



Contents lists available at openscie.com

Indonesian Journal of Community Services Cel

Journal homepage: <https://ijcomcel.org>



Socialization at Public Junior High School 1 Pamarayan regarding the Dangers of Narcotics Abuse among the Younger Generation

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ARTICLE INFO

Article History:

Received 03 September 2023

Revised 31 October 2023

Accepted 01 November 2023

Published 02 November 2023

Keywords:

*Narcotics Abuse,
Narcotics Dangers,
Socialization,
Younger Generation.*

ABSTRACT

The cases of narcotics and illegal drugs abuse among the younger generation have been increasing and could impede the sustainability of Indonesia's young population in the future. Therefore, efforts to protect the younger generation from these issues are highly necessary. The socialization activity at Public Junior High School 1 Pamarayan, Serang Regency regarding the dangers and impacts of narcotics abuse aimed to help participants understand the impact of narcotics abuse, namely physical, psychological, and socio-economic impacts. This activity applied lecture and participatory discussion method using PowerPoint slides, organized by the university students from community services Group 15 Kampungbaru Village, Pamarayan. The speaker (resource person) in this socialization was the staff from National Narcotics Agency, Serang Regency. This activity was conducted on September 4, 2023, attended by a total of 51 participants. The results reveal that the socialization has positively contributed in increasing students' knowledge and understanding of the dangers and impacts of narcotics abuse, as proven by the number of students who actively participated and became more aware about the dangers of narcotics. This socialization is expected to be a solid foundation to fortify the younger generation as Indonesia's next generation, especially students at Public Junior High School 1 Pamarayan, from the dangers of narcotics abuse.

1. Introduction

The development and penetration of information technology in the globalization era has led to complex changes in socio-economic structure in the community. Modernization has caused serious socio-economic impacts on society, such as drugs and alcohol abuse cases among adolescents (Nurbiyati & Widyatama, 2014). Socio-economic changes due to modernization can also trigger various unhealthy behaviors and experiences among the community, such as domestic instability, juvenile delinquency, child abuse, smoking parents, drunk parents, environmental pollution, difficulty in obtaining medical access, also alcohol, drugs, and narcotics abuse among adolescents (Yamani, 2009 in Nurbiyati & Widyatama, 2014).

Various efforts have been made to prevent narcotics abuse, especially among adolescents. Several efforts that have been conducted are by increasing religious activities, extension, and socialization of the dangers of narcotics abuse among students, communicating with parents of students, and trying to respond seriously and appropriately to the narcotics abuse cases (Wahyudi, 2020). Recently, illegal drugs and narcotics have not only implicated the adults, but also adolescents, even many elementary and junior high school children have consumed narcotics. Therefore, most effective precaution effort to prevent narcotics abuse is by educating junior high school children, namely through family education. The family is the closest environment to the children in providing basic awareness of the dangers and impacts of narcotics abuse (Bahri *et al.*, 2017).

Based on Law No. 35/2009 on Narcotics, counselling and guidance regarding the impact of narcotics abuse in the community is highly necessary to protect Indonesia's younger generation. In addition, socializations regarding the impact of narcotics abuse have been conducted through legal approach, namely based on Law No. 35/2009 so that the community understands and knows the impact of narcotic abuse cases in the community and the handling process that should be obeyed (Zainuri & Novita, 2021).

Narcotics and drugs abuse case is a type of law violation that causes serious impacts on the medical and psychological conditions of its users (Salatun & Mina, 2019). Socialization of the dangers of drugs and narcotics abuse has often been conducted, both by the government, the National Narcotics Agency (BNN), and elements of society who care about Indonesia's next generation (Aditya & Mina, 2019; Indrajaya *et al.*, 2021; Iqbal *et al.*, 2021; Jannah, 2014; Pina & Soedirham, 2017; Salatun & Mina, 2019; Senjaya, 2021). Narcotics abuse among the younger generation causes various severe impacts, namely physical impacts on children's health, social impacts, psychological impacts, as well as impacts on children's education and legal protection for the younger generation as drug abusers (Marpaung, 2019). The eradication of narcotics abuse among children and adolescents requires the active participation from all parties, especially parents, teachers, and the community in guiding the younger generation so that they do not easily fall into the dangers of narcotics abuse (Esther *et al.*, 2021).

Considering the serious impact caused by drugs and narcotics abuse among children and adolescents, a socialization activity of the dangers and impacts of narcotics abuse was conducted at Public Junior High School 1 Pamarayan, Serang Regency. This activity was conducted in the form of an introduction to the younger generation from Banten Province who are concerned about the dangers of narcotics abuse among the minors. In general, this socialization is expected to be able to increase the insights and knowledges of younger generation about the dangers and impacts of narcotics abuse, especially on junior high school students age period, aso to increase their awareness of the impacts of narcotics abuse, namely physical, psychological, and socio-economic impacts. Therefore, the socialization of the dangers of narcotics abuse is expected to fortify the younger generation as Indonesia's next generation, especially students of Public Junior High School 1 Pamarayan Serang Regency, from the dangers of narcotics abuse.

2. Methods

The socialization activity regarding the dangers and impacts of narcotics abuse was conducted on Monday, September 4, 2023 at the hall of Public Junior High School 1 Pamarayan, Serang Regency. This activity was conducted by means of extension and socialization in the form of lectures, interactive presentation using PowerPoint slides, and participatory discussions. The chosen participants in this activity were students of Public Junior High School 1 Pamarayan representing the 7th, 8th, and 9th grade, which amounted to 51 students. The speaker (resource person) in this socialization activity was the staff from BNN Subang Regency. The university students from Group 15 community services, Kampungbaru Village, Pamarayan helped in organizing this activity. In general, this socialization was expected to be able to increase their insights and knowledges about the dangers and impacts of narcotics abuse on younger generation, especially junior high school students age period.

3. Results and Dicussion

The socialization of the dangers of narcotics abuse at Public Junior High School 1 Pamarayan, Serang Regency began with preparation and coordination with the head of Public Junior High School 1 Pamarayan and the National Narcotics Agency (BNN), Serang Regency. Coordination was conducted with aim to ensure that this activity could run successfully and earn support from all parties involved. Coordination with the head of Public Junior High School 1 Pamarayan was conducted regarding the request for his willingness to open the event, as well as to reach agreement regarding the time and place to implement the socialization activity, also requests to gather the chosen participants. Next, coordination was conducted with BNN Serang Regency regarding the request for the willingness of BNN expert staff to give remarks and to speak as a resource person in this socialization.



Figure 1. Coordination with the head of Public Junior High School 1 Pamarayan.

The implementation of socialization activities began with an opening remarks by the head of Public Junior High School 1 Pamarayan, followed by remarks from the resource person, namely Mr. Indra Martha Rusmana M.Pd., C.AM., C.AT., C.CS., C.Ht., C.P.Hm., C.I. from BNN Serang Regency. In his speech, he encouraged all elements of society to participate in preventive efforts against the dangers of narcotics abuse among children and adolescents, especially considering that narcotics abusers have been dominated by students.

After the opening and remarks, the core activity was then conducted, namely the presentation of socialization materials to the participants. The resource person presented three kinds of materials: a) the types of drugs and narcotics, b) the impacts of narcotics abuse, namely physical, psychological, educational, social, and economic impacts, and c) several ways to prevent and overcome narcotics abuse among children and adolescents. After the presentation, participants were given the opportunity to ask questions and discuss the materials in the question and answer session. In this discussion session, the participants were very enthusiastic in asking the speakers about the dangers and impacts of drugs and narcotics.



Figure 2. The resource person explained the types and dangers of narcotics.

In presenting socialization materials, the resource persons applied the association method, namely conveying material based on facts and real events they faced in the field, also based on the experience of BNN members in handling narcotics abuse cases. The association method in conveying socialization materials was considered effective in increasing the insights and knowledge of participants about the dangers of narcotics abuse (Putra, 2018). Moreover, sharing knowledge based on the resource person's first-hand experience in handling the cases of children and adolescents who fell into narcotics abuse was considered very attractive for participants in order to increase their enthusiasm and understanding, also to increase their awareness regarding how to prevent and reject narcotics temptation in their school and community.



Figure 3. Students answered the questions from the resource person.

Several important things need to be applied in order to prevent and overcome narcotics abuse among children and adolescents, especially among junior high school students, namely instilling religious and moral values in their behavior, providing a healthy and positive learning environment, and supporting their curiosities in exploring their talents and skills. Children in junior high school age period are usually very curious and eager to try new things, thus they still need a proper guidance to find their identity and develop their potential

For this reason, in addition to socializing the dangers of drug abuse, it is also necessary to elevate the knowledge and insight of students related to this matter by conducting three efforts, namely pre-emptif, preventive and repressive efforts. First, pre-emptive efforts are activities in the form of internalizing and instilling moral values in students' behaviors. Second, preventive efforts are guidance activities for students conducted persuasively and communicatively by parents, teachers, and the local community (Indrajaya *et al.*, 2021). Third, repressive efforts are further handling when narcotics abuse cases occur. If necessary, it usually involves the law enforcement in order to create a deterrent effect for narcotics abusers. Preventive innovations for children and adolescents, namely the millennial generation, have been conducted by BNN through the provision of online complaint services so that people can easily report all forms of drugs and narcotics abuse in their neighbourhood (Putra, 2018). In

addition, participatory efforts have also been applied by various parties, especially BNN, to prevent narcotics abuse in the community (Chotijah & Pratiwi, 2019).

Socialization regarding the dangers of narcotics abuse can provide positive suggestions and increase awareness for the community (Ningsih *et al.*, 2019; Kasim *et al.*, 2020), especially for children and adolescents, to be able to stay focus on doing positive activities in their daily lives. Socialization can increase children and adolescents' awareness and increase parents' vigilance in guiding and paying attention to their children (Fitri & Migunani, 2014). A good and healthy environment in the family and community can provide positive support for children and adolescents. Conversely, a bad environment and lack of knowledge about the impact of narcotics abuse can implicate people, especially children and adolescents, into the dangers of drugs and narcotics (Sanjaya *et al.*, 2021).



Figure 4. Socialization at Public Junior High School 1 Pamarayan regarding the dangers of narcotics abuse.

4. Conclusions

Socialization activity at Public Junior High School 1 Pamarayan, Serang Regency regarding the dangers and impacts of narcotics abuse has successfully achieved the following results: a) increase the students' understanding regarding the types of narcotics; b) increase their understanding regarding the impact of narcotics abuse, namely physical, psychological, educational, social, and economic impacts; c) increase their understanding regarding how to prevent and overcome narcotics abuse among the younger generation; and d) create the positive suggestions and supports for students to improve their daily activities. This was reflected in the student' active participation in the discussion sessions and their ability to answer the speakers' questions. This socialization activity is expected to be a solid foundation to fortify the young generation as Indonesia's next generation, especially students at Public Junior High School 1 Pamarayan, from the dangers of narcotics abuse.

5. Acknowledgment

The author would like to thank the head of Public Junior High School 1 Pamarayan and the head of Kampungbaru Village for the permission to conduct socialization at Public Junior High School 1 Pamarayan, also to Mr. Indra Martha Rusmana M.Pd., C.AM., C.AT., C.CS., C.Ht., C.P.Hm., C.I. as the resource person from BNN Serang Regency, as well as to the students of Public Junior High School 1 Pamarayan and to the university students from Group 15 community services, Kampungbaru Village, Pamarayan.

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