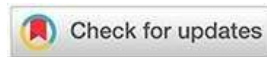


COUNSELING GUIDANCE FOR CHILDREN CONVICTED OF VIOLENCE THROUGH COACHING AT THE JAKARTA CLASS II SPECIAL TRAINING INSTITUTION FOR CHILDREN



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ABSTRACT

This study discusses the implementation of counseling guidance for juvenile inmates involved in violent cases at the Special Child Development Institution (LPKA) Class II Jakarta. Counseling guidance at LPKA plays an important role in the psychological recovery of juvenile inmates, intending to help them understand themselves and their environment, as well as develop their potential optimally. This research uses a qualitative approach with interviews and observations as data collection methods. The results indicate that counseling guidance is effective in improving the behavior of juvenile inmates and increasing their readiness to reintegrate into society. Barriers to the implementation of counseling were also identified, including limited resources and consistency in the development programs.

Keywords: Counseling Guidance; Juvenile Inmates; Rehabilitation



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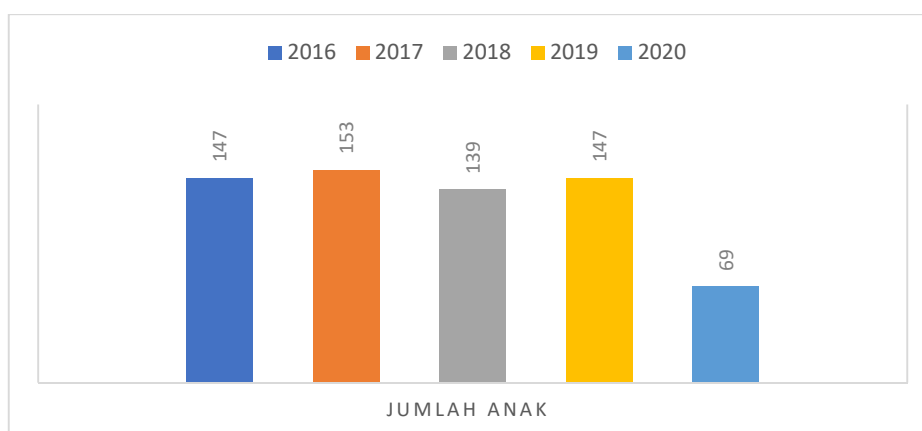
INTRODUCTION

Children who have a position as the younger generation who will be the successors of our nation's ideals and will become the future leaders of the nation who hold all the hopes of previous generations, must get the same opportunity to be able to explore their growth and development socially, physically, and spiritually. A child who will become the next generation of the nation must have the ability to be able to change and shape the state of the nation to be better than the previous generation (Shinta & Wibowo, 2022). Every expectation that is imposed on children from previous generations who want the progress of the nation, we need to know to get a generation that has superior potential. We need to protect every child who has rights that must be fulfilled and protected to develop and grow properly.

The initial fulfillment of children's rights starts from the smallest environment, namely the family, especially parents. Parents who can protect the rights inherent in their children will form children who are able to develop their best potential and be productive in the fields they enjoy (Lelha, 2018). It's just that not all parents provide proper rights for their children, children tend to get harsh treatment, neglect, and even abuse from their parents (Putri, 2021). Lack of support for children during their growth and development tends to make children commit unlawful acts because they cannot determine good and bad things. Many factors will influence children to commit unlawful acts, one of which is their friendship environment (Shinta & Wibowo, 2022).

Children's search for identity without the full support of their parents makes them look for it from the friendship environment, this greatly affects the mindset of the teenager himself (Julanda, 2021). Many cases of violence committed by children occur in the form of groups. Crimes of violence that are often committed are also very often carried out in the form of groups, under the pretext of defending friends, and they can commit criminal acts without thinking long-term about what they are doing. Violent crimes that often occur between school children or students are brawls. Brawls committed by students are a form of delinquency committed by teenagers. The following authors present data on Children in Conflict with the Law as perpetrators of Physical and Psychological Violence in 2016-2020.

Table 1
Data on Children in Conflict with the Law as perpetrators of Physical and Psychological Violence in 2016-2020



Source: KPAI, 2024

According to the data, cases of children becoming perpetrators of violence were significantly reduced in 2020. KPAI itself revealed that this problem is not only the

responsibility of parents and families, but as a challenge for educational institutions in Indonesia.

Children, as the future of the nation, require special attention in their treatment. Every child in conflict with the law has a different background. It's just that most children in conflict with the law do not get good parenting from their families. Children's search for identity with friends in the social environment without full support from the family can make children violate existing norms. Children who violate existing norms and have to deal with the law must still be guided by the principle of the best interests of the child. (Sommaliagustina & Sari, 2018). This includes if the child has been sentenced to serve a criminal period in the LPKA. While serving criminal sanctions in LPKA, every foster child will lose their independence. The loss of security and comfort they get from their family and friends makes foster children feel depressed. Every child who has a conflict with the law will be more vulnerable to psychological and social problems. This happens because while serving a criminal period in LPKA, they lose their independence and are not free to carry out activities like other children outside LPKA. The loss of the old friendship environment will be a heavy thing felt by children. With the limitations that exist in LPKA, foster children must continue to live their lives the same as when they are outside. They must still fulfill their rights while serving their criminal period, both physically and psychologically. A person dealing with the law must have physical and psychological injuries; this does not rule out the possibility of happening to children.

Physical wounds in children can be healed medically, but psychological wounds in children require special attention so that they do not become severely traumatized that which can destroy the child's future. Healing trauma in children dealing with the law can be done by providing counseling guidance. Counseling guidance is the process of assisting by the counselor (mentor) to the counselee (client/individual) with direct face-to-face meetings and reciprocal relationships, so that the client has the ability to solve his problems (Hertina et al., 2022). The existence of counseling guidance is not only carried out psychologically, but must still exist as a creature of God Almighty (Sunaryo, 2000). (Sunaryo, 2000). Counseling guidance itself has benefits for children who are dealing with the law and serving a criminal period in LPKA. When the existence of counseling guidance goes well, it can help children who are dealing with the law to be able to understand themselves and the environment to develop their potential optimally and be able to adapt to their environment constructively and dynamically in order to be able to deal with existing problems and not avoid the problem. Counseling guidance carried out at LPKA needs to be done to maintain the mentality of children while serving their criminal period. Counseling guidance is present starting when foster children have lost their independence until they return to the community environment. (Shinta & Wibowo, 2022). With the existence of counseling guidance, foster children can share their feelings during the criminal period, then the counselor can assess if the child needs further assistance related to the psychological problems they feel during the criminal period.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Gunawan et al (2024) analyzes the need for counseling guidance services for foster children while in LPKA. Providing counseling guidance services to foster children is expected to change the direction of the child's life goals for the better and not repeat criminal acts. This statement is also reinforced in Law Number 35 of 2014 which discusses the protection that every child has the right to be heard and undergo rehabilitation. This research discusses the importance of foster children getting counseling guidance services. The results of this study resulted in the following points,

every foster child serving a criminal period in LPKA needs services and guidance, guidance and counseling services are needed by foster children in order to help themselves become better and be able to get out of the problems they face, and a good LPKA not only provides guidance and counseling services, many activities of independence, personality development, formal and non-formal education (Gunawan et al., 2024).

Research from Jasuma and Padmono (2022) provides results that research on the perpetrators of criminal acts of rape by children that occur is not entirely the fault of the perpetrator or one of the parties, many cases of rape committed by children are carried out on a consensual basis. It's just that the unacceptance of the woman's family who knows about the incident reports to the authorities and ensures that the child is miserable for what they did. Therefore, it is necessary to provide guidance and counseling to children in conflict with the law, especially cases of rape in children who are not optimal in helping children solve the problems they face. This research also explains the benefits that children will receive when guidance and counseling runs well in LPKA, one of which is to restore children's self-confidence and create independence in children so that they can continue their future. Interventions carried out on children fostered by rape cases need guidance and counseling to restore children's mental health. The application of counseling and guidance to foster children is expected to be able to restore their self-confidence. So that one day they can return to the community and not repeat criminal acts again, and be able to arrange a better future (Shinta & Wibowo, 2022).

Research conducted by Wiwit et al (2024) resulted that the importance of guidance and counseling services is given to both prisoners and foster children while they are serving a sentence in prison or LPKA. Counseling guidance services need to be provided to foster children to help foster children carry out their duties to continue to grow and develop despite the various obstacles that exist. The form of guidance and counseling that can be given to foster children while serving a sentence in LPKA can be with two methods, namely individual counseling guidance and group counseling guidance. With the existence of counseling and guidance in prison, it can help solve the problems that are being faced by prisoners (Kanti et al., 2024).

Guidance is a process of providing assistance to individuals or groups that is carried out routinely and systematically by counselors so that they are able to become independent individuals. Guidance is preventive (prevention), meaning that every process of assistance provided to individuals or groups of clients in order to prevent problems from becoming large and able to be resolved (Susanto, 2018). According to Prayitno (2004), counseling is an interaction that occurs between two individuals, namely the client and the counselor, in which there are activities that occur professionally and become a tool for making changes to client behavior. Counseling is a form of process of providing assistance through interviews by counselors to individuals when they are experiencing problems with the aim of achieving a more positive understanding of themselves and being able to overcome the problems they are facing. Therefore, the main purpose of guidance and counseling is to help clients avoid various problems, be it problems related to mental, social or spiritual health in order to form mentally healthy individuals.

METHOD

This research uses a qualitative research method using a problem study approach (case study) which is used to analyze in depth and detail the case to be studied. Case study is a research method used in various fields, especially evaluation, where researchers

thoroughly analyze cases (Creswell, 2023). The qualitative research approach with the case study method is very relevant in exploring the issue of counseling guidance services for foster children in the Special Development Institute for Children (LPKA). This case study was chosen because it allows researchers to dig deeper into the experiences of foster children in receiving counseling guidance, the views of counselors, as well as complex issues related to the protection and development of children in the development system. Through this method, the researcher was able to explore in depth the challenges faced in providing counseling services to foster children, including limited resources, psychological barriers, and environmental conditions that affect the guidance process.

This research also includes an analysis of the implementation of existing policies, as well as how these policies are applied in providing protection and fulfillment of the rights of foster children, especially in the context of counseling guidance. The framework used will help researchers understand the dynamics that occur in LPKA, as well as identify problems that arise in the practice of providing counseling services. The results of this study are expected to provide deeper insights into how counseling services can more effectively support the rehabilitation and self-development of foster children, as well as how policy improvements and implementation can support children's rights in LPKA more optimally. By using a case study approach, researchers can formulate research questions that are more focused, in-depth, and contextual, in order to contribute to the development of counseling services that are more inclusive and responsive to the needs of foster children.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Counseling guidance is one of the essential approaches in the world of education and coaching, especially in helping individuals, such as foster children, to overcome various problems and achieve optimal development. Counseling guidance has two main aspects, namely preventive guidance and counseling that focuses more on problem solving. In the context of foster children, who often experience various obstacles both from a psychological and social perspective, counseling guidance becomes an important instrument in supporting them to become independent and responsible individuals. Therefore, the mental health of foster children is one of the factors that need to be considered (Chairunnisa et al., 2022).

Guidance counseling, in this context, serves as a means to help foster children understand themselves and their environment, as well as to overcome the various problems they face (Gunawan et al., 2024). The preventive approach in guidance aims to prevent further problems that may arise due to the psychological or social conditions faced by foster children. Through guidance, foster children are encouraged to recognize their potentials and weaknesses, and to develop effective strategies in facing the challenges.

For example, foster children who may be traumatized by past experiences can be given guidance to manage their emotions and develop self-confidence. This guidance not only focuses on current problems but also seeks to prevent new problems from arising in the future. Thus, a preventive approach in guidance counseling can help foster children to adapt better to their social environment and avoid behaviors that may lead to further problems.

Meanwhile, the counseling aspect of guidance counseling focuses more on solving specific problems faced by the mentees. Counseling is conducted through a professional interaction between the counselor and the juvenile, where the counselor acts as a facilitator who helps the juvenile identify the problems they face and find effective

solutions. For example, if a juvenile is having difficulty adjusting to the rules within the correctional institution, counseling can help them understand the reasons behind the rules and how they can adjust in a positive way (Fitriani, 2023).

Guidance is not just about providing advice or solutions to problems faced by individuals, but also involves a more in-depth approach to helping individuals understand themselves and their environment (Kanti et al., 2024). In the context of foster children, guidance plays an important role in helping them recognize their potential that they may not have realized so far. Many foster children experience various pressures and obstacles, both psychologically and socially, which can hinder their development. Through a proper guidance process, they can be encouraged to see their strengths and weaknesses, and how to utilize these potentials to overcome the challenges they face.

In addition, guidance also assists children in developing the skills needed to cope with everyday life. These abilities include not only academic or technical skills, but also social and emotional skills that are crucial in the process of adapting to a new or different environment. For example, foster children are taught how to manage their emotions, communicate effectively, and cooperate with others (Hertina et al., 2022). All of this is done with the aim of preparing them to become independent individuals and able to make the right decisions in various situations.

On the other hand, counseling that focuses on problem solving is designed to help foster children overcome the specific problems they face, whether psychological, emotional, or social. In the counseling process, foster children are invited to identify the problems they are experiencing, understand the roots of these problems, and find appropriate solutions to solve them. The problems faced by prisoners are often related to past trauma, difficulties in adapting to the correctional environment, and behavioral problems such as violence or delinquency. Counseling aims to help them overcome the negative impact of past experiences and develop healthier and more productive coping mechanisms.

Prisoners often face complex and multidimensional challenges involving psychological, social and emotional aspects. These challenges, such as feelings of low self-esteem, difficulties in adapting to new environments, and behavioral problems, can be major barriers to their rehabilitation and reintegration into society. In this regard, mentorship plays a crucial role as an intervention designed to support young offenders in recognizing and understanding themselves and the environment around them. The main function of guidance is to help the mentees to see themselves objectively, including identifying their strengths and weaknesses (Fiah, 2015).

Through guidance provided by trained counselors, foster children are invited to understand more about their potential, which they may not be fully aware of. The approach used by the counselor aims to explore the positive aspects in foster children, as well as provide guidance on how to utilize this potential to overcome various challenges that exist (Achmad, 2021).

In this context, guidance serves not only as a tool to help children in care overcome current problems, but also as a means to prepare them for future challenges. With the right guidance, foster children are expected to be able to direct themselves, both in aspects of personal life and in a broader social context. They are encouraged to become more independent individuals, have a higher sense of self-confidence, and be able to adapt to various situations that they may face after leaving the correctional institution. More than that, guidance also aims to instill positive values in foster children (Syahrizal, 2021), such as responsibility, discipline, and self-confidence, all of which are important elements in their social reintegration process. Thus, guidance does not only focus on the

aspect of psychological rehabilitation, but also contributes to the character building of foster children so that they can function optimally in society.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Counseling guidance plays an important role in supporting the rehabilitation and social reintegration process of juveniles in the Lembaga Pembinaan Khusus Anak (LPKA). Counseling helps children to understand themselves, overcome past trauma, and prepare them for a better life after detention. However, this study also found some significant obstacles in its implementation, including detained children are often reluctant to open up due to trauma, low self-esteem, or distrust of staff. Negative stigma from the community and group dynamics within correctional institutions hinder children's participation in counseling. Inadequate counseling space, lack of privacy, and a stressful atmosphere hinder the active involvement of foster children. The limited number of counselors and excessive workload on counselors reduces the quality and effectiveness of the guidance process. Lack of funding and supportive policies make it difficult to implement optimal counseling guidance.

This study suggests increased support from institutions and the community, both in terms of funding, more flexible policies, and an increase in the number of competent counselors. This is expected to improve the counseling process so that children can get the psychological and social support they need to develop into responsible individuals who are ready to adapt back into society.

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