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## THE IMPACT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE

Rizca Yunike Putri<sup>1✉</sup>, Angellina Parasyati Dauhan<sup>2</sup>, Sri Musrifah<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1,2</sup> Universitas Wijaya Kusuma Surabaya, Indonesia

<sup>3</sup> Universitas PGRI Ronggolawe Tuban, Indonesia  
[rizcaputri.fisip@uwks.ac.id](mailto:rizcaputri.fisip@uwks.ac.id)

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\* Corresponding Author:

Rizca Yunike Putri, Ilmu Politik,  
Universitas Wijaya Kusuma  
Surabaya, Jalan Dukuh Kupang  
XXV/54, Surabaya, Indonesia,  
E-mail:

[rizcaputri.fisip@uwks.ac.id](mailto:rizcaputri.fisip@uwks.ac.id),

Phone: +62 821-4006-3331



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### ABSTRACT

This research aims to analyze the impact of domestic violence on children's social welfare in Kalen village, Kedungpring sub-district, Lamongan district). This type of research uses a qualitative approach with a case study method for 3 children who experienced violence in Kalen Village. Data collection techniques use observation, interviews, and documentation. The data analysis technique used is a qualitative approach with the following steps: data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion. There are three forms of violence committed by parents in the household against children: physical violence, mental violence, and social violence. Seeing the existing phenomenon, where households and families can no longer function according to their function due to cases of domestic violence, the family is no longer a safe place to shelter family members, especially their children. There are three impacts of domestic violence on children: fear, stress, and dropping out of school.

**Keywords:** Violence, Household, Welfare, Social, Children

## INTRODUCTION

Family harmony is the state of a complete and happy family, where family ties provide a sense of security and peace to each member. Apart from that, have a good relationship between father-mother, father-daughter, mother-daughter. And a disharmonious family shows that the more disharmonious the relationship between parents and children is, the worse the father's behavior towards the family will result in domestic violence (Harahap, 2019). Children in harmonious families and children in disharmonious families. If a harmonious family forms good thoughts so that children can socialize well within the family (Warren et al., 2023), whereas a disharmonious family will form an unhealthy mentality, the child's psychology will be disturbed, the child's mental health level will be low (Meinck et al., 2023). There are so many diseases that can threaten children's mental health.

Domestic violence is any act against family relationships that causes distress or suffering



in the form of physical, sexual, psychological suffering, or suffering in the form of domestic neglect (Novirianti et al., 2005). Violence against children is any act against a child that results in suffering and suffering, both physical and mental, in both public and private life. Acts of violence are not only physical but also psychological (Arai et al., 2021). Physical actions, the victim feels the consequences directly and everyone can see, while non-physical (psychic) actions can only be felt directly by the victim because these actions are directly related to the conscience (Chan et al., 2021). The amount of violence against children does not seem to have stopped until now, usually children who receive protection from family members but are also not spared from experiencing violence from their families, but what still happens to them is that the violence they experience is not exposed in society and that too in different shapes (Pearson et al., 2023). Meanwhile, Suharto in Huraerah (Huraerah, 2012) groups child abuse into physical abuse (physical violence), psychological abuse (psychological violence), sexual violence, and social abuse (social violence). The consequences of domestic violence have an impact on the fulfillment of children's rights, such as the right to love, the right to education, etc.

Regulations and policies regarding domestic violence that have been implemented in Indonesia, Law Number 23 of 2004 concerning the Elimination of Domestic Violence (Undang-Undang No. 23 Tahun 2004 Tentang Penghapusan Kekerasan Dalam Rumah Tangga, n.d.) have been in effect since it was enacted in 2004. This law is a guarantee provided by the state to prevent domestic violence, protect victims of domestic violence, and protect victims of domestic violence, including children in the family sphere.

The results of Putri and Musrifah's research in 2022 stated that the negative effects that arise and can be recognized by professionals (medics and psychologists) as a result of violence against children depend on the type of violence that has been experienced. In general, children as victims of violence will experience physical, psychological, social impacts and death. From a physical point of view, children who have experienced acts of violence experience several health problems such as panic attacks, asthma, depression, diabetes, coronary heart disease, obesity, and stroke. Meanwhile, in the social aspect, children who are victims of violence generally show that they lack self-confidence, are withdrawn, have aggressive behavior, and tend to have a bad self-concept towards the environment and themselves (Putri & Musrifah, 2022).

Cases of violence and abuse in children are usually diverted and justified as efforts by parents to abuse parenting. Child abuse and abusive parenting include harmful actions by parents towards children that are physical (e.g. hitting, slapping) or emotional (e.g. threatening,

yelling), child abuse, and abusive parenting that are similar, but not identical (Backhaus et al., 2023).

The experience of trauma in childhood is strongly associated with acts of physical and sexual violence and revictimization later in life (Rumble et al., 2020). Parents, especially mothers, with a history of childhood violence, and mothers who have premature children tend to abuse their children (Altafim et al., 2023). Findings indicate the need for a developmentally appropriate whole-family screening and assessment framework to support children in identifying family safety concerns early (Booth et al., 2023). Complex forms of violence present various challenges in intervening and treating them (Salter, 2014).

From the description above, it can be seen that domestic violence cases greatly affect children's social welfare, where domestic violence cases occurred in Kalen Village. This sparked the author's interest in addressing the impact of domestic violence on children's social welfare in Kalen Village, Kedungpring District, Lamongan Regency. This research was conducted for 3 days. The type of research used is a qualitative approach with case studies, Moleong (2011, p. 8) a qualitative approach is research that aims to understand the phenomena experienced by the subject, such as perpetrators, perceptions, motivations, actions, etc. The selection of informants was carried out using a purposive sampling technique, with 3 children who had experienced physical and psychological domestic violence. Based on the criteria of children aged 8-15 years. Additional informants participated in this research, including 3 community leaders, that is neighbors, teachers, and, friends of victims of domestic violence. Data collection techniques use observation, interviews and documentation. The data analysis technique used is a qualitative approach with the following steps: data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions.

## **METHOD**

This research was carried out in Kalen Village, Kedungpring District, Lamongan Regency. This research was carried out for 3 days. The type of research used is a qualitative approach with case studies, Moleong (Moleong, 2011, p. 9) qualitative approach is research intended to understand phenomena about what is experienced by research subjects, for example perpetrators, perceptions, motivations, actions and so on. The selection of informants was taken using a purposive sampling technique, that is 3 children who had experienced domestic violence (KDRT) physically, mentally and socially, with the criteria of children aged from 8 years to 15 years. In this research there were supporting informants including 3 community figures, neighbors, teachers and a friend of a child who was a victim of domestic violence. Observation,

interviews and documentation were used as data collection techniques. Data analysis or qualitative studies were carried out using the Miles and Huberman analysis model which was carried out in stages, data reduction, presentation and drawing conclusions.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Violence experienced by children in the household has many forms. From the results of this research, the researchers found field findings, the forms and impacts of domestic child violence in Kalen Village, Kedungpring District, Lamongan Regency, physical violence, psychological violence, and social violence.

The results of Putri and Musrifah's research (2022, p. 136) stated that the negative effects that arise and can be recognized by professionals (medics and psychologists) as a result of violence against children depend on the type of violence that has been experienced. In general, children as victims of violence will experience physical, psychological, social impacts and death. From a physiological point of view, children who have experienced acts of violence experience several health problems such as panic attacks, asthma, depression, diabetes, coronary heart disease, obesity, and stroke. Meanwhile, in the social aspect, children who are victims of violence generally show that they lack self-confidence, are withdrawn, have aggressive behavior, and tend to have a bad self-concept towards the environment and themselves.

Based on observations and interviews, it was found that hitting is a form of physical violence. The goal is only to deter children from repeating actions that their parents don't want. Based on research results, parents in Kalen village commit violence against children depending on the mistakes they make, if the child makes mistakes that are not serious then the parents do not commit violence against the child. However, if a child makes a big mistake, for example stealing, then the parents are to blame for the violence. So it can be seen that certain families and parents still often use violence in raising children, especially if the child makes a mistake such as dropping something, of course, the parents can punish him. Often the nature of harsh parents does not break the rules because it is a form of training children to do what their parents do not want them to do. Physical violence against children can take the form of torture, beatings, and mistreatment of children or by using or not using certain objects on children. Physical violence against children is usually triggered by children's behavior that is not by their parents, such as being naughty, destroying valuables, and ignoring things that parents forbid.

In cases of psychological violence, this type of violence is not so easy to recognize, the consequences experienced by the victim do not leave traces that are visible to other people. The

impact of this violence creates an uncomfortable situation and reduces the self-esteem and dignity of the victim. A special form of this type is the use of harsh words and threats with words etc. As a result of this behavior, victims usually feel inferior, worthless, and weak in making decisions. Psychological violence has an impact on the individual's psychology, such as experiencing excessive anxiety, women/children's self-confidence falls and they are unable to live. Emotional abuse of children can cause children to remain often silent and even children do not enjoy negative actions such as using harsh words or making loud noises. Like several findings from interviews with research sources, this refers to the attitudes or actions of parents when they are angry. When parents are angry, they immediately use harsh words and speak loudly, without the parents realizing that these harsh words or loud voices are caused by the child's psychological disorders. This mental violence has an impact on the victim's discomfort, self-esteem, and human dignity.

One form of social violence that occurs here is neglect due to lack of adequate supervision, failure to protect children, and failure to fulfill or neglect their basic needs, including physical and educational needs. In Indonesian law, the Legal Protection Policy for Victims of Parental Neglect is a regulation issued by the government that aims to provide legal protection. Legal analysis of victims of parental neglect in Indonesia is still not optimal along with the increasing cases of parental neglect of children which leads to dropping out of school and also abandonment, children earning their living because parents do not care for their children.

In children, the practice and impact of domestic violence will be even more complicated because it involves trauma that children may carry with them until they reach adulthood. Based on this, the following explains the impact of violence against children in Kalen Village, Kedungpring District, Lamongan Regency which occurs as a result of experiencing violence in physical, psychological, and social forms.

The impact of physical violence in the household on children (Suyanto & Hariadi, 2002), this study concludes the results of research conducted by the author. that violence is experienced by children, where the consequences experienced by children can be in the form of physical pain, that is wounds, cuts on the body, and bruises, but also the consequences experienced by children, that is shame to meet other people.

The influence of domestic violence on children is in the form of emotional violence when the child is at home, the consequences of child abuse. At home, children often experience harsh words in their families, which children usually receive verbally, including harsh words, blaming the child, and -words that hurt children. The impact that children experience in this violence,

children who are active outside the home, the harsh words they always receive, become their way of speaking. However, things like that are not good for children's personal development. The family is the first teacher in a child's education, this can be seen for example. the child grows from a baby to walking independently. An example of a family activity is teaching children to speak politely to their parents.

The impact of domestic violence on children. Judging from social violence, parents and children experience different problems both internally and externally when children are neglected in their families, the impact experienced by children of parental neglect, both neglect of children and lack of parental attention. Another impact of social neglect on children is that children are forced to do tasks that their father or mother usually does.

Apart from the impacts already shown, other further impacts arise after the victim experiences domestic violence. First is fear. Fear is a human emotional state characterized by feelings of tension and anxiety related to certain environmental situations, such as violent acts. Fear arises from threats, that one avoids oneself, etc. that a child's attitude towards physical violence after treatment is the effect of excessive fear, so that the child avoids his mother and runs away from everything. activities determined by the child. In addition, physical violence encourages excessive fear in children, resulting in children always avoiding situations, being depressed, and missing school, unlike children who have never experienced violence.

The second is stress. Stress is a mental disorder that a person faces due to pressure. This pressure is caused by people who cannot fulfill their own needs or desires. This pressure can come from within or from outside. Children feel uncomfortable at home and experience the pressure of violence in the form of beatings and harsh words directed at children, which makes children feel worthless and don't know anything. In cases of violence against children, this also makes children lose control in terms of social interactions. As a result, children release their stress by smoking with their friends.

Third, dropping out of school is a situation where a child experiences neglect due to the attitudes and treatment of parents who pay little attention to the child's growth and development, without paying attention to the child's rights. In Indonesia, many children drop out of school for various reasons which of course cannot be separated from the attention of their parents. According to Law Number 23 of 2002, neglected children are children whose physical, mental, emotional, and social needs are not adequately met. The result of parents' indifferent attitude towards their children who do not pay attention to their children's needs causes children to drop out of school every day. Their life is very bad, for example, children smoke and even drink alcohol. The role of parents in children's education is very important in the family, if parents

educate children well then the child's attitude towards the family will also be good, and the children's relationships will be fine.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research conducted by the author, it can be concluded that in Kalen Village, Kedungpring District, Lamongan Regency, there are three forms of violence perpetrated by parents against children in the family: physical violence, mental violence and social violence. Forms of physical violence such as hitting and injuring. Forms of mental violence such as shouting and harsh words. Meanwhile, social violence is neglect committed by parents, whether neglect by not providing money for children, lack of attention from parents.

Domestic violence has an impact on three children in Kalen Village, Kedungpring District, Lamongan Regency, showing behavioral symptoms such as excessive fear, stress and dropping out of school. Fear here refers to excessive fear which results in children always avoiding situations, being depressed and skipping school, unlike children who have not experienced violence. Stress is a mental disorder experienced by a person due to pressure that makes children uncontrolled when socializing, as a result children relieve stress by smoking. Meanwhile, dropping out of school is a situation where children experience neglect due to the attitudes and treatment of parents who pay little attention to the child's growth and development process, without paying attention to the child's rights to obtain a proper education.

## AUTHORS CONTRIBUTION

Corresponding author conceptualized, designed, prepared the initial draft and framework also interpreted the data. The second author interprets the data and also making sure that the research stay on the track and based on the data that have been collected.

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