

High Domestic Violence during the Pandemic COVID-19

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Abstract

Domestic violence is a violation of human rights and a form of discrimination that must be eradicated. The rule of law defines women as having the same right to be free and determine their desire to live following their environment's norms. This study aims to describe and determine the factors that influence the sociology of domestic violence in Indonesia. This research was conducted using a qualitative approach and a descriptive analysis. The aim is to explore and understand the phenomena that need to be further developed. Data collection techniques were utilizing online media, proceedings, and articles. Reducing, displaying, and concluding data analysis. The study results show that domestic violence in Indonesia has increased every month during the COVID-19 pandemic. This is due to the increasingly complex life of the community that automatically affects their household lives.

Keywords: violence, household, environment, COVID-19, Indonesia

1. Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic is a tough test in households so that domestic violence is the most up to date issue today. The number of domestic violence cases during COVID-19 has increased significantly, as data from the National Commission on Women reports that there were 319 domestic violence cases reported during the pandemic, 2/3 of which were cases of domestic violence. Data from the Legal Aid Institute for the Indonesian Women's Association for Justice shows that there have been 110 cases of domestic violence reported since the implementation of the

social restriction policy from March 16 to June 20, 2020. During that three months, the number of domestic violence cases reached half of the number of issues—violence during 2019 (Muna et al.).

The issue of domestic violence is not private. Domestic violence (DV) is a violation of human rights and a crime against human dignity, and a form of discrimination that must be eradicated. Every human being has the same right to be free and determine his or her desires in life following the rules in force. The impact of DV is terrible and harmful to a person's psyche, such as stress, anxiety, depression, mental illness, and the possibility of suicide (Melville and McDowell).

Every family dream of a harmonious family after marriage and the harmony of husband and wife. Various attempts have been made to have a happy family in the household. Husbands as heads of families and wives as homemakers are equally responsible for their families and children's future. The COVID-19 pandemic's case disrupts people's daily activities because the restrictions include school holidays, workplaces, religious activities restrictions, restrictions on public facilities, social, cultural, and transport activities (Radhitya et al.).

As a result of these social restrictions, every family experience problem having to bear the family's economic burden. Research conducted by the Commissioner of the National Commission on Women by distributing questionnaires to 34 provinces in Indonesia during the COVID-19 outbreak illustrates changes in family dynamics due to social restrictions; economic factors are quite influential in husband and wife relationships (Fadhilah et al.).

During the pandemic, there was an increase in domestic violence cases. Data from the National Commission on Violence against Women shows that domestic violence is the most reported case of violence. Of the 319 cases of violence reported, two thirds (213 cases) were domestic violence cases (conversation.com, August 9, 2020). This paper discusses domestic violence that occurred during the Covid-19 pandemic and its handling efforts.

The National Commission for Women reported that domestic violence was the most reported case of violence. There were 319 cases of violence that have been reported during the pandemic. Two thirds of this number was domestic violence cases. Data from the Legal Aid Institute for the Indonesian Women's Association for Justice (LBH APIK) also shows that 110 cases of domestic violence have been reported, since the enactment of Large-Scale Social Restrictions (PSBB) from March 16 to June 20. In that period of 3 months, the number of domestic violence cases has reached half of the number of domestic violence cases during 2019. Most of the victims of domestic violence are women. This adds to the list of vulnerabilities experienced by women in Indonesia.

The phenomenon of COVID-19 affects every family, resulting in many husbands treating their wives at will and leading to forms of domestic violence. At times, violence is not revealed on the surface. Many women as victims are more closed to their domestic problems so that these problems are considered internal to the family. As in the central part of Indonesia, there is a culture of shame and fear that haunts it and the frequency and increase of domestic violence. There is an increase in domestic violence during COVID-19, making this research enjoyable to examine more deeply this problem so that it can provide data and contributions so that the question of domestic violence can be controlled during the COVID-19 pandemic in Indonesia.

2. Theoretical Review

Domestic violence is a form of violence against women. The definition of violence against women in general is contained in Article 1 of the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women) in 1993, namely: Any act of gender based violence that results or has the opportunity to cause misery or suffering physically, sexually or psychologically, including threats of certain actions, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public (in society) or in private life.

Based on Law No. 23 of 2004 concerning the Elimination of Domestic Violence (PKDRT Law), KDRT is any act against a person, especially women, which results in physical, sexual, psychological, and/or neglect of domestic violence, including threats to commit acts, coercion., or illegal deprivation of liberty within the scope of household (Article 1 point 1).

Domestic violence can take the form of physical violence, psychological or emotional violence, sexual violence, and economic violence. In the PKDRT Law, acts of domestic violence are regulated in Article 5 and can be divided into

4 types, namely: (1) physical violence; (2) psychological violence; (3) sexual violence; and (4) household neglect. It is not uncommon for a woman to experience several types of domestic violence at once. This is not only happening in Indonesia, but also in other countries. Quoting Gelles and Corneli's (1990) report, Arivia stated that almost all cases of domestic violence (KDRT) were experienced by women (Arivia, 2006; A'yun et al., 2017).

Victims of domestic violence also cross demographics, regardless of socioeconomic status, ethnicity, religion, education level, and age. Violence against women, including domestic violence is an iceberg phenomenon, not all cases of domestic violence are reported. Based on the Annual Records on Violence against Women compiled by woman commission in 2020, the most types of violence against women in 2019 are still the same as in previous years, namely KDRT / RP (Personal Domain) which reached 11,105 cases or 75%.

One of the government's strategies in suppressing the spread of Covid-19 is the Large-Scale Social Restrictions (PSBB) policy through Government Regulation No. 21 of 2020 concerning Large-Scale Social Restrictions in the Context of Accelerating the Handling of Corona Virus Disease 2019 (Covid-19). In the PP, what is meant by PSBB is the restriction of certain activities of residents in an area suspected of being infected with Covid-19 in such a way as to prevent the possibility of spreading Covid-19 (Article 1). The PSBB includes: (1) school and workplace holidays; (2) restrictions on religious activities; and/or (3) restrictions on activities in public places or facilities [Article 4 paragraph (1)].

With various restrictions on workplaces, schools, and public places or facilities, more people end up living in families with unstable economies due to the pandemic. Meanwhile, the burden on women is increasing because they have to take care of the household and accompany their children to learn from home, and some also have to try to find additional income.

Increased family burdens, stress, and economic hardship due to the loss of a portion of income / work have the potential to trigger conflict within the family. Eventually domestic violence and violence can occur other gender-based. Data from the Legal Aid Institute for the Indonesian Women's Association for Justice (LBHAPIK) shows that there were 110 cases of domestic violence reported since the enactment of the PSBB (16 March-20 June 2020) or half of the cases of domestic violence during 2019 (conversation.com, 9 August 2020).

The National Women's Commission survey (April-May 2020 online) of 2,285 respondents in 34 female-dominated provinces also shows several conclusions: (1) The Covid-19 pandemic changes the workload of households and caregivers. Women face very distinctive impacts due to gender roles; (2) There is still belief that domestic work is the biggest and main responsibility of women; (3) Working time in the domestic realm is doubled, due to the additional task of accompanying children to study at home; (4) One in three respondents stated that the increase in household chores causes an increase in stress levels; (5) Domestic violence continued to occur during the Covid-19 pandemic, dominated by psychological and economic violence; (6) Households with increased expenditure have a higher chance of experiencing physical and sexual violence; (7) Efforts to report violence in service institutions decreased during the Covid-19 pandemic because the victim chose to remain silent or only told relatives, friends and/or neighbours (National Commission on Women, 2020).

The results of the survey by the National Commission on Women show that during a pandemic, women are increasingly vulnerable to feeling stressed due to an increasing workload. Domestic violence continues to occur, dominated by psychological violence, sexual violence, and economic violence. The opportunity for domestic violence to occur is greater in households with increasing expenditure. Some victims of domestic violence choose not to report their cases for various reasons.

Even though there is a law that protects women from acts of domestic violence, its implementation still faces obstacles. According to Bonaparte (2012), there are several obstacles: (1) The victim withdraws the complaint for various reasons, such as: for the sake of family integrity or the child's psychological condition; the victim does not have a job (economically depending on the perpetrator); the victim is afraid of threats from the perpetrator / husband; and there is interference from the family or cultural reasons/customs/religious norms; (2) Lack of evidence, due to several reasons: avoiding children as witnesses, considering the psychological condition of the child and its impact; maintain the neutrality of witnesses in the household environment; the victim did not report immediately after the incident so that there was difficulty when doing the post mortem; economic neglect because the perpetrator does not have a job/income.

3. Research Method

The qualitative research approach examines social life as a social phenomenon that affects the environment, particularly assessing domestic violence, which is influenced by social symptoms. This research is descriptive analysis, namely a comprehensive study of primary and secondary data to get a clear picture of domestic violence. Data obtained through two types, namely preliminary data obtained by conducting research, while secondary data obtained from other written materials related to research material; sources data come from literature research, namely research on various scientific writings related to the object and field research. The technique of collecting data is through observation, interviews, and documentation, while the data analysis technique is done by reducing, displaying, and drawing conclusions.

4. Results

If we look at Indonesia's regulations, the state has managed well and paid attention to protecting women as victims of domestic violence. The results showed that victims of domestic violence had received legal protection, which is influenced by several factors:

4.1 Regulation

The existence of Indonesian regulations is an essential factor in providing legal certainty for victims of domestic violence. Many do not know about families' standard protection rules in community life, especially in the poor. This is also a significant problem increasing domestic violence because many victims do not know about management and are confused about their issues.

There is always a need for public socialization of regulations (Rijal et al.; Usman et al.; Sahabuddin et al.; Umar, Hasbi, et al.). This socialization plays an essential role in providing victims with legal protection not to feel scared when it comes to the law. The existence of legal certainty is hope for court-seekers against arbitrary actions by husband who are sometimes always arrogant in performing their duties as head of household. Because with legal certainty, the community will know the clarity of rights and obligations under the law.

Implementation of the provisions on legal protection for domestic violence victims, the study results show that many victims or victims' families refuse to report the violence they experience on several factors. For example, there is still a frequent fear of a husband's threat when violence is notified, and, on average, victims feel embarrassed when they tell the shame of their home life. Even though the behaviour of victims of domestic violence is due to negligence, it is very detrimental to the victim with the development of a psychic experience in the form of mental suffering.

4.2 Human Resources

The family is the smallest unit of society (Hasbi et al.; Yusriadi, Sahid, et al.; Ahdan et al.; Sawitri et al.), consisting of the head of the family and several people who gather and live under a roof in a state of interdependence. Even though the family looks small, some indicators must be appropriately managed. The form of family management requires the role of human resources from the family itself. Family human resources are needed to make decisions, plan, and behave to meet needs and complete tasks in the family, community, and environment.

Table 1. Forms of Domestic Violence in 2019

Domestic Violence	Amount
Physical abuse	Case 4.783 (43%)
Sexual violence	Case 2.807 (25%)
Psychological violence	Case 2.056 (19%)
Economic violence	Case 1.459 (13%)

Source: Komnas Perempuan Annual Notes, 2020.

Based on the data from table 1, it is clearly seen that the number of domestic violence in Indonesia is increasing, such as physical crimes as many as 4,783 cases (43%), sexual crimes as many as 2,807 cases (25%), psychological crimes as many as 2,506 cases (19%) and economic crimes were 1,459 cases (13%). The indicators that assess the importance of human resources in the family include family characteristics, economic conditions, family management, environmental changes, features, and the fulfilment of family and community needs. The family form in Indonesia has different parts and economic conditions. There are differences in the number of family members,

the type of work, the household environment, and family income. This difference means that human resources management must be different (FauziaArimurti).

4.3 Economy

Economics is a social science that studies human activities related to the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services (Tamsah et al.; Umar, Amrin, et al.; Yusriadi, Farida, et al.). The family's economic conditions are different in communities with different economic strata, including the well-off economy, the medium economy, and the low family economy. Indonesia is faced with many financial problems because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Low-income families' economic conditions are very alarming, leading to a decline in family income and an increase in the number of unemployed and many layoffs. In Indonesia, various micro-business sectors must be constrained by the trade process, such as traders who must close their trade due to social restrictions.

Table 2. Forms of Domestic Violence in 2017

Domestic Violence	Amount
Violence in the personal realm	Case 10.205 (75%)
Sexual violence	Case 3.495 (34%)
Psychological violence	Case 1.451 (14%)
Physical violence	Case 4.281 (42%)
Economic violence	Case 978 (10%)

Source: Kirnandita, 2017.

As a result of the coronary pandemic, poverty is projected to increase by 2020; some 115 million people are categorized as inferior. This increase in poverty has been recorded for the first time since 1998 or in the last two decades. At that time, the global economy was rocked by the financial crisis in Asian countries (Anonim). Indonesia has emergency protection for women, especially in the context of marriage. In the 2017 National Women's Commission Annual Notes, violence in the personal realm occupies the highest number of 75% of their case reports collected from various service partner institutions, namely 10,205 related to personal domestic violence. In this personal sphere, physical violence reached 4,281 cases (42%), sexual violence 3,495 cases (34%), psychological violence 1,451 cases (14%), and economic violence 978 cases (10%) (Kirnandita). The National Commission on Violence against Women noted that domestic violence acts against women increased during the COVID-19 pandemic. The online survey results, held from April to May 2020, were conducted on 2,285 female and male respondents. As many as 80 percent of female respondents in the income group below IDR 5,000,000 per month said that the violence they experience tends to increase during the pandemic (Nugraheny).

In general, the results of the survey showed that psychological and economic violence dominates domestic violence. The online study results identified vulnerability to multiple workloads, especially among women in groups with incomes below IDR 5,000,000 per month, informal sector workers aged 31-40 years, married, with children over three, and living in 10 provinces with the highest exposure to Covid-19. Physical and sexual violence increased in households with increased spending. This indicates the impact of economic pressure on the potential for domestic violence. Less than 10% of women victims of violence have reported cases. Most of them prefer to remain silent or tell their relatives, friends, or neighbours (Nugraheny).

5. Discussion

The difference in the position of women and men with the understanding of gender is a factor in the occurrence of domestic violence. The results showed that there was a misunderstanding by some heads of household, so that the form of their actions towards their wives could be arbitrary. On average, the husband informants they interviewed are the heads of the household, so they can do whatever they want to their wives. The occurrence of this kind of understanding in the community, of course, greatly affects the occurrence of domestic violence. Thus, creating the psychology of women feeling injustice, discrimination, marginalization.

Results have shown that people are accustomed to positioning men and women in different perspectives so that men and women are raised in a socio-psychological atmosphere that gives rise to various personal potentials that support these future perspectives. Some forms of domestic violence are human resources and one of the factors that influence it. The existence of a male spirit as a leader, supported by cultural influences with a strongly patriarchal culture, namely that men are the family's sole authority.

In general, the causes that cause domestic abuse can be divided into two factors: external and internal. External causes are factors that arise from beyond the victim of abuse. A person who is initially average or has no violent actions and behaviour may be able to commit acts of aggression when faced with a condition of distress (stress) such as extended economic difficulty or infidelity or rejection of a relationship or other events. Meanwhile, internal factors arise like the attacker himself, which allows him to be quickly provoked to commit acts of aggression, even when the challenges he encounters are comparatively small. The above two causes can have a negative impact not just on offenders and victims of physical or verbal abuse. Some research studies suggest that children who are unintentional victims of violent events, such as arguments with their parents at home, are often vulnerable to social distress to engage in or mimic the same thing in adulthood. In other words, victims of domestic abuse, both consciously and implicitly, have the same trauma consequences based on their age and gender (Mardiyati).

There are two types of challenges, namely social problems, and social issues. Community issues include examining the different manifestations of community life, while social problems are irregular symptoms of society and are studied to fix or even remove them. Sociology discusses the general challenges of culture to find and interpret the realities of social life, while its reform efforts are part of social work. In other words, sociology attempts to explain the underlying factors behind social actions. In contrast, social work seeks to deal with irregular symptoms in society or address society's challenges (Soekanto).

6. Conclusion

Regulations in Indonesia have provided protection for women as domestic abuse victims, offering substantial benefits to victims in terms of legal protection. The existence of legal certainty is hope for court-seekers against arbitrary actions by husband who are sometimes always arrogant in carrying out their duties as head of household. Because with standard confidence, the community will be aware of the clarity of rights and obligations under the law. The difference in the gender understanding position of women and men is a factor in domestic violence. The results showed a misunderstanding on some householders so that the form of their actions towards their wives could be arbitrary. On average, the husband informants they interviewed are heads of household, so they can do whatever they want to do to their wives. The family's economic conditions are different in communities with different economic strata, including the well-off economy, the medium economy, and the low family economy. Indonesia faces many financial problems because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Low-income families' economic conditions are very alarming, leading to a decline in family income and an increase in the number of unemployed and many layoffs. In Indonesia, various micro-business sectors must be constrained by the trade process, such as traders who must close their trade due to social restrictions.

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