



PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACTS ON CHILDREN CAUSED BY CASES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN INDONESIA: EMERGENCY OF VIOLENCE IN THE FAMILY AND HOUSEHOLD SECURITY

Oktami Nur Fadila

Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya, East Java, Indonesia
Oktaminurfadila1903@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Every human being is entitled to a sense of security and comfort in the form of love and protection within the family. However, recent cases of violence against women in Indonesia have reached emergency levels, violating human rights and categorized as crimes against the nature and dignity of humanity. The violence experienced by women is not only physical, but also involves psychological and emotional pressure and even sexual violence or marital rape. Ironically, cases of violence against women both physical and psychological have occurred since several years ago, and are accompanied by threats so that victims feel afraid to speak out. The occurrence of domestic violence, especially against women, has a significant impact on the psychological condition and development of children, which ultimately affects their future as adults. The trauma experienced by these children also affects their psychosocial conditions when interacting in their social environment. Children who often witness their parents arguing and violence committed by the father to the mother will be traumatized, making it difficult to make decisions when they grow up. Therefore, this should be a more serious concern for stakeholders, families and the surrounding community.

Keywords: Psychological, Family, Violence, Woman, Children

INTRODUCTION

The family is the smallest social structure that is an important part of society. Families are often referred to as the foundation, a space for socialization, and the basis for the formation of individual character that will contribute to society when they grow up. Therefore, the family should be a warm home for every individual. A family consists of a father, a mother, and a child. Parents play a significant role as agents of socialization and control over their child's behavior, as well as being a space of affection. Therefore, the condition of the relationship between the two parents has a significant impact on the psychological or emotional development of the child when they grow up. However, in

reality, there are many dynamics within families in Indonesia that can be considered less than ideal, such as divorce and the dysfunction of family roles due to each family member not fulfilling their responsibilities as they should.

Violence against women at homes are mainly received from their husbands or intimate partner (Siregar, 2024). In Indonesia, there are many cases that capture public attention, including cases of violence against women in domestic settings that begin with arguments between husbands and wives. Ironically, these arguments and cases of violence against women occur repeatedly, even for years, and some of these cases are followed by threats of murder. Cases of violence are often witnessed directly by children. In fact, parents should be able to set a good example in their speech and behavior. As a result, the child cannot feel the presence of their parents because there is no emotional bond between the two parents.

Violence against women is still a common phenomenon in Indonesia. National data from the National Commission on Violence Against Women states that in 2019 there were 6,555 cases of domestic violence, then in 2020 there were 6,480 cases of domestic violence, while in 2021 the domestic violence data showed a total of 2,547 cases (Program Studi Pendidikan Sosiologi Antropologi, Universitas Sebelas Maret, Indonesia et al., 2022). These victims receive acts of violence both physically and emotionally. Not only that, most women in Indonesia get bad treatment from their own husbands such as physical violence, psychological shocks, sexual violence or Marital Rape to threats. In fact, women should be entitled to a decent livelihood, free from violence, slavery and threats. This leaves victims physically disabled or injured and experiencing stress that leads to depression. The irony is that the violence experienced by these women took place repeatedly even for years, and made the victims not dare to speak up to reveal the case. Even though when the violence experienced by this woman continues to occur, the significant impact that will arise is not only felt by the woman. But this also has an impact on the emotional growth and development of children in that family. The reason is, in the household, women not only play a role as a wife but also play a role as a mother.

Children who witness the violence experienced by their mother at the hands of their own father tend to have different responses compared to children who do not experience such situations. They tend to be emotionally shaken. Not only that, this also affects how children act and behave. When they often witness the arguments between their parents and the violence from the father towards the mother that ultimately leads to divorce, it is not unlikely that they will imitate the same behavior. As if accustomed to speaking harshly, acting arrogantly, and negatively impacting their psychosocial responses when interacting in their social environment. violence perpetrated by the father is considered as normal for children so that children (men) who grow up in an environment where their fathers like to beat their mothers, will tend to imitate environment where his father likes to hit his mother, will tend to imitate the same pattern when he has a partner (wife) (Muhajarah, 2017). the same pattern when he already has a partner (wife). These various cases should not be taken lightly and must be a major concern for all elements of society.

Factors that cause violence against women in the household

Unstable mental condition

The arrogant nature of the perpetrator is caused by an unstable mental state and is shown by one's inability to manage emotions. Based on my observations through cases that occurred in Indonesia, there are several backgrounds and causes why a husband tends to commit various acts of violence against his wife, including mental problems. A man who is emotionally immature can easily commit various acts of domestic violence, he does it consciously and does not think about the consequences of his actions. This mental instability comes from internal and external factors, in some cases the pattern of changes in behavior and emotional state is caused by internal factors, namely past trauma. In addition, external factors can also influence such arrogant actions such as pornography and infidelity. Some cases of violence against women show that before the violence occurred there was a condition where the perpetrator spoke harshly and took it out on the objects around him. A husband who has a good psychological condition will certainly never be involved in committing violence against his wife in any form. This shows that psychological conditions are very influential on interactions within a family.

Disharmonious relationship of husband and wife

Family harmony is a state in which family members live in balance and good cooperation, with mutual support, respect, and positive relationships with each other. (“[No title found],” n.d.). In a household, a husband and wife are the main foundation for the establishment of a happy family. A wife deserves love and happiness from her husband, and vice versa. However, the cases that have occurred in Indonesia do not reflect how ideal couples in general should act in the context of loving in the household. In addition, these cases can occur if there is no respect in a family. Because if couples can respect each other, then these cases of violence will certainly never happen. Violence against women begins with fights and arguments with each other. This stems from disharmonious family conditions where the frequency of interaction with each other decreases, there is no respect between the two, and the inequality of vision and mission in building a family. This disharmony can be shown from the reduced communication patterns between the two, they tend to be selfish and do not care about each other. Whereas communication in a family is very important to ensure the existence of a relationship. However, violence against women in the household can occur because men tend to subordinate women in all aspects. Men easily commit domestic violence because they think that women have no power in the family.

Economic Factors

Many cases of violence against women in the household are caused by economic or financial incapacity. Violence against women in the household occurs when the couple does not have enough income to meet the needs of their family, especially during the pandemic because during the pandemic many people lose their jobs. whereas stable economic conditions are one of the important elements in the household. as a result,

economic problems that arise in the household can eventually trigger serious conflicts. however, women who are in stable economic conditions can also potentially become victims of violence by their husbands, motivated by several factors that I explained earlier.

Although this economic factor is one of the causes, this economic element is also a form of violence against women in the household commonly referred to as Economic Abuse such as making economically dependent, exercising excessive control over income and spending in a way that is not ideal and reasonable. It can even take the form of economic indifference where a wife is not financially provided for, resulting in the woman having to work alone with a double workload and facing other risks in her work environment.

Patriarchal Culture

The domination of men in the system and structure that have been existing for a long this value from several generations to the present. Violence against women cannot be separated from situations where men subordinate women and position themselves as superior and place women as inferior creatures and do not have any power in the household. Patriarchal men tend to leave all the housework and childcare to their wives without contributing anything. The history of patriarchy first emerged in agricultural societies. Usually, people assume that humans started farming when they found fertile areas suitable for farming.(R. Y. Putri & Soleh, 2023) patriarchy describes the institutionalized system of male dominance. Where he feels that all power, income, work, and strength are in his hands. Some cases of violence against women in Indonesia are revealed in the media but there are many other cases that are deliberately hidden by the family and the perpetrator. even the victim does not want to process the case in a legal context because she feels very dependent on her husband. She feels that if she were to divorce then she would not be able to fulfill her needs. The history of patriarchy first emerged in agricultural societies. Usually, people assume that humans started farming when they found fertile areas suitable for farming. Violence against women that often occurs in the household is actually a big problem and is categorized as an unconscious conflict, because based on the sociological point of view, the community is accustomed to seeing these cases as a normalcy where the husband must act decisively even if it has to use violence.

METHOD

This research is qualitative research using the literature study method. Literature study in this study is a series of activities related to the method of collecting library data, reading and recording, and managing research data objectively.(F. A. Putri et al., 2020). analytical descriptive method focuses on research problems, so that the research results are then processed and analyzed to draw conclusions.(Santoso, 2019)

The object of this research is children whose mothers are victims of violence by their fathers in the household (KDRT). The data was obtained from news articles spread in online media, using five main keywords including Psychological, Family, Violence, and Children. Data analysis was conducted to obtain information related to the psychological impact of children affected by domestic violence in their families. In addition, researchers need previous research related to the issue of violence against women as a reference in writing this paper.

In this analysis, researchers try to see the psychological impact of children affected by violence against women in the household, namely using a paradigm in sociology, namely the social fact paradigm. Where this paradigm is used as an observation lens or analysis tool for the psychological condition of the child. Researchers use this paradigm because it focuses on how actions or behaviors in social structures can affect the overall condition of individuals. The most important thing related to the compatibility of the social fact paradigm with the psychological impact of children lies in the point of view of this paradigm which views that social structures have the power to shape individual behavior, such as family, religion, and the economic system.

RESULT & DISCUSSION

Impacts of violence against women in the household.

Physical abuse

Most of the cases that occur in Indonesia take the form of physical violence that results in serious injuries to the victims. These unfortunate women receive harsh treatment such as punches, kicks and various other forms of physical violence. This physical violence is committed by men with their bare hands or using blunt objects. In some cases, the victims suffered injuries such as deafness or reduced ability to hear and even broken bones. In some cases, women as victims suffered physical injuries, namely problems with hearing loss that prevented them from carrying out their daily activities. The injuries from this violence make the victims even more helpless especially with the burden of household chores that she does alone without any contribution from her husband. This is a form of human rights violation against women that occurs in the household where the spouse should be a safe place for women and vice versa.

Verbal (mental) abuse

Verbal violence is an act of violence committed verbally, characterized by the perpetrators of violence often saying harsh words to their family members. This verbal violence is carried out by the perpetrator by insulting, threatening, frightening, and ridiculing the victim. As victims, women are often humiliated because of their changing physical condition, especially after childbirth and breastfeeding. This shows that men place women not as partners who deserve to be loved but only as companions who must serve them only.

The frequency of verbal violence tends to be more frequent than sexual violence and physical violence. In fact, physical and sexual violence usually begins with an argument between the two involving harsh words, which leads to mistreatment of the victim. As a result, the victim experiences anxiety disorders, depression, prolonged trauma and in some cases the woman even plans to commit suicide.

Sexual Abuse (Marital Rape)

Sexual violence is any form of violence related to sexual harassment directed against a man or woman. In households, women and men who are already in a married relationship are legalized to have sexual contact each other. However, the term sexual violence also exists within the household. Marital rape is a form of forced sexual intercourse against a spouse that contains elements of torture. (SKRIPSI Aisussariroh Watermark.Pdf, n.d.).

The term marital rape or rape case is a condition where a man strongly imposes his will to have sexual intercourse on his wife without considering the physical and mental condition of his wife. In addition, marital rape cases occur when sexual relations between husband and wife occur but are accompanied by physical or verbal violence by men so that they do not get the woman's consent. This can be caused by the act of subordination towards women, where men only place women's positions only to satisfy their sexual desires.

Marital rape is sexual violence (2210- Article Text-6221-1-10-20231208) When this domestic sexual violence occurs, it can cause stress and psychological disorders for women, inability to have an orgasm. Meanwhile, during pregnancy, miscarriages/abortions, formulaic labor and babies dying in the womb can occur. Other impacts that also affect the health of the wife's reproductive organs in the household include changes in thinking patterns, emotions and the family economy.(Emi Sutrisminah 2023.Pdf, n.d.)

Psychological impact on the child

In the family, the position of both parents is very important in the growth and development and emotional formation of children. Commonly, Children are often involved by parents in daily activities. When cases of violence against women occur in the household, this has the potential to be witnessed by children. So that it creates short-term and long-term negative impacts when they grow up. Disharmonious family situations and arrogant actions of the father towards the mother result in serious psychological disturbances for children in the family because they feel they are not getting the attention and affection they should get, especially during adolescence and adolescence.

Short term impact

In a family, children need physical and emotional assistance from their parents. However, cases against women in the household have had a negative impact on child

development. The child does not feel the presence of a father and feels no emotional bond between the two. They also feel that they have lost a good parent figure in their lives, due to the negative actions taken by their father. According to the world health organization they also affect their children's health and well-being post-traumatic stress and other anxiety disorders, sleep difficulties, eating disorders, and suicide attempts.

Based on the analysis that has been carried out, children who witnessed the father's violence against his mother show responses that tend to be arrogant, difficult to control emotions, and difficult in making decisions. I observed this from one of the children who were victims of a broken home where this impact was seen when they had social interactions in their social environment. They also tend to have a sense of empathy that is not the same as children in general. This is because of the attitude of love for the child's environment is the result of the educational process he experienced, both from school and parents (Tabroni & Khair, 2022). The psychological impact of this case also affects their academic development at school. These children tend to have difficulty understanding lessons at school and most of them have difficulty in reading, writing and arithmetic. The irony is that these children tend to hate their own fathers because of the violence committed against their mothers.

Long term impact

Based on my interview with one of the children whose mother was a victim of violence by her father, she admitted to being afraid and anxious about what happened when she was a child.

First of all, there must have been fear and anxiety until I felt depressed. At that time I didn't know what to do because at that time I was a 5th grader who saw the incident I immediately cried and was afraid of the father figure. This trauma also made me a child who tended to be quiet and closed off when growing up. and my next generation must have much better family conditions, he said.

I was scared to be in that situation, I couldn't bear that my mother was needed like that. At that time I saw my father arguing with my mother and committing violent acts by slapping her, after which my mother cried and acted against the treatment. As a young child, I could only cry when that happened.

The impact of violence committed by husbands against wives often occurs in the home environment, which is likely to be witnessed by the child. When the children in the family are young, they do not have the ability to stop the conflict. In one case, when the child was in this situation and condition, he could only cry and run away from house and return home when her mental condition was stable. So that he will store mental pressure in the form of anxiety disorders and mental deterioration. When a child grows up he can

lose trust in the people around him, this is because when he was a child he did not see a protective figure in his family through the role of parents. So this is what prompted the writing of this article.

The fatherless phenomenon due to violence against women and its impact on children

Conflict between parents that occurs in the family, especially violence committed by the father against the mother, triggers divorce, because the toxic relationship can no longer be maintained. on the one side this can be a solution to stop acts of violence against women as victims, but on the other hand, there are victims who are rarely noticed in this case, namely children. indirectly the child becomes a victim and feels that he does not have a normal family like an ideal family in general, he can no longer see the togetherness of his father and mother so that the child feels emotional pressure. While on the other hand there are important aspects in fostering children's character, namely ethical understanding (moral knowing), manifestation of characteristics (moral action) and instinct for morality (moral feeling) (Witro et al., 2020).

The divorce case left the children without a home to return to, they felt confused about the conditions that occurred where their father and mother lived separately. As a result of the violence committed by the father against the mother, the children felt psychologically shaken because of the shock of seeing the mother as a victim and the father as a perpetrator who had to undergo criminal law. not only traumatized by divorce, the child feels mental pressure because he does not feel an ideal father figure in his life, this phenomenon is commonly referred to as fatherless.

The fatherless or father hunger phenomenon is not uncommon in Indonesia, even with so many cases of domestic violence against women, many couples divorce, leaving children fatherless and encourages children to act arrogantly. this phenomenon occurs when the father does not carry out his important role in the family, is not involved, and has no contribution to the care of children both physically and emotionally. Children who experience fatherlessness as a result of violence against women become fearful of fathers and feel an emptiness in their hearts. They experience anxiety disorders and lack of confidence, and in some cases this leads to a fear of men so that they decide not to get married because of trauma.

The absence of important father roles will have a significant impact on a child's low self-esteem as an adult, leading to feelings of anger and shame. The loss of a father's role also causes a child to feel loneliness, jealousy, and grief accompanied by low self-control of emotions because they are different from other children and cannot experience being together with a father in their lives. Such is the complexity of domestic violence against women that it can affect the psychological condition of the child in the short and long term when they grow up.

The household, family is a social institution that is basic and autonomous, so it becomes an area within the domestic sphere that tends to be closed from the reach of

public supervision. Therefore, violence against women often occurs at home and is perpetrated by their own husbands. Most women who are victims in cases of domestic violence show a passive and apathetic reaction to acts of violence committed by their husbands. This makes some acts of violence against women categorized in hidden conditions so that they are not known to the family and cause minimal community response. As a result of frequent mental distress, wives are often afraid to report to the police and prefer to keep it to themselves. Because the occurrence of domestic violence is inseparable from the problem of gender stereotypes and patriarchal culture that increasingly makes women in a helpless condition.

In this analysis, the researcher conducted interviews as a data collection technique. In conducting the interview, the researcher initially asked for the person's consent because this was related to a sensitive issue. The victim admitted that she was traumatized and had difficulty accepting the situation when she was in a position where she witnessed her father's violence against her mother, the victim admitted that she was anxious and sad when she was often faced with such conditions. the victim also admitted that this had an impact on her psychological condition which made her a person who tended to be quiet or introverted.

This research uses the social facts paradigm in conducting the analysis, which emphasizes that social structures and community norms have the power to shape individual behavior that originates from the family. In the context of domestic violence against women, this paradigm helps researchers understand the fact that children learn through imitation of their parents' behavior. When they see their parents fighting or violence committed by the father against the mother to solve the problem, they will easily imitate this behavior and will grow up to be children who lack empathy. besides this paradigm considers that children will tend to normalize quarrels and violence. they will grow up with the belief that violence is the right way to solve this problem related to inappropriate decision making.

Komnas Perempuan noted that since 2001 violence against women in the household has continued to increase every year, reaching 484,993 cases. This is an irony, where the household should be a place where happiness grows through affection and love from a partner.

Table. 1. Cases of violence against women in domestic to the annual record of Kementerian Pemberdayaan Perempuan dan Perlindungan Anak (Kemen-PPPA)

Type of Domestic Violence Against Women	Number of Cases
Phsyical Abuse	2.081
Psychological Abuse	3.498
Sexual Abuse	2.078

Economic Abuse	762
----------------	-----

Sources: Catatan tahunan (Catahu) komnas perempuan, 2023

Based on the data from the table above, it can be seen that cases of violence against women occur in various forms with very high numbers, this data is part of the cases revealed while the rest of the victims are silent and do not dare to report the case.

CONCLUSION

The family is the smallest social institution in society that contributes greatly to the formation of individual character. individuals get their first education from a family, in this case parents consisting of father and mother. However, the many cases of violence against women in the family leading to divorce can have a negative impact on the psychological development of a child. Because a woman not only acts as a wife in the family, but she also has the role and responsibility as a mother. So when the phenomenon of violence that places a mother as a victim, the mental and psychological condition of the child can be shaken both short-term and long-term impacts.

Based on the analysis that has been done, children who have been involved in witnessing violence experienced by their mothers tend to grow up to be children who have emotional sensitivity that is not the same as children in general, this can be seen when the child is interacting with the surrounding environment. These children show different reactions in communicating, behaving and influencing decision-making. In addition, I observed that the case affected their academic development at school. In another case, when the child was faced with a situation where he could not do anything to help his mother, he felt anxious and confused about the situation at that time. As an adult, he admitted to fearing the father figure in her life and grew up to be quiet and lacking in communication intensity.

Violence against women in the household triggers divorce because violence against women is a criminal act. therefore as a child, they lose a home where they return to where the father and mother do not live together anymore. This case triggers the fatherless phenomenon, where children do not feel the presence of a father in their lives both physically and mentally. The absence of important father roles will have a significant impact on a child's low self-esteem as an adult, leading to feelings of anger and shame. The loss of a father's role also causes a child to feel loneliness, jealousy, and grief accompanied by low self-control of emotions because they are different from other children and cannot experience being together with a father in their lives.

Domestic violence against women is a serious matter and not a phenomenon that we can ignore. This is because it can not only harm women in the form of

physical injury and mental and psychological shock. However, this can negatively affect the psychological development of children when they grow up. Women as wives must get love and affection from a husband, because harmonious parents are the key to children's happiness in the family. This should be a concern for families, communities and the government who must take firm action against the perpetrators and provide guarantees of protection for women as victims.

REFERENCES

Emi Sutrisminah 2023.pdf. (n.d.).

Muhajarah, K. (2017). KEKERASAN TERHADAP PEREMPUAN DALAM RUMAH TANGGA: Perspektif Sosio-Budaya, Hukum, dan Agama. *Sawwa: Jurnal Studi Gender*, 11(2), 127. <https://doi.org/10.21580/sa.v11i2.1452>

[No title found]. (n.d.). *RIO LAW JURNAL*, 1(2).

Program Studi Pendidikan Sosiologi Antropologi, Universitas Sebelas Maret, Indonesia, Yustika, N., Yuhastina, Y., Program Studi Pendidikan Sosiologi Antropologi, Universitas Sebelas Maret, Indonesia, Rahman, A., & Program Studi Pendidikan Sosiologi Antropologi, Universitas Sebelas Maret, Indonesia. (2022). ANALISIS GENDER TERHADAP KDRT: STUDI KASUS PEREMPUAN PENYINTAS KDRT YAYASAN SPEK-HAM SURAKARTA. *SOSIOLOGI: Jurnal Ilmiah Kajian Ilmu Sosial dan Budaya*, 24(2), 237–269. <https://doi.org/10.23960/sosiologi.v24i2.356>

Putri, F. A., Bramasta, D., & Hawanti, S. (2020). STUDI LITERATUR TENTANG PENINGKATAN KEMAMPUAN BERPIKIR KRITIS SISWA DALAM PEMBELAJARAN MENGGUNAKAN MODEL PEMBELAJARAN THE POWER OF TWO DI SD. 6(2).

Putri, R. Y., & Soleh, M. F. (2023). ANALYSIS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE USING AN ECOFEMINIST PERSPECTIVE. 01.

Santoso, A. B. (2019). Kekerasan Dalam Rumah Tangga (KDRT) Terhadap Perempuan: Perspektif Pekerjaan Sosial. *KOMUNITAS*, 10(1), 39–57. <https://doi.org/10.20414/komunitas.v10i1.1072>

Siregar, W. Z. B. (2024). Causes and impacts of domestic violence against women: Cases in Indonesia. *Jurnal Sosiologi Dialektika*, 19(1), 77–88. <https://doi.org/10.20473/jsd.v19i1.2024.77-88>

SKRIPSI Aisussariroh watermark.pdf. (n.d.).

Tabroni, I., & Khair, M. (2022). The Role Of The Family In Educating The Character Of Elementary School Age Children In Ciseureuh Village, Purwakarta Regency.

International Journal of Scientific and Management Research, 05(02), 95–108.
<https://doi.org/10.37502/IJSMR.2022.5208>

Witro, D., Putri, B. A., Putri, L. A., & Oviensy, V. (2020). ROLE OF THE FAMILY IN FORMATION OF CHILDREN CHARACTERS BASED MORAL KNOWING, MORAL FEELING, AND MORAL ACTION. *Tunas Cendekia Jurnal Program Studi Pendidikan Islam Anak Usia Dini*, 3(1), 97–103.
<https://doi.org/10.24256/cendekia.v3i1.1202>