

The role of Islamic religious counselors in preventive education against drug abuse among school-age youth in Kendari

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to determine the contribution of Islamic Religious Counselors through the Koran Penyuluh program in providing education on drug abuse prevention among school-age youth. This study uses a phenomenological approach from a qualitative methodology. Data in this study were collected through observation, interviews, and document studies in accordance with the research focus. Data analysis in this study was carried out in four steps, namely decontextualization, recontextualization, categorization, and compilation to identify the underlying meaning of the content. The results of this study indicate that Islamic Religious Counselors contribute positively to efforts to prevent drug abuse among school-age youth through the Koran Penyuluh; and the presence of the Koran Penyuluh provides an educational-preventive impact in the form of activities to introduce the dangers of drugs, training preachers and preachers, and several other productive activities that are constructively oriented. This is an open-access article under the CC-BY-SA license.

Introduction

Islamic Religious Counselors are civil servants tasked with conveying development messages through religious language to the public. The process of delivering counseling requires effective tools to achieve its objectives. In addition to providing counseling guidance to the general public, Islamic Religious Counselors are also expected to participate in educating the younger generation on preventing drug abuse among school-age youth.

The problem of narcotics in the current era of modernization has become a serious topic of discussion and debate, leading to systematic mitigation and prevention. As is well known, mentoring stakeholders or related elements is essential for educational and preventive efforts to address drug abuse among school-age youth. Indonesia is currently in a drug emergency, according to the National Narcotics Agency (BNN), which recorded 4.8 million drug abusers in 2021. There are over 12,000 deaths annually. If not addressed promptly, this number will continue to rise.

The prevalence of drug abuse extends beyond small cities across the Republic of Indonesia, affecting everyone from the lower-middle to the upper socioeconomic classes. The Kendari City National Narcotics Agency (BNN) recorded the highest rate of drug abuse among school-aged adolescents, reaching 70%. It appears that the younger generation is a strategic target for the illicit drug trade.

Research Methods

1. Type of Research

This research uses qualitative research. S. Nasution stated that qualitative research methods are also called naturalistic or scientific research. This is because the field situation is scientific, as it is, and is called qualitative because the field conditions are natural, without manipulation, controlled by experiments, or tests.

2. Data Collection Techniques

To obtain accurate data and information to support this research, the author collected data using the following methods:

a. In-depth Interviews

The interview method is a way of collecting data and information by asking direct questions to informants who have the capacity to provide research data. According to Nurul Zuriah, an interview, also often called an oral questionnaire, is a dialogue conducted by an interviewer to obtain information from the interviewee.

b. Observation

Data collection using the observation method is used when the research concerns human behavior, work processes, natural phenomena, and when the number of respondents observed is small. Therefore, using this method requires researchers to go directly into the field to observe matters related to the space, actors, and activities.

a. Documentation study

Data collection using the documentation study method is used to gather data and information from non-human sources regarding matters or variables, such as notes, archives, books, transcripts, newspapers, and so on.

1. Data Analysis Techniques

Once the data is collected, data analysis is necessary. This step aims to systematically review and organize the notes from interviews, observations, and documentation studies that have been conducted. Data analysis in qualitative research is the process of systematically compiling data obtained from interviews, observations, and documentation by organizing the data into categories, breaking it down into units, synthesizing it, arranging it into patterns, selecting what is important and what will be studied, and drawing conclusions so that the results are easily understood by the researcher and others.

The data analysis technique used in this research utilizes the theory of Miles and Huberman. Miles and Huberman stated that qualitative data analysis activities are carried out interactively and continuously at every stage of the research until completion. According to Miles and Huberman, qualitative data is obtained through data reduction, display, and conclusion drawing/verification. These three processes are interrelated and support each other in the process of finding meaning in research data.

a. Data Reduction

Data reduction is the process of selecting, classifying, directing, and extracting data and information deemed important and discarding data and information deemed unnecessary, resulting in simplified data that facilitates the researcher's drawing conclusions. Data analysis is not performed at the end of the research, but rather continuously throughout the data collection process.

b. Data Presentation

The data presentation in this study will take the form of a narrative description written based on the processed raw data resulting from data reduction. The raw data presented is then analyzed according to the problem at hand. This data is then used as a guide to answer all questions posed in the problem formulation by analyzing it in descriptive narrative form.

c. Data Verification and Conclusion

Data conclusion, or verification, is the final process of data analysis, after the data has been reduced and presented in narrative form. This validation is carried out by the researcher comparing the data with the notes made during the initial conclusions drawn during the research.

2. Checking Data Validity

This study does not rule out the possibility of errors, and to avoid incorrect conclusions, the author used triangulation theory, which involves checking data from various sources using various methods at various times. One way to use triangulation, for example, is to verify data whose validity is still questionable with other data sources to gain confidence in its validity.

Results and Discussion

The data analysis facilitated the construction of meaning patterns presented in two main themes. These two themes reflect the content of interviews with school-age adolescents, teachers, and parents. The first theme relates to the contribution of Islamic Religious Counselors through the Koran Penyuluh program in providing education on drug abuse prevention among school-age adolescents. The second theme relates to the impact of spiritual values on drug abuse prevention among school-age adolescents.

Anti-Drug Youth Community with Counselors (Koran Penyuluh)

Koran Penyuluh is an internal school community formed to guide and provide educational support to school-age adolescents, encouraging them to engage in creative, innovative, productive, and constructive activities. It is hoped that this community, comprised of school students, will change their mindset and thought patterns to avoid drugs and other negative behaviors that can damage morals.

This program, pioneered by an Islamic religious instructor at the Abeli Islamic Religious Affairs Office (KUA), includes positive activities, including the development of preachers (da'i) and preachers (preachers), mosque and prayer room clean-ups (Gesid), and visits to relevant institutions directly affiliated with drug abuse prevention, mitigation, and prosecution.

The Koran Penyuluh program has received a positive response from the school, particularly from parents, who expressed gratitude for introducing their children to the youth drug-free program. Through the Koran Penyuluh program, students receive education and information about the dangers of drugs, including opportunities to participate in creative and innovative activities. An interview with a teacher at SMAN 08 Kendari expressed his deep appreciation for the Koran Penyuluh Community at the

school. He sees the program as a platform for students to learn about the impacts and dangers of drug abuse. He said:

"As a teacher, I truly appreciate the Koran Penyuluh program. It helps us carry out our coaching duties, particularly regarding drug abuse prevention education in the school environment."

A parent echoed this sentiment. He expressed his appreciation for the Koran Penyuluh movement in the school environment, stating that many students have ultimately become enlightened and abstain from drug use.

"I am very pleased with the Koran Penyuluh movement. Furthermore, students are not only encouraged to stay away from drugs, but also involved in educational and constructive activities, such as da'i and da'iyah training, and other positive activities."

The Koran Penyuluh program aims to provide counseling assistance to students regarding educational measures to prevent drug abuse. The impact of this assistance is that students stay away from these illicit substances, thereby enabling them to achieve their bright goals in the future. This aligns with expert opinion regarding the purpose of counseling services, namely to help individuals or groups overcome their difficulties independently and become more capable of addressing future challenges.

Contribution of Islamic Religious Counselors to Drug Abuse Prevention Education Efforts Through the Counselor Newspaper

Based on evaluation and observation results from several research locations, several factors and indicators were identified as key dimensions of the potential for drug abuse among school-aged adolescents, particularly in the Abeli Nambo District, Kendari City.

Before implementing educational and preventive measures, researchers coordinated with other relevant parties, such as the Kendari City National Narcotics Agency (BNN) and the Abeli District Police. This was done to obtain authentic data on the types of drugs themselves, including the legal implications of potential drug abuse. This includes ensuring that Islamic Religious Counselors have reference materials on how to provide education and rehabilitation procedures for those suspected of drug abuse.

The Islamic Religious Counselors coordinated with relevant parties, including several schools, including a high school located in Nambo District. They were directly involved in the coaching, facilitated by teachers, including the principal of SMAN 08 Kendari. As a manifestation of this collaboration, the Islamic Religious Counselors and the school agreed to conduct a socialization session on the control phase.

The factors underlying drug abuse among school-aged adolescents, based on the author's study and analysis, revealed the following:

1. Personality Factors

Personality factors (curiosity) significantly influence a person's behavior. If a person's personality is unfavorable, unstable, and easily influenced by others, they are more likely to fall into the trap of drugs.

2. Family Factors

Factors of disharmonious family relationships (broken homes) make it easier for a person to feel frustrated and hopeless. As a result, the person ultimately seeks compensation outside the home by becoming a consumer of psychotropic drugs.

3. Economic Factors

Economic factors are one of the factors contributing to drug abuse. Low social welfare is closely related to low economic conditions, thus opening opportunities for people to engage in illegal activities, including becoming drug couriers or dealers to meet their daily needs.

4. Lack of Instilling an Understanding of Religious Education

Instilling an understanding of religious education, supported by parental attention, can create

high-quality human resources, both physically and spiritually, who are important assets for the future progress of the nation and state. Strong religious education and adequate parental attention can foster strong, steadfast, good, and righteous personal character, enabling them to carry out their duties and responsibilities professionally in all areas and benefit all parties. Religious education is a fundamental foundation for living life according to religious guidance, ensuring a healthy path, resistance to environmental influences, high morals, quality, good social behavior, steadfastness, honesty, and sensitivity to all aspects of their lives.

Factors supporting this mentoring program include the enthusiastic response of relevant parties, including schools and other institutions, including their participation in providing space for Islamic Religious Instructors to play an active role in providing counseling and outreach at various locations, particularly junior and senior high schools in the Abeli Nambo area of Kendari City. Another important factor is the enthusiasm of students to participate in or attend mentoring programs conducted by Islamic Religious Instructors.

Meanwhile, the inhibiting factors for Islamic Religious Instructors in implementing education and mentoring programs are as follows:

1. Legality, in this case, regulations that allow Islamic Religious Instructors to directly or indirectly participate in preventive efforts to combat drug abuse among school-aged youth.
2. Supporting facilities, such as infocus and other equipment.
3. Understanding and deepening of religious knowledge are still relatively minimal.
4. Transparency, in this case, the National Narcotics Agency (BNN) and the police have not yet provided open access to data related to the identity of users, which is prohibited from being made public.
5. Student development to develop individuals with character and spirituality has not been effective.

Based on the discussion above, Islamic Religious Instructors have made a positive contribution to drug abuse prevention through the Extension Newspaper. Therefore, its existence is greatly needed through collaboration, especially with educational providers in public schools, both junior high and senior high schools.

Analysis Results Based on Object Characteristics
Writing/Research

Tabel 2.1

Student Classification Data Table by Level

No.	Tingkatan/Jenjang	Jumlah	%	Ket.
1.	Kelas X	223	33,38%	
	Kelas XI	234	35,02%	
	Kelas XII	211	31,58%	
2.	Jumlah Siswa	668	100%	

Source: Primary data from 2024

Data Table 2.2

Number of School-Age Adolescents Suspected of Drug Abuse

No.	Jenis Kelamin	Jumlah	%	Ket.
1.	Laki-laki	0	0	
	Perempuan	0	0	
2.	Jumlah	0	0	

Source: Primary data from 2024

Based on Table 2.2, it can be seen and explained that currently, no data has been found at the research location regarding students directly indicated to be using or taking drugs.

Table 2.3
Table of data on the number of school-aged
adolescents participating in the drug abuse counseling program with counselors
No. Gender Total %

No.	Jenis Kelamin	Jumlah	%	Ket.
1.	Laki-laki	80	53,33%	
	Perempuan	70	46,67%	
2.	Jumlah	150	100%	

Based on Table 2.3, it can be seen and explained that of the 680 students participating in the counseling program, 150 students participated, with a percentage of 53.33% male students and 46.67% female students.

Table 2.4
Table of factors contributing to potential drug abuse among school-aged adolescents
according to 2024 data from the Kendari City National Narcotics Agency (BNN)

No.	Uraian	%
	Faktor Lingkungan	25%
	Faktor Keluarga	15%
	Faktor Ekonomi	30%
	Faktor Pendidikan	15%
	Faktor Pengetahuan Agama	15%
	Jumlah	100%

Source: Primary data from 2024

Based on Table 2.4, it can be seen and explained that the factors contributing to potential drug abuse among school-aged adolescents, according to 2024 data from the Kendari City National Narcotics Agency (BNN), are: environmental factors account for 25%, family factors account for 15%, economic factors account for 30%, education factors account for 15%, and religious knowledge factors account for 15%. Therefore, it can be concluded that the most dominant factor is economic factors. Meanwhile, the least significant factors are family factors, education, and religious knowledge, each contributing 15%.

Conclusion

1. Conclusion

Based on the above description, the author draws the following conclusions regarding the educational program and preventive measures against drug abuse among school-age adolescents through the Koran Penyuluh (Islamic Religious Counselor):

a. The presence of Islamic Religious Counselors contributes positively to education and drug abuse prevention efforts among school-age adolescents. This positive contribution is inseparable from the author's initiative to create several follow-up programs to provide direct contributions through the formation of internal school organizations or communities, namely the formation of a community called the Anti-Drug Youth Community with Counselors, with the acronym "KORAN PENYULUH."

b. The understanding and practice of spiritual teaching concepts among school-age adolescents is still relatively low, resulting in low awareness and diminished moral values, which can potentially lead to a decline in student academic achievement.

2. Recommendations

a. It is recommended that Islamic Religious Counselors be given the opportunity and access to mentoring in addressing drug use among school-age youth by establishing a horizontal coordination network between relevant institutions in the form of concrete collaborations that will result in regulations, either in the form of legislation or a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

b. Providing opportunities and opportunities for Islamic Religious Counselors to obtain the tools and facilities to support their vision and mission programs to strengthen educational programs among school-age youth.

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