

Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis of Homosexual Pedophilia Victims

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Abstract: This study was aimed to describe the homosexual pedophilia experience about the sexual abuse they underwent in the past time. The data were collected from six male teenager participants who underwent the sexual abuse four years ago in three districts in Tanah Datar Regency, West Sumatera Province, Indonesia. This study uses qualitative research and semi-structured interviews were conducted to all participants. The data were analyzed using Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (IPA). Using this IPA, researcher found three themes and ten sub-themes. The first theme is parenting style with several sub-themes: the attachment with mother, and the problems with father. The second theme is about the reflection of meaning of abuse experience which comprises sub-themes: not know the case is sexual abuse, not know the impact of the abuse, being scared to inform the abuse event. The third theme is the impact of the abuse. It comprises several sub themes: the emergence of negative emotion and the negative behavior.

Keywords: Interpretative phenomenology analysis, victim, homosexual pedophilia

INTRODUCTION

Children will be the future of a nation. Therefore, every country produces the rules in protecting children. Child Protection mentioned that children are the next generation and they must be protected from any kinds of abuse and discrimination (Kementerian Pemberdayaan Perempuan dan Perlindungan Anak RI, 2017). But, in reality, many children are still exploited as the victims of abuse. Indonesian Act no. 35 in 2014 mentioned that abuse is any action which may cause suffering of physical, psychological and sexual harm and abandonment including the threat to force and to eradicate the freedom against the law.

The number of children abused keeps increasing including to physically and sexually. The data released by the Indonesian Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection Affairs mentioned that the prevalence of sexual abuse toward children in 2017 was 8.3%. Pedophilia is an adult who have the sexual pleasure through physical and sexual contact with child (Davidson, Neale, & Kring, 2006). The sexual pleasure or sexual intimacy can be achieved by manipulating child genital or doing penis penetration some or all to child genital (Sadarjoen, 2005). Homosexual pedophilia is the adult male sexual interest to male boy or teen.

Pedophilia behaviour may have a long-term negative impact to the victims. The male victim of pedophilia will be risky to be the abuser in the future. This risk appears as the alteration in their brain function after being the victim (Glasser et al., 2001). The abnormality of temporal and frontal region of child abuser brain. This abnormality may cause difficulty in control inhibition in life (Mohnke et al., 2014).

The negative impact occurring to the pedophilia victim is irrational cognitive, negative affect and negative behaviour that allow them to have trauma (Ningsih & Afriona, 2017). They will have a more severe disorders psychologically if there is no treatment done for them.

The above research is a line with Purwasih (2014) who investigated the previous sexual abuse in which one of them had sexual deviance and researcher found the history of abuse in early life in his family which made the victim have the abnormal sexual erotic to children and it was triggered in his job. This victim cannot well control his emotion, there is tendency to be introvert, and there is the inferiority feeling. For this, he released those emotions through social media for what he couldn't do in real life and the superiority could be gained there.

The explanation above shows that sexual deviance behavior done by pedophilia is actually the result of the experience being the victim in early life in childhood. This experience leads them to do the similar

behavior during adulthood. Thus, there is a need to carry out the precise psychological treatment for them to break out the chain of pedophilia sexual abuse.

METHOD

Participants

This is a qualitative study with phenomenological approach. This study involved six participants (male; teenager; victim of pedophilia 4 years ago). The participants derive from the same regency, Tanah Datar, West Sumatera Province, Indonesia. The study used purposive sampling with criteria: victim of pedophilia; age between 10-15 years old; traumatized from mild to severe; last experience of being victim two years.

The data were collected using in-depth interview. The data were validated through credibility, transferability and dependability tests. Credibility test was done using data triangulation and method. The data triangulation was achieved from the participants and their parents. Besides, this study used triangulation of time and place and observations were done in different time and place. Transferability test is a test for external validity to recognize the precision of results in population. In this research, researchers used the detail, systematic and trusted descriptions. Then, dependability test was used with three intercoders to see the consistency in analyzing the data. No significant difference in intercoders in coding the data.

The data were analyzed using Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (IPA). This technique focuses on how participants interpret and conclude the events as the person involved in the real situation (Kahija, 2017). The analysis steps in this technique are: firstly, read the data many times, then the second one is make the initial codings, and the third one is to make the emergent theme and the last one is to make the superordinate themes.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Result

This study results in three themes describing the personality of homosexual pedophilia. The themes are: perception about the parenting carried out by parents, the reflection of events related to abuse and the impacts on the victims. Each theme comprises one to 5 sub-themes.

The perception about parenting

This theme consists of two sub-themes: attachment with mother and the personal problems with father. The attachment with mother was achieved from participants AZ, GL, HB, NO and F. they mentioned that mother played more roles in their lives. Participant AZ stated that he is closer emotionally with mother:

Mother often called me (by phone) than my father, I am closer with mother (AZ: W1 line 46)

Participant GL comments about his mother showed how close he is with mother. He said that mother often advised him when doing wrong behavior.

Mom, My (younger) brother said that he misused bike handlebar while riding the bicycle! Then, my mom forbod that behavior. It may harm you. If you die, it's better. You will be ugly if you get handicapped then. When I was wrong, mother often advised me. (GL: W1 line 235-236)

Participant HB statement about his mother indicated that he is loved by his mother. This statement was strengthened by his mother how close they used to be.

I love my mother (HB; W1 line 212)

Sometimes, mother gave me money for shopping (HB: W1 line 212)

I used to live in Padang panjang town, so children are close to me (HB mother: line 68-69)

Participant FA mentioned that his mother became the friend for telling stories. He often helped mother doing works at home, and even cared for mother when she got sick:

[...] with mom. [...] Whatever it is, like school, I often helped her. [...] like cleaning up parts of house. I helped her in the hospital when she was sick. [...] feeding her, changing her pampers (F: W1 line 100-110)

In the second one is sub-theme about the problem with father. Participants admitted that they are not close with their father. Participant GL said that his father never gave them money for shopping.

Father never gives me money for shopping (GL: W1 line 40).

Participant NO was so scared of his father compared to the other family members. When father asked to do something, he would directly do it:

His father never got angry. When father said, "Kid!" he would react soon. Once his father said something, he obeyed it. It is good because there is a person he is afraid. He is not afraid of his mother, including to his grandfather, except his father. (NO mother: line 180-184)

The Reflection about the Pedophilia

This second theme comprises three sub-themes: not know that it was pedophilia behavior, not know the impact of pedophilia, and get scared to tell the event. The sub-theme not know pedophilia behavior showed that participant does not understand the problem because he does not know the sexual orientation. Participant AI said that he doesn't know what the behavior is but he is sure that it is a kind of deviance:

I don't know it, but it is possibly he has the (sexual) deviance (AI: W1 line 186).

Participant HB statement showed how he did not know about the abuse he underwent:

I don't know yet that it is wrong (HB: W1 line 387).

As the other participants, participant NO did not know that behavior and feel strange with the abuser behavior:

I get stunned (NO: W1 line 628).

The second sub-theme is that participants do not know the impact of pedophilia. It shows that they do not know and think about the impact of the abuse in their future. It may be caused by the age factor in which they were still too young when getting abused. Besides, participants did not get the proper sexual education. Participant AI said that he did not know the impact of abuse later:

I don't the cause, ops the effect (AI: W1 line 333).

Participant HB also said the similar statement, that he does not know the effect:

I don't know, I was at the first grade at that time.. so I don't know (HB: W1 line 300)

The third sub-theme is that participant are afraid of telling the abuse they underwent. They worried about the new problems to happen if it is reported. Participant AZ said that he did not tel anyone about the case in order not to make his mother sad.

If I say that, mother will be sad (AZ: W1 line 183).

Participant GL said the similar statement. He did not inform his parents in order not to be reprimanded:

If I say, mother will get angry (GL: W1 line 425).

Participant HB said that he felt guilty and kept thinking about the abuse he got:

I feel guilty (B: W.1 line 414) it is still in my mind (HB: W1 line 418).

Participant NO said he got anxious, had the daydreaming while thinking about his parent's feeling if they know this case:

I'm anxious (NO: W1 line 756). When studying, I think of it. If my parent knows it (NO: W1 line 889). After the incident, it is fine to tell my mom (NO: W1 line 899).

Participant FA said that he did not directly told parent so that the abuser did not get angry and others. He was threatened by the abuser:

Ya I'm afraid of being reprimanded. [...] the abuser too...my mother too. [...] I was threatened to be hit if I tell anyone. If I tell my mom, I will be blamed. [...] ya, actually I went playing to that place. If I tell my mom, she will say, why did you go there?" I will be blamed then, but I am not guilty (F: W2 line 323-328).

The Impact of Pedophilia Abuse

This third theme has two sub-themes: the emergence of negative emotion and the emergence of negative behaviors. In negative emotion sub-theme, most participants tend to get angry easily, the feeling of being ashamed, insecure feeling, life is felt unfair, anger and scared of the abuser. Participant AI said that he dares to fight physically with his peer:

I fight with my cohort. If he (abuser) is my cohort, I will fight him (AI: W2 line 26).

All participant mentioned that they are ashamed of being the pedophilia victim. They are ashamed of said as victim by other, getting bullied by relatives and friends:

Then it makes me ashamed for doing it (GL: W2 line 49-50).

It hurts me when my friend mocks me (GL: W2 line 53).

I feel ashamed, called as victim (AI: W2 line 23).

But, sometimes I am ashamed. I was laughed by my friends (AI: W2 line 19).

I am ashamed because my friends at primary school knows it (NO: W1 line 848). When my mom asks for permission, is always asked about the reason and I will ashamed if my junior high school friends know it (NO: W1 line 850-851).

It is about my pride...hmmm I feel I am made by others. I have tried to say that but people laugh at me (F: W1 line 580-583). I feel hurt (F: W2 line 127). I am ashamed. Sometimes I think why am I guilty? Sometimes people laugh at me sometimes I stayed at home feeling disappointed because people laugh at me. (F: W2 line 307-310). Sad, because my name is not credible anymore. I have tried to be self-disclosure, but people laugh at me. So sad for me (F: W2 line 312-314)

Most participants feel insecure. They feel almost being abducted, anxious, not tranquil and afraid if anytime the abuser enters the house when parent go to work:

Such the stranger, he doesn't know me, then I am abducted (AZ: W1 line 112).

Then I am anxious (GL: W2 line 49).

I feel insecure (AI: W1 line 329).

I am afraid he comes to my house again. I often gather with my parent and when they go to work, he may suddenly enter my house (NO: W1 line 49-50).

Some participants feel that life is unfair for them:

Why it only happens to me, it is not fair (F: W2 line 306)

Then, anger and scary to abuser is shown as they were abuse during childhood and not yet understood what happened at that time:

Hurt! I did not know at that time yet. I was a little child (GL: W1 line 389).

Participant AI and GL was scared of being threatened to be hit:

Scared., he will be angry if I forbid him (AI: W1 line 211).

I was intimidated to be hit. He brought the officer's handcuffs (GL: W2 line 49).

Then, participant FA was afraid of meeting the abuser again because he used to report the case. He prevented the revenge of the abuser:

Ya I am afraid of meeting him (F: W2 line 247). I am just scared (F: W2 line 560). Ya, he accused me for fake report about the case. I have never accused, why am I accused? Then I am afraid of being hit, or hurt..i am afraid (F: W2 line 562-566)

Next, the negative behavior sub-theme.it comprises the lack of intention to study and the emergence of obsessive-compulsive behavior. Participant AI said his academic performance has declined.

My academic rank has reduced (AI: W1 line 384).

Sometimes, I was daydreaming when studying. thinking about my future. I feel pity of my parents (NO: W1 baris 889-890).

The second one is about obsessive-compulsive behaviors. It occurs to FA participant. He can't help feeling to see the messed up situation in any room:

I feel stuck, confused to see the messed up things (F: W3 line 79-83).

Then at home, it was firstly clean. He can't even tolerate one rubbish. It is neat, his own bed is very neat. Before taking a nap, he must clean up his feet first. When his brother slept at his bed and got a bit dirty, he may repeatedly clean it (F mother: W line 53-56).

DISCUSSION

This study was intended to explore the experience of participants who underwent the sexual abuse of homosexual pedophilia. There are three themes describing the victims of homosexual pedophilia personality, they are, perceptions about parenting, then the reflection about pedophilia they underwent, and the future impacts of homosexual pedophilia for the victims.

The first theme is about parenting in which mother gave attention, love, rules, punishment for mistakes. Mother played more dominant roles in parenting. Some parent can't get closer with participants because they got divorce. The parents of two of six participants have got divorce, so participants think that father had no role in parenting for them. Mother is thought as the one who play very important role in parenting with love, and more attention. But, mother is thought as the person who made tight rules and punishment for mistakes. The other two participant has complete parents but they have different pattern of parenting. Mother is thought very nice and father is thought lack of love, very tight rules and punishment and even permissive and gave no punishment for mistakes. This indicates an inconsistency in parenting between father and mother style. This different pattern causes conflicts inside the participants life where there is a need to get love and attention from mother and the intention to prevent rules.

Two other participants think mother as a nice, full of attention and father is thought close emotionally with them. Father is thought overprotective. Mother is more dominant in participant's life. This makes participants dependent with mother. This can't make participants competent and more dependent to do anything. The similar thing happens to two participants where they are close and often interacts with abusers. They could be easily influenced by the abuser as they were very close and the abuser might have the opportunity to abuse participants. Participants with this pattern of personality have less competency of independency so they were brave to tell others about the abuse he underwent and it allowed abusers to repeat the abuse. One of specific trait of pedophilia is that the victim firstly undergo the abuse during childhood (under 13 years old). Children at this age have less knowledge whether the treatment done to him/her is good or not. This knowledge is needed during the parenting especially from father (Al Thalib et al, 2013).

Al Thalib added that father needs to teach four thing to his son, they are: role as a male, emotion physically (make tranquil when child cries), verbal skills and make consideration about the risk to happen from his own behavior to change the child behaves significantly. When father fails to a good example for the child, they will try to find it from the others called popular culture, such as: friend, actor, television. More seriously, this popular culture teaches sex, violations, sports and money (Al Thalib, H., Abu Sulayman, 2013). After losing the role of father, child will be reluctant to be the victim of sexual abuse which may influence many aspect of child's life. The lack of father role in parenting may cause many problems to child, for instance: the emergence of unwanted behavior, the reduction of academic performance, and early sexual activities (East, Jackson, & O'Brien, 2006).

The theme about the reflection about the abuse incident in which participants do not know the impacts of the abuse and not tell parent about the incident and it caused the abuser could repeat the abuse times. This

may be on causal factor of the occurrence of sexual abuse in participants. Parents have less attention in supervising and observing child development and friendship. Then, parents do not give early sexual education to their children. This is the cause of abuse repetition. Participants have less knowledge about sexual education and do not understand the impacts of abuse occurring to them. This is a line that factor causing abuse is the lack of sexual education from parents and the minimum attention given to the children (Ningsih & Afriona, 2017). The other causal factor for a child to be the victim of sexual abuse is the feeling of scared to tell parents or other people. Participants in this case are afraid of being blamed and reprimanded by their parents.

The last theme in this study is about the impact of sexual abuse. Participants performed the decline of intention to study, the unwillingness to go to school, the increasing of aggressiveness, feeling disgusting to women and the appearance of negative emotions like anxiety, ashamed of being the victim and get bullied by friends, afraid of being blamed. The victim of sexual abuse will perform several emotions like revenge, anger, hate which is at first done to the abuser and it spreads to the other people or objects (Fuadi, 2012). If this condition can't be treated soon another disorder may appear like Post Traumatic Syndrome Disorder (PTSD) and depression. These feelings are negative emotions. It need the quick response to reduce the risk of worse emotional condition of the victim. The stress is beyond his/her ability to cope with, he/she will get stress (Folkman, Lazarus, Dunkel-Schetter, DeLongis, & Gruen, 1986). This stress will reduce his/her performance and it can be seen from his intention in studying, the school refusal behavior and the higher level of aggressiveness.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results above, it can be concluded that the parenting pattern, participants feel more attached with mother and have personal problems with father. The main factor that made participants became the victims of pedophilia was they did not know yet the impact of being abused, had no sexual education at home so that they did not know that is an incorrect behavior.

Pedophilia reduces the intention to study, causes obsessive-compulsive and negative emotions. Further research should conduct the intervention program such as: psychoeducation about pedophilia and the impact to child development, the treatment management for child-victims of pedophilia. Mental health services need to be done about pedophilia with government such: department of health affairs and other relevant institutions.

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