning the Compilation of Islamic Law (KHI) Article 77 paragraph (3), explains. "Husband and wife have the obligation to care for and care for their children, both regarding physical, spiritual and intellectual growth and religious education."

Based on this provision, which states that there is an obligation of parents, which in turn becomes the right for children to get education to support their intelligence. By KHI specializing the education in question is religious education, namely Islam.

The KHI provisions above are in line with the provisions contained in Law Number 1 of 1974 concerning Marriage Article 45 paragraph (1), that: "Both parents are obliged to look after and educate their children as well as possible". This law also explains in paragraph (2) that the parents' obligations apply until the child marries or can stand alone. And continues even though the marriage between the parents broke up.

Violence against children can also occur due to a lack of protection for children as described above, so that many problems arise due to this lack of protection. One of them is violence that occurs in children and cases of this violence have greatly increased. Such as non-judicial child protection, for example, which includes protection in the social, health, and education sectors. These three things are very important factors for the protection of children. If it is related to the Covid-19 pandemic, these three things are very clear that the system is changing. We take in terms of education that occurred during the Covid-19 pandemic that this period greatly impacted the world of education. We know that the system has changed greatly in terms of education. Learning is done in terms of online or online from the kindergarten level to the Lecture level, all of which are carried out online. This will later cause many new problems because there are problems that must be prevented, namely minimizing the spread of the existing corona virus. However, in reality online learning has many other impacts. Like all lessons at school must be done at home. The teacher provides material and must be studied by students at home, not all of whose parents are academics. in reality online learning has many other impacts. Like all lessons at school must be done at home. The teacher provides material and must be studied by students at home, not all of whose parents are academics. in reality online learning has many other impacts. Like all lessons at school must be done at home. The teacher provides material and must be studied by students at home, not all of whose parents are academics.

Then, from a social point of view, very many changes have occurred in society. There is a lot of crime because many workers are laid off. Many people have been laid off or just work in waves. That is, it is very serious from a work point of view. Not to mention, judging from a societal perspective, shaking hands is not allowed, keeping a distance in accordance with the rules issued by the COVID-19 Task Force, everyone must minimize activities outside the home, and the community must carry out all activities in their respective homes. This makes social change in society.

Quoted from an internet source, Kompas reports that the number of reported cases of violence against children recorded by the PPPA Ministry has increased from 11,057 in 2019, 11,278 cases in 2020, and to 14,517 cases in 2021. The number of victims of violence against children has also increased from 12,285 in 2019, 12,425 in 2020, and will be 15,972 in 2021. When broken down, reports of violence against children consist of cases of sexual violence (45 percent), psychological violence (19 percent) and physical violence (18 percent).

According to the results of an interview conducted by the author with a member of the Child Protection Institute, namely Mr. Gen. Siregar, he said that it was true that there had been an increase in reports of child abuse during the Covid period which was caused by many factors. One of them is the economic factor which is a big problem during the Covid-19 period.

Other data obtained from the results of reports from the Ministry of Women and Children's Empowerment (Kemen PPPA) that violence against children has greatly increased in the last 3 years from 2019-2021. There are lots of reporting cases related to violence against children in Indonesia. This means that the protection of children that has been stated in Law No. 35 of 2014 has not been properly realized by the Indonesian people themselves.

Violence against children often occurs, not only during a pandemic. However, since the existence of life in this world, there must have been violence against children which often occurs. However, the focus of this research this time is indeed aimed at the pandemic period, which due to the Covid-19 pandemic, cases of violence against children have increased in Indonesia.

The primary data found by the author also comes from a North Sumatra resident who is a mother who has 6 children, she is named Siti Aminah who once reported her neighbor to a non-governmental organization regarding violence perpetrated by mother "T" who abused her child due to confusion because husband who was fired by the factory because of a reduction in employees during the pandemic.

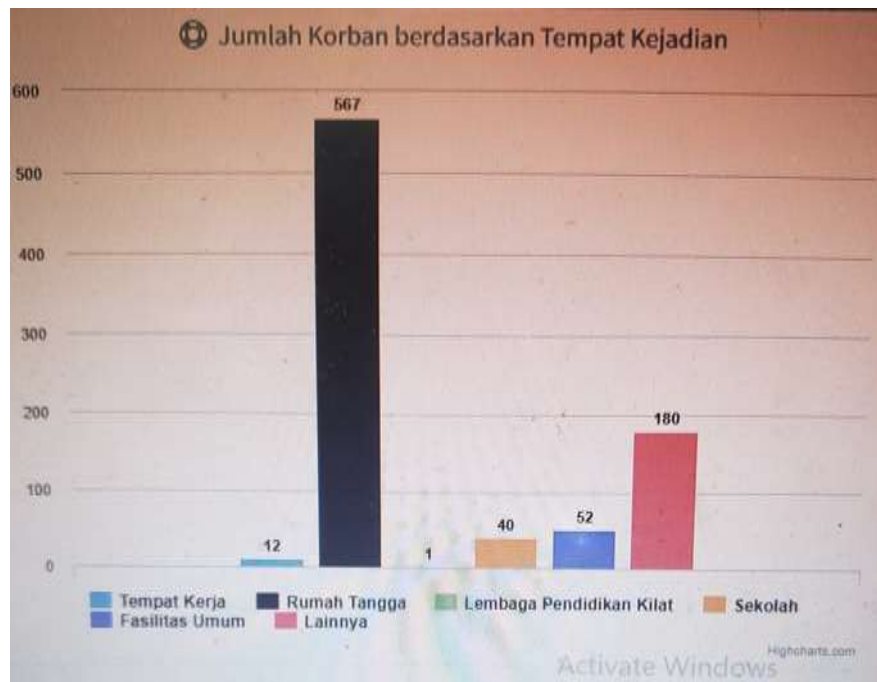


Figure 1. (Number of victims by scene)

From the picture it can be seen that most of the cases of violence when viewed from the scene that the highest level is the household. The conclusion that can be drawn is that the home environment is the most vulnerable place for violence against children, compared to the outside environment.

There are 7 factors that influence the occurrence of violence against children in the household as reported by the popmama site, such as: Expectations that do not match reality, trauma experienced by parents as children, parents with financial problems, lack of proper support, drug abuse and alcohol, emotional disturbances and sudden situations. Then, things that can cause parents to commit violence are caused by internal and external factors.

1. Internal factor
 - a. Level of parental knowledge
 - b. Parental experience
2. External factors
 - a. economic factor
 - b. educational factor
 - c. Environmental factor

In addition to these factors, the various attitudes of parents that are wrong or inappropriate and the consequences that may result in violence against children in the household include:

a. Parents who always worry and always protect

Children who are treated with worry, are often forbidden and always protect, will grow up to be cowardly children, have no self-confidence, and find it difficult to stand alone. In an effort to overcome all the consequences, maybe the child will rebel and will actually do something that is very worried about or prohibited by the parents. This conflict can result in violence against children.

b. Overly demanding parents

Children who are educated with high demands may take values that are too high to be unrealistic. If the child does not want to, there will be coercion by the parents which results in violence against children, as in the example above.

c. Too strict parents

Children who are treated in this way tend to grow and develop into obedient but fearful children. If a child rebels against the domination of his parents, he will become an objector. This conflict can result in violence against children. Many abusers actually love their children but tend to be impatient and personally immature. These characteristics make it difficult to meet the needs of their children and increase the likelihood of physical or emotional abuse. However, there is no comprehensive explanation of child abuse.

Of all the exposure to the factors that influence child abuse, economic factors are very easy triggers to become lighters in life. Coupled with the rampant unemployment during Covid-19 which has been explained in the data from the previous point. It turns out that the impact of Covid-19 has indeed affected Domestic Violence (KDRT). This is the same as several journals that have become references for researchers where a conclusion was found "Unknowingly the impact of Covid-19 is very influential in people's lives both in terms of economics, education, social, politics and so on." the economy such as the number of reductions in employees, the closure of businesses which resulted in the emergence of a large number of unemployed.

IV. Conclusion

The Covid-19 pandemic turned out to have a negative impact on human life, especially the people of Indonesia. And become one of the factors triggering acts of violence against children. One of the factors that greatly influence violence against children is the economic factor. Which during the Covid-19 period occurred, the Indonesian people's economy was unstable. Such as the large number of unemployed caused by work stoppages, employee layoffs and the large number of jobs that cannot be done as usual, which requires many people to be at home due to co-19 in order to break the chain of spread of co-19.

The prevalence of cases of violence against children also increased during the Covid period with data from the number of reported cases of violence against children recorded by the PPPA Ministry increasing from 11,057 in 2019, 11,278 cases in 2020, and to 14,517 cases in 2021. The number of victims of violence against children has also increased from 12,285 in 2019, 12,425 in 2020, and will be 15,972 in 2021. If detailed, reports of violence against children consist of cases of sexual violence (45 percent), psychological violence (19 percent) and physical violence (18 percent).

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