



Understanding Domestic Violence in Samarinda City, East Kalimantan: A Focus on Psychological Abuse and Family Dynamics

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Author's contribution

The sole author designed, analysed, interpreted and prepared the manuscript.

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to obtain information on various types and forms of domestic violence, using descriptive qualitative methods on a sample of 180 individuals. The research sample used purposive sampling method using the criteria of adult and married and familiar to the researcher. The results showed that domestic violence is generally caused by family factors, namely the presence of sick family members who need continuous assistance, chaotic family life, lack of intimacy. The forms of domestic violence are mainly in the form of psychological violence behaviour has forms such as swearing, cursing, insults, degrading comments and hurting other people's self-esteem, in addition to a small portion in the form of physical violence and sexual violence in various forms and levels.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Domestic violence is any act based on gender differences that results in physical, sexual and psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of certain actions, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty whether it occurs in public or in private life. This incident is a universal fact because it can occur in a household without distinction of culture, religion, ethnicity, and the age of the perpetrator or victim [1]. Therefore, the occurrence of this event does not only depart from one causal factor. Even this violence contains specificity, which lies in the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim, which is a family relationship. Crimes of domestic violence are not new to Indonesia, but they are becoming more prevalent. Acts of violence against women that often occur within the household take the form of maltreatment [1,2].

The Domestic Violence Law (UU KDRT) of 2004 defines domestic violence as any act against a person, especially, which results in physical, sexual, psychological misery or suffering and or domestic neglect including threats to commit acts, coercion or deprivation of independence against the law, in a domestic environment. According to the UN Declaration domestic violence is any act committed by a person against another person, which results in or may result in physical, sexual and / or psychological misery or suffering, including threats of certain actions, coercion or deprivation of freedom arbitrarily or economic pressure, which occurs within the scope of the household [3].

According Aziz [4] defines domestic violence as a pattern of behaviour that imposes one's will on a partner using attacks and threats including physical, mental and sexual abuse, including economic control. Domestic violence is a deliberately chosen pattern of behaviour to control a partner's life. It is stated by Aziz [4,5] that domestic violence is violence committed by a husband against his wife. Everyone has a tendency to commit violence, its form and intensity.... At one time a person can be a victim of violence, but at other times a person can also be a perpetrator of violence against others or themselves. Violence and abuse or aggression is a phenomenon in society that has existed for a long time. Abdullah [6] states that violence or aggression between people is a form of human behaviour that is as old as humanity itself.

From the various definitions above, it can be concluded that domestic violence is a form of abuse committed by a person either individually or jointly against a woman, which is a way of controlling a partner in the household, which results in physical, sexual, economic and psychological misery or suffering on the part of the woman.

2. METHODS

This research method is qualitative with interview techniques for 180 randomly selected respondents based on predetermined criteria and document studies. The respondents were randomly selected based on predetermined criteria or purposive sampling method and document study. Document studies are carried out by collecting secondary data by reading and studying articles in magazines, tabloids, newspapers and other reading books that are closely related to the problems discussed.

The data obtained through research activities were analysed qualitatively and then presented descriptively, namely by describing, explaining and describing in accordance with the problems that are closely related to this research. The use of qualitative analysis techniques includes all data that has been obtained, thus forming a description that supports the qualifications of this study. The data analysis technique used with a qualitative approach, answers and solves and deepens thoroughly and completely from the object under study.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Forms of Domestic Violence Behaviour

Based on interviews with respondents, domestic violence behaviour is divided into 3 (three) forms, namely physical violence, psychological violence, sexual violence.

1) Physical Violence Behaviour

Physical violent behaviour is violence that can result in physical injury or death. Further explained by Lopes et al. [1,7] states that what is meant by physical violent behaviour is any attitude or action that causes pain, injury, wound, or disability to a person's body and or causes death, such as being hit, slapped, thrown with a plate, grabbed by the hair. Physical violent

behaviour towards wives includes: hitting with the use of limbs, punches with bare hands, punching, hitting with tools/objects, throwing objects, banging the wife's head against the wall, cigarette stubbing, dousing with strong liquids, whipping, trampling, burning, slicing, pinching, twisting, strangling, dragging, and severe physical injure intention to kill.

2) Psychological violent behavior

Psychological violent behaviour is one which can cause prolonged trauma. According to Siti et al. [8], the psychologically violent behaviour towards wives includes insulting the wife and or throwing words that degrade and or hurt the wife's self-esteem, prohibiting the wife from visiting relatives and friends, preventing the wife from being involved in social community activities, threatening to divorce the wife and separate her from the children if she does not comply with the husband's wishes.

Psychological violent behaviour has forms such as swearing, cursing, insulting, degrading comments and hurting other people's self-esteem, limiting the wife's social life, making threats to return the wife to her parents, divorcing and separating from the children and forcing the wife to obey the husband's wishes, leaving the wife without permission, authoritarianism, gambling, drunkenness [1,2,9]

3) Sexually Violent Behaviour

Forms of sexual violent behaviour are being harassed after sexual intercourse, having sexual intercourse without the wife's consent, and not fulfilling the wife's sexual needs because the husband has another wife, as well as infidelity or the husband's relationship with another woman outside of marriage. According Lopes et al. [1,2,3,10], sexual violent behaviour is any act that takes the form of, among others, not fulfilling the sexual needs of the wife, forcing the wife to have sexual intercourse when the wife does not want to do so or in a way that the wife does not like, forcing the wife to become a prostitute and forcing the wife to abort. So actions that include sexually violent behaviour include forced sexual intercourse in a way that is abusive or indecent or not accepted by the wife.

Furthermore, some researchers have argued that economical violence (i.e. control on women's expenditure, income, etc) and mobilization restrictions.

This is one of the many cases that are often experienced by a wife. The problem that occurs above is actually not a new phenomenon because it has occurred since centuries ago. Furthermore, according to Purwati et al. [2,11-13], in general, male violence against women occurs due to several factors, namely: a. Patriarchal culture that believes that man's is superior and women are inferior so that man's is justified to dominate and control women. b. Wrong interpretation of religious teachings. Oftentimes, teachings that place men as leaders are interpreted as allowing them to control and dominate women. c. Influence of role models. Children man's who grow up in a family environment where the father likes to hit or is abusive to the mother. Tend to imitate this pattern to their spouse.

According to Siti et al. [8,14], domestic violence can be defined as an act of arbitrary use of power or authority without restrictions (abuse of power) that the perpetrator has, which is the husband or wife or other members of the household, which can threaten the safety and individual rights of each and or other members of the household such as children, in-laws, in-laws, and servants. This is in accordance with [8,10] and includes actions that prevent people from being creative and self-actualising according to their potential, and actions that force them to work or maximise their potential beyond their ability.

It also includes, within certain limits, the prohibition to work and look as one wishes, and the prohibition to associate with people one likes. Therefore, domestic violence also has a non-physical dimension, which encompasses all actions that can cause the commitment to trust, share, tolerate and love between all members of the household as intended in the sacred purpose of marriage and harmonious home life, to be undermined [1,10,15].

The results of interviews with various sources observing cases of domestic violence in Kota Samarinda can be summarised that cases of domestic violence show a pattern that indicates a cycle of violence between married couples. This cycle consists of three main stages (phases), namely: In this stage the abuser begins to blame his partner and uses minor offences to control his partner. On the other hand, the victim (wife) will try to defend herself and a feeling arises in her to save the household. The second phase, the acute phase or acute maltreatment In the second

stage, the tension that has escalated can explode into maltreatment. In this case the husband intends to teach the spouse a lesson, so there is a feeling of fear in the wife and the wife tries to release her anger by fighting back. The third phase, the calm state or honeymoon phase After mistreating the wife, sometimes the perpetrator realises and regrets his actions that have crossed the line. Generally, the perpetrator will apologise and promise not to repeat the abuse again. The husband's apology makes the wife feel happy and hopeful again.

B. Causes of violent behavior

As a social group, women are very vulnerable to discrimination, because social construction based on the masculine paradigm can lead to violent behaviour against women [1,2,15]. According Lopes et al. [1,2] suggests that there are several causes of violent behaviour, namely: a. the perception of something in the mind of the perpetrator, the reasons conveyed by the perpetrator are almost always only based on his assumptions and it is not uncommon for the perpetrator to deny having committed evil and dishonourable acts, b. the laws governing violence against women are still gender biased. Often the law does not favour women who are victims of violence.

Lopes et al. [1,2,4] say that the factors that cause violent behaviour in domestic violence are: a) external factors, which are related to the power relationship between husband and wife and gender discrimination in society, b). Internal factors, namely the psychological condition and personality of the husband as the perpetrator of violence. [1,2,16] argues that domestic violence behaviour can be caused by the wife's economic dependence on her husband because the wife may be humiliated by the husband..

In addition, [1,2,14,15] argue that there are several factors that trigger violence, including: a) the community factor, namely poverty, urbanisation that occurs accompanied by income inequality among residents, drug-dependent family communities, neighbourhoods with a high frequency of violence and crime, b) Family factors, namely the presence of sick family members who need continuous assistance, chaotic family life, lack of intimacy, c). the individual factor itself. Although economic factors can trigger domestic violence behaviour by husbands against their wives, if husbands have unbiased ideological and cultural views on

husband and wife relations, then domestic violence can be reduced naturally..

One of the factors causing the tendency of domestic violence is emotional maturity. This means that the more emotionally mature the husband, the lower the tendency to commit domestic violence against his wife and vice versa, if the husband's level of emotional maturity is low, it means that the high and low value of emotional maturity will also be followed by the value of domestic violence, it can be said that the high and low emotional maturity can be one of the predictors of the high and low value of domestic violence. This is in accordance with the opinion of experts regarding emotional maturity according to Lopes et al. [1,2,17] refers to a condition or state of reaching the level of maturity of one's emotional development and therefore the person concerned no longer displays emotional behaviours that are appropriate for children. Emotional maturity sometimes also indicates emotional control, so that those who are more emotionally mature may be able to control the emotional turmoil well and will be reflected when facing various kinds of social situations.

The ambiguity of the emotional and psychological impact above causes many couples to choose to stay in an unhappy marriage. [1,2,10,17] in his research states that 1 in 4 married couples feel unhappy in their marriage but choose to stay together for the happiness of their children. Both cases obtained are related to infertility problems. Women tend to experience greater psychological impact in dealing with infertility problems than men. The impacts that often occur are depression, anxiety, feeling helpless, closing themselves off from social life due to shame, and triggering domestic problems such as domestic violence. [1,2,15,17] does not control emotions will certainly interfere with self-adjustment, on the other hand, if you are able to control and master emotional turmoil, you will be able to cooperate with others. an individual is said to be able to achieve emotional maturity if he acts in accordance with community expectations, is able to use his mentality appropriately, understands himself and does not change his emotions easily (stable). In addition, it mentions several criteria in emotional maturity, that a person can be said to have emotional maturity if he can act as follows [17,18]:

- a) In accordance with society's expectations, i.e. able to control the expression of emotions that are acceptable to society.

- b) Appropriately utilising their mental abilities, i.e. someone who can critically assess the situation prior to responding emotionally and then decide how best to respond to the stimulus.
- c) c). Being self-aware is someone who can learn how much self-control is needed to satisfy their needs and direct them towards expectations that are in accordance with society.
- d) d). Emotional reactions are relatively stable, not fluctuating from one emotion to another.

In fact, domestic violence is any act against a person, especially a woman, which causes physical, sexual, psychological pain or suffering and/or domestic neglect, including threats to commit acts, coercion or deprivation of liberty against the law within the scope of the household. What is meant by the scope of the household is the husband, wife and children, people who work to help the household and live in the household [18].

However, if the problem is solved in a good and healthy way, each family member will get a valuable lesson, such as realising and understanding the feelings, personality and emotional control of each family member. So that happiness in the family is realised. Healthy conflict resolution occurs when each family member does not prioritise personal interests, looks for the root of the problem and makes a solution [1,2,17,19].

Resolution of the problem is done with excessive anger, physical stomping as an outlet for anger, shouting and cursing as well as sinister facial expressions [20,21,22]. Occasionally, behaviour such as assaulting, forcing, threatening or physical violence occurs. This kind of behaviour can be said to be an act of domestic violence (KDRT) which is interpreted as any act against a person, especially women, which results in physical, sexual, psychological, and domestic neglect, including threats to commit acts, coercion or unlawful deprivation of independence within the scope of the household [23,24].

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the description above, the causes of domestic violence behaviour can be classified into several factors, namely,

- 1) internal factors of the perpetrator both due to natural innate, namely the psychological

condition and personality of the husband as the perpetrator of violence and due to environmental influences, namely the existence of beliefs regarding male authority over his partner, where the husband is the leader of the family and the belief that violence is a form of legitimised punishment.

- 2) external factors, both perpetrators through the patriarchal paradigm that develops in the social system, a biased understanding of religious teachings and the submission of the wife (the victim herself), unbalanced power relations, both gender, social class, ethnicity, race and nationality, a 'culture of silence' women victims of family violence generally choose to remain silent and not tell others about the violence they experience and a misunderstanding of religious teachings about respect for the husband's position, about the rules of educating wives, and about the teachings of the wife's obedience to the husband.

DISCLAIMER (ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE)

Author(s) hereby declare that NO generative AI technologies such as Large Language Models (ChatGPT, COPILOT, etc) and text-to-image generators have been used during writing or editing of manuscripts.

COMPETING INTERESTS

Author has declared that no competing interests exist.

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