

The Empowerment of Neglected Children in Mataram

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Abstract: This paper study of neglected children as a social phenomenon that cannot avoid in the people life and that social problem happened due the effects of increasingly urbanization. The problem happened mostly for children who lives in the urban area who coming to city to wish the better life in the future. These social problems happens on the children who has not good fortune in economy and most of them are from the poor family and don't have any capability to empowered themselves. Data shows that the total number of neglected children are 78.96 millions (40%) of them are neglected who lives in the urban area. This study is qualitative in nature, and considered to be appropriate to answer the problems of how to empowering the neglected since it relates to the social phenomenon setting that needs in-depth study. The conclusions can be offered as the neglected children is real phenomenon in Mataram City and the execution of the local government function in social welfare affairs, largely determined by regulations and dependence upon budget from the central government.

Key words: neglected children; poverty; empowerment

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1. Introduction

Every country in the world that has wide region like Indonesia indeed needs an effective territorial government system. The territory system is not just how to connect each island but it is important for local community to have role in the government to develop their own area. Besides, the prosperity life of society is an ideal condition for every people in the society to get a good access for people's need as neglected children.

The presence of social problem as neglected children is a real social phenomenon that cannot avoid in the people life. This problem happened mostly for person who lives in the urban area due the economy matters. The social phenomenon of neglected is often saw not just in Indonesia but it also happens in other part of the world. Le Roux (1998) stated, "The phenomenon of neglected children, an offspring of the modern urban environment, represents one of humanity's most complex and serious challenges". From the above explanations that the neglected phenomenon is due the urbanization and expected to have a good life and better economy in the future. The most problem of neglected generally their parents don't have a settled home to live and their parents can't afford to buy a house for their family and the parents has no settled job or low paying jobs under average level. Therefore, although social welfare development has in real contributes in increasing the general welfare, but the problems of social welfare in the future still dominated by the conventional problems especially as poverty, neglect problems, disabilities children or cause of the disaster.

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Local development through local autonomous is of course can give an opportunity and chance for the achievement of the good governance. In other words, it is need to strengthen the local social institution as a social investment of social welfare development that carried out through some employment strategy. According to Indonesia constitution of local government, the central government is an important part in the connection with the relation between the government levels through the province or municipal government. Thus, the authority to the local government execution of social department should be able to carry out the government duty good public service for the local area.

2. A Selected Review of Literature

The neglected phenomenon is social problem that not only face in Mataram but also happened in part of Indonesia. According to the Indonesian constitution, article number 23, 2002 regarding the social problems, it's mentioned that "the indigents of neglected children are being care and protection by the government". Thus, the protection and appreciation of the children is not an easy to solve the problems. The problem of being neglected generally happens on the children who has not good fortune and don't have any capability to empower themselves. This condition is an important variable in policy formulating process. Thus, the neglected problems who involves of the formulating a social policy cannot detach from social economic conditions around the children growing up. On the other hand, the changing paradigms of local development were faces the problems with the economy of the family and the neglected children happened due their parents cannot effort fulfilling their family economy.

Data shows that in 2012 the total number of neglected children is 78.96 millions and forty percent of the neglected lives in the urban area. From the data, it can figure that the function of the local government should be planning how to overcome the social problem. This is inline with Smith (1985) that the decentralization problem always inline with the...condition for social, economic and political development of an area. And indeed every decentralization policy basically always places the important of the local government institution to run the government in autonomous area. Decentralization, in other hand is a local government phenomenon in developing its own territory autonomously.

The social welfare development determined by the quality of direct service and effected by the system and direction of the social policy and also the distribution of social service to the target group. Thus the strategies and plans to overcome social problems are become the government policy that directed to achieve the goals in overcoming the social problems. Furthermore, many policies of the neglected need to be developed to create the condition of the children development that constitution mention to educate the better life for better future. Finzi at al. (2001) explain that trauma for children who live with parents that has social problem, will also effect in children's life in their growing period. In other hand it is explain that the emotion, intellectuality, behaviour, and social life are also very influence to the children's growth and it will also bring negative effect to them. Therefore, the behaviour that happens to a neglect child is the empathy from a certain group that interacts with other people. Crittenden (1992) understand that the neglected problem is a manifestation from a deep anxiety of someone. It is also due the family emotional effect as the consequences of the past experience that didn't give hope. Thus the effect of loving their parents or to hate them, it's all because they can't fulfil child's basic need during children growth.

The increasing of social protection and welfare of neglected children were attempted to achieve the goal of social welfare development that make social justice to the whole society of Indonesia. Suryadi (2006) explain that

the local government which helping neglected children should help the whole of neglected children and its group, where a part of the children community are living in the unfortunate condition and having limitation in accessing many social services and needs a social protection. Thus, the hope and goal in the development should not separate from the increasing of the people's welfare in order to decrease the social tensions. Furthermore, Rawls (2006) in his book "*A Theory of Justice*", explain that to achieve social justice, there are two mainly justice principle, as (1) every people has the same right for the widest basic freedom, as wide as the same freedom to all people; (2) the imbalance of social and economy should be arrange in such case. Therefore, in developing the inclusive atmosphere it is need a wide range between the members or the group of society and various considerations that is all influenced by the various experience, beliefs and attitude. In other words, this inclusive atmosphere cannot be formed without the support from all parties including the society.

Government participation to the neglected children has not yet maximum. Roditti (2005) suggest that the social welfare of course will be the government priority, even though there are some society's elements that has been involved in helping neglected children, but it is not permanent yet, because investment in helping at social field still not giving much benefit like in the business in order the child life will stay further behind with the economic world.

Economic policy of a government in handling neglected children is a political choice, which is a result of a formulation through political process. The theory of public choice mentioned is how the government formulating the public policy. Not all public demands should be fulfilled, but all the needs should be really concerned. Dunn (2003) described the policy problems are the value, the need, or the chance that or achieved through public action. Knowledge concerning what should to do such as drop out children which is a condition that cause the unemployment that can stimulate to a problem related to a government.

In accordance, a policy that related to this public choice is relevant to explain many kinds of desires, needs, and public demands as the input to formulate policy for the neglected children. Even though, the analysis of public choice is not the only one to answer the problem related and the problem of the presence of the neglected children. This can't be separate from the education factor that has important role in self forming as human resources, because it is a capital resource, to the interest of long-term economic growth.

The empowering of development strategy that directly aim to the root of problems which is by increasing the capability of various local social institution which is assume can be a strengthen factor in supporting the success of the social welfare development in local area. The empowering is only able to happen in a conducive institutional environment that consists of the legislation function system and the right, legal and judicial election process. The creation of the sustainable human development is not only depend on the state capability to execute the govern well, but the government must also capable to supply job that can facilitate the social and political interaction, and can mobilize various groups in the society to get involved in the social, economic and political activities. And can create the allocation mechanism of social benefits, and to give the group of poor and neglecter's voice in the political and government decision making to protect and strengthen culture, the conviction of religion and values. Main ideas above described the importance of equal life to member in the society, so the fulfilling the basic rights such as health, education, employment and social guarantee can be the state's priority in eliminating discrimination.

Lang & Berberich (1995) explain that food, clothing and housing material and also earnings are absolutely the things what human needs where the existence in normal life condition can't be bargain. Meanwhile, Markus (2004) has opinion that in developing the social welfare, there are some global tendencies that connect to each

other, those are: (1) democracy, human rights, (2) the emerging of civil society, (3) the reinventing government, good governance, (4) de-bureaucracy and local autonomous. That is why there are some challenges and problems that need to be a local government concern in the future, those are: (a) the local autonomous execution and the attempt of developing the implementation system of Indonesian constitution. (b) And the decrease the more increasing poverty level and the handling of strategic and global issues, like manpower, social integration, life environment, human rights, gender equality, global partnership, and other.

The development concept that offered above, the development goal includes the welfare increasing to the neglected children and the even distribution of income. Thus, development is not separated to the qualitative aspects of the development, which is to the things that include problems of poverty, the imbalance and human resource development. Besides, the important of elite's role to the marginal and minority in development is a main thing in the distribution of it. That is why; the government function has close relation with the even and proportional distribution of the local people's welfare.

3. Methodology

In 2012, the amounts of children with social problems, including the neglected children, in Mataram are 262,159. However, the handling of these problems has not been optimal yet. The big number of children not living with their parents due to various reasons, therefore, becomes one of the problems that need to be paid attention to by the government, academicians as well as community. The objectives of this research are to: describe, analyze and interpret the phenomenon of the neglected children in Mataram city, and how to empowering neglected children.

To conducting the data, this study is qualitative in nature and to consider being appropriate to answer the problems of the local government's functions in empowering neglected children in Mataram city since it relates to the social phenomenon setting that needs in-depth study. The approach used in this research, including data analysis procedure, is an interactive model of Miles and Huberman with data collection technique using in-depth interview, participatory observation, and documentary study.

4. Results

The results of the research reveal that in principle the social department must build better relationship pattern between the social department and the community being empowered. In addition, the government needs to create regulations for each particular program so that the government's functions can work effectively and provide professional and competent human resources.

The local government must build institution system having norms, behavior and process that matches with the needs of the community being empowered and the stakeholders so that the functions of social department in handling the planning function of program in social welfare has the following characters as comply with rules, participation principles, maximization authority of the local government, competence and professionalism of human resources, pro public, less dependent on central government budget, and matching the budget with program load. Therefore, for the implementation stage of the social department must base its action on factors that supports for empowerment in the forms have: (1) access to information, (2) inclusion and participation, (3) local organizational capacity.

5. Concluding Remarks

These study addresses objectives concerning the neglected children in Mataram can be describe and analyze. Firstly, the phenomenon of the neglected children in Mataram is the real social phenomenon. Second, the local government's policy in empowering neglected children. Third, the functions of the local government in empowering neglected children involving private sectors and community, and fourth, the social department of Mataram need to develop a model of empowerment of neglected children involving the government's functions. Fifth, the execution of the local government function in social welfare affairs, largely determined by the regulations, and dependence upon budget from the central government.

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