

Strate Juvenile Delinquency in Negeri Liang, Central Maluku District

Kenakalan remaja di Negeri Liang, Kabupaten Maluku Tengah

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to describe the juvenile delinquency in Negeri Liang, Central Maluku Regency. The research method in this research is descriptive qualitative with the type of field research. Based on the source, the primary data in this study is data that comes from interviews with Raja Liang, several residents of Negeri Liang and Principal of Islamic Junior High School 46 Central Maluku and the principal of Senior High School 47 Central Maluku. Secondary data in this study are some data sourced from articles and journals that input data about Liang Country. While the data collection technique uses structured interview techniques. The data analysis technique in this study is data reduction, data presentation by describing the results of the data regarding the juvenile delinquency in Negeri Liang, Central Maluku Regency. The research results found that minor juvenile delinquencies in Negeri Liang was smoking, skipping school, wearing tight clothes and not respecting the others. For serious juvenile delinquency, crimes that have occurred include fights between gangs, destruction of public facilities, rape and drinking alcohol.

Keywords: Juvenile delinquency; Negeri Liang; Central Maluku.

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Introduction

Adolescence is a time of passion, enthusiasm, energy, and turmoil, a time when children experience physical and psychological changes. Adolescence is a transitional period from childhood to adulthood (Jasmisari & Herdiansah, 2022). During adolescence, children enter a phase of rapid change and exploration of their identity. Children experience changes in status, resulting in feelings of pride, confusion, and awkwardness caused by hormonal changes (Surbakti, 2008). Adolescents generally also experience hormonal, physical, psychological, and social changes, which can cause emotional turmoil known as "sturm and drang" (Mulyana et al., 2023).

In essence, adolescence presents challenges and difficulties not only for the children themselves but also for parents and teachers in educating and supporting them through their growth and development. Current problems are caused by the phenomenon of adolescents exhibiting specific behaviors, including: 1) Adolescents begin to express their opinions and freedom, which can lead to differences, disputes, and even distance from family members. 2) Adolescents are more easily influenced by their peer environment and are difficult to warn

because parental influence is weakening. 3) There are extraordinary changes in physical growth and sexuality. 4) Significant emotional changes that increase self-confidence and difficulty accepting advice and direction from parents or teachers at school (Saputro, 2018). Emotional changes that occur in adolescents can include feelings of sensitivity to something without clear reason, easily acting aggressively towards disturbances or external stimuli that influence them, and feelings of not wanting to be restrained and obedient to parents (Sary, 2017).

During adolescence, not all children are able to navigate it successfully, resulting in failure to achieve expected competencies, resulting in behavioral deviations, one of which is juvenile delinquency (Anjaswarni et al., 2019). This delinquency is also caused by children's desire to convey to their environment that they are nearing adulthood, leading them to focus on behaviors associated with adulthood. Furthermore, many adolescents experience difficulties in fulfilling their obligations, making it difficult to adapt to changing times, leading to significant stress and negative behavior. In this modern era, juvenile delinquency is increasingly prevalent, not only in Indonesia but also worldwide. Juvenile delinquency is increasing year after year, making it a difficult problem to solve (Puji Lestari & Amin, 2021).

Juvenile delinquency is a highly concerning issue because it leads to various incidents that endanger individuals and their surroundings. Juvenile problems are certainly a serious issue, especially when they involve the law, leading to criminal acts known as juvenile delinquency (Ramadhan, 2023). In reality, many victims experience psychological and non-psychological suffering and even die as a result of juvenile delinquency (Harnanda & Indrijati, 2023).

Juvenile delinquency affects all levels of society, both men and women, from the upper and lower classes, and in both urban and rural areas. One of the villages the author focuses on is Negeri Liang. Negeri Liang itself is located in Central Maluku Regency. In the Tana language, Negeri Liang is known as Ama Rieng. Liang itself means a hollow or cave. This village is named Liang because it contains many caves. Among the many caves in Negeri Liang, one cave was used by ancestors as a shortcut to the Kailolo village, located across from Liang and separated by the Haruku Strait and passing through the seabed ("Liang, Salahutu, Central Maluku," 2021). The delinquency committed by teenagers in Negeri Liang is deeply disturbing and detrimental to the community, as well as tarnishing the reputation of the schools where they receive their education. This is based on the fact that most of these adolescents are still studying at the junior and senior high school levels. Therefore, in this article, researchers will present data on the types of delinquency committed by adolescents in Negeri Liang.

Research Methods

This research is a research that uses a Qualitative approach. The purpose of using this approach is to describe and analyze the forms of juvenile delinquency in Negeri Liang, Central Maluku Regency. As is known, Qualitative Research is research with a natural background to describe existing phenomena using various methods (Rukin, 2019). This research is a field research. Field research is research that relies on field data found through informants, observations, and documentation from the subjects being studied (Nurdiani, 2014). Data sources in this study can be classified into two, namely primary data and secondary data. The primary data source in this study is based on the results of observations and interviews with Raja Liang, the Negeri Liang Community, and the Principals of MTsN 46 Central Maluku and SMA Negeri 47 Central Maluku. Data collection techniques in this study are in-depth interviews and observations. The data analysis techniques used by researchers are data reduction, data presentation by describing the results of data regarding the forms of juvenile delinquency in Negeri Liang, Central Maluku Regency.

Results and Discussion

Based on the results of observations and interviews, it is known that the forms of delinquency of Liang State teenagers are very diverse. The delinquency committed by Liang State teenagers can be divided into two categories, namely light acquaintances and serious delinquency. These two forms of delinquency are in accordance with the explanation (Umar, 2023) that juvenile delinquency is divided into two, namely: (1)

Light delinquency, namely delinquency that is a violation of social norms of society that is not regulated in the Criminal Code or other laws; (2) Serious delinquency, namely acquaintances that violate the law and are regulated by the Criminal Code and other laws. The following are the forms of light and serious delinquency of teenagers in Liang State, Central Maluku Regency.

1. Minor Delinquency

The forms of minor delinquency committed by adolescents in Liang Country are as follows.

a. Smoking

Smoking is a deviant behavior engaged in by adolescent boys and girls. Teenagers even smoke while at school. At school, adolescents usually smoke in groups in the cafeteria, bathrooms, and behind the school, and some students even smoke in class. Outside of school, adolescents smoke in groups even while wearing their school uniforms, willingly gathering until late at night. Smoking is a form of juvenile delinquency because it is a deviant behavior that will harm the user's body. Essentially, each cigarette contains more than 4,000 types of chemicals, 400 of which are toxic to the body and 40 others cause cancer (Sodik, 2018).

The following are some of the toxins contained in cigarettes according to (Maba, 2008): (1) Acatona, a paint remover chemical. (2) Hydrogen Cyanide, a poison used for the death penalty. (3) Ammonia, a floor cleaning chemical. (4) Methanol, a rocket fuel chemical. (5) Toluene, an industrial solvent. (6) Arsenic, a rat poison chemical. (7) Butane, a lighter fuel.

Most teenagers in Liang County start smoking as children. This is due to social factors, as they live and grow up in a smoking environment. They see their parents, neighbors, and even friends smoking, and this influences them and becomes the main reason they smoke. This is an effort they make to adapt to their environment. Social factors are the biggest factor in smoking behavior (Jaya, 2009).

b. Truancy

Most teenagers in Liang County frequently truant from school. They usually escape by pretending to ask permission to go to the bathroom during class. This happens every day, causing them to not participate effectively in the learning process, and their grades on midterm and final exams (UTS) drop. This causes them to fail a grade and have to repeat the same grade the following year.

Truancy is a deviant behavior that has negative implications for various levels of society. Truancy is a form of developmental disorder, and adolescents are considered to have violated school rules and face difficulties in achieving a bright future. Psychologically, deviant behavior can lead to feelings of low self-esteem in adolescents and impact their mental health (Setiawati, 2020).

c. Tight Clothing

In their daily lives, some teenage girls in Liang Country wear tight and sexy clothing. Some wear tight-fitting uniforms that violate school regulations. Teenagers typically wear skirts and uniforms that emphasize their curves. They also frequently wear shorts that extend above the knee or tight-fitting clothing outside of school. Some teenage boys also wear tight-fitting uniforms at school.

The tight clothing worn by some teenagers in Liang Country clearly violates Indonesian dress codes. Society is inherently bound by customs that emphasize modesty in dress, namely wearing covered clothing and avoiding excessive body contours. Wearing tight clothing has eroded moral values in society and replaced them with Western styles. Initially, clothing was a means of fostering politeness, but now it has become a symbol of social trends (Susandi & Muhammad, 2022).

d. Disrespect for Others

Another deviant behavior among some teenagers in Liang Country is disrespect for their parents, the community, and even teachers at school. Teenagers often use swear words as an expression of defiance. This happens because they don't want to be restricted in their actions. At school, some teenagers don't even respect their teachers, even sleeping, eating, drinking, and singing during the learning process. When reprimanded by their teachers, they will rebel

and even curse them. This behavior contradicts the ethics of students towards teachers according to Umar bin Ahmad Baraja (Khoirunnisa et al., 2023), which states that students must speak politely and gently when interacting with teachers and respect teachers during the learning process.

2. Serious Delinquency

Serious delinquency committed by juveniles violates Indonesian law and is punishable by the police (Wiarto, 2022). The following are examples of serious delinquency committed by juveniles in Negeri Liang.

a. Inter-Gang Fights

In Negeri Liang, fights involving juvenile gangs between neighborhood units (RW) are common. In 2020, a fight broke out between juveniles from RT 07 and RT 12. This was sparked by personal conflict. One of the juveniles from RT 12 mocked the other from RT 07. The juveniles disagreed and gathered their friends to attack RW 12. They fought and threw rocks and pieces of wood at each other. This resulted in chaos and damage to several homes and other public facilities. The fight lasted for about an hour and was stopped by the arrival of police and Indonesian National Armed Forces (TNI). Unfortunately, the perpetrators of this inter-gang fight were not immediately arrested, as they managed to escape into the forest and hide.

Another incident occurred in 2021, a clash between two groups of youth from Negeri Liang, involving youth from neighborhood units (RT) 09 and 10 and youth from neighborhood units (RT) 08 and 07. This clash resulted in the destruction of four homes. The clash began with a group of youths wearing face coverings attacking and throwing stones at residents in neighborhood units (RT) 08 and 07, leading to an exchange of stones.

During the attack, a group of youths from neighborhood units (RT) 09 and 14 stormed the home of a resident in neighborhood unit (RT) 08, vandalizing and setting fire to the home of resident AS. This arson also burned down three neighboring homes: KS, EL, and AS. After the house burned down, the youths retreated to their compound and resumed throwing stones. During the incident, personnel from the Ambon Police and the Maluku Mobile Brigade Corps arrived to secure the scene. However, the police presence did not end the clash, as the youths continued throwing stones and even attacked police officers. Finally, the authorities took decisive action by forcibly dispersing the crowd and apprehending two individuals suspected of being the main perpetrators of the throwing of stones.

Anticipating a recurrence of clashes, the police, with support from the Indonesian National Armed Forces (TNI), established a security post to maintain order in Liang. (Louhenapessy, 2021).

Figure 1. House burned down due to clashes



Figure 2. Police security after the clash



b. Vandalism of public facilities

In November 2023, a group of young men from SMA 47 Central Maluku were caught vandalizing public facilities. They used markers and Pirox to deface parts of the Liang State Grand Mosque. The youths skipped class and carried out their actions during the school day. This act was certainly very disturbing and detrimental to the local community. The person in charge of the construction of the Liang State Grand Mosque has reported the incident to the school administration.

Figure 3. The crossed out part of the Jami' Negeri Liang Mosque



c. Rape

Rape is a crime committed by several teenagers from Negeri Liang. The rape occurred in November 2019. It is known that Salahutu Police, Central Maluku, arrested 17 students suspected of raping a student with the initials DS (17), a student at State High School 4 Malteng, a resident of Negeri Liang, Central Maluku, Ambon, Maluku. The rape occurred in November 2019 at HL's house in Negeri Liang, Central Maluku. Also in November, dozens of students raped the victim again at SL's house in Negeri Liang, Salahutu, Malteng. A month later, the victim was again raped by dozens of students at JS's house in Negeri Liang, Salahutu, Malteng, at around 4:00 p.m. WITA (Supiyansyah & et al., 2020).

d. Drinking Alcohol

Drinking alcohol is not taboo in Liang. Every day, the community is disturbed by groups of teenagers and adults drinking alcohol, whether on beaches, highways, at the post office, or even in the forest. This activity occurs from morning to night. Typically, these groups buy alcohol and share it among several bottles of mineral water to drink together. As a result, many crimes occur due to alcohol consumption in Liang, including motorcycle robberies, rape, beatings, gang rapes, and domestic violence. Crimes caused by alcohol consumption are caused by the suppression of a person's control center, making them bolder and more aggressive, leading to a loss of self-control (Sulaiman, 2019). In addressing juvenile delinquency, ranging from mild to severe, the King of Liang has collaborated with residents and teachers to provide appropriate supervision and education. To prevent any criminal acts from recurring, MTsN 46 Central Maluku and SMA 47 Central Maluku collaborated to implement character development activities for all students.

Conclusion

This study found that adolescents in Liang Village have engaged in various forms of delinquency. The delinquency included both minor and serious offenses. Among the minor offenses were smoking, truancy, tight clothing, and disrespect for others. For serious offenses, the crimes that occurred included gang fights, vandalism, rape, and drinking alcohol. To prevent juvenile delinquency in Liang Village, the King of Liang collaborated with residents and school principals in Liang to supervise and educate the adolescents.

SUGGESTIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Due to time constraints, there were several shortcomings in the data collection. Therefore, future researchers studying juvenile delinquency are expected to conduct a more thorough and effective data collection process

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