

Community Participation in Preventing Child Trafficking

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***Abstract.* Child trafficking occurs in various countries and has become a problem in many countries, especially in developing countries. Child trafficking is a humanitarian problem. Children must be protected against child trafficking. It is a violation of human's and children's rights because it treats victims as a commodity that is traded and transnational. Children as the next generation of the nation should grow and develop optimally. Community/society plays a role in state security, including a role in preventing child trafficking. The problem of this research is the role of the community in preventing child trafficking is. The research method is the literature review method. Prevention is the responsibility of the state and community/society in the form of participation, in individuals and groups, or social organizations, so prevention of child trafficking will be more effective. Community awareness of trafficked children needs to be mobilized to prevent child trafficking. An active and initiative community has a significant role in preventing child trafficking.**

***Keywords:* community participation, prevention, child trafficking**

INTRODUCTION

Children are mandates and gifts from God Almighty, who must be respected as His creatures, and children are long-term investments to continue the ideals of the nation and state. The future of a nation is in the hands of children as the next generation to continue the nation's struggle, which has a strategic role. Therefore, children need to get the broadest opportunity to grow and develop optimally in various aspects to become an adult. Child protection becomes an integral part of the country's development process, especially in developing human resources. Many factors cause children to be unprotected. In reality, exploitation of children occurs, and a crime against children develops. Trafficking of children has spread so that it is a problem in the world. Child trafficking includes transnational crimes and organized crime, both inter-state and domestic, so that living norms based on human rights, especially children's rights, are threatened. Child trafficking is a phenomenon of the tip of the iceberg in which only a few parts are

visible, while other parts are hidden. In this case, the latter parts are those unknown to law enforcement and the public. Child victims in child trafficking cases are mostly girls.

Some victims of trafficking in persons worldwide are women, especially adult women, but there is also a significant number of teenage girls. Data in 2016 illustrates that 30% of child trafficking victims consist of 23% of girls and 7% of boys, while 49% of adult women and 21% of adult men [1].

Some international instruments relating to child trafficking include the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child and the 2000 Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution, and Child Pornography in 2000 and ASEAN Convention against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children in 2017. The Convention on the Rights of the Child provides a comprehensive framework for the protection of children's rights and dignity and their empowerment, ILO (International Labor Organization) Convention No. 182 Article 3 describes the worst forms of child labor: [2] (a) all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labor, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict; (b) the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or pornographic performances; (c) the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties; (d) work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children. Therefore, as a whole, the convention is seen as a way to understand and respond to trafficking in persons and the exploitation of children.

For several provisions that can be applied directly, the convention requires countries to [3]:

1. "Take appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral steps to prevent the abduction, trading or trafficking of children for any purpose and in any form;
2. Protect children from all forms of economic exploitation, sexual exploitation, and sexual harassment.
3. Take appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral steps to prevent the coaxing or

coercion of a child from engaging in any illegal sexual activity of any kind; exploitative use of children in prostitution or unlawful sexual practices; exploitative use of children against children in the results and material of pornography; and illegal transfer and sending children abroad;

4. Take appropriate steps to improve the physical and physiological recovery and social integration of a child victim of ... all forms ... exploitation in an environment that supports children's health, self-respect, and dignity".

There are also instruments issued by the ILO relating to trafficking in persons. The ILO focuses on progress in the labor market towards improving employment and improving working conditions. The provision of full-time work that is a full time, productive and free to choose will have an impact on human trafficking. The ILO also focuses on promoting gender equality because there is a link between women's employment status, child labor, and trafficking in persons. The ILO has conventions prohibiting some international standards in forced labor, migration, trafficking in persons, and slavery. These conventions have relevance as a means of overcoming and preventing trafficking in persons, including child trafficking. The desire to save and protect children from child trafficking is based on moral values, national and international commitments, to implement early prevention of trafficking in persons.

Seeing the extent of the problem that is difficult to measure, it is necessary to have prevention so that victims of child trafficking do not continue to expand and increase. Prevention is better than cure. Prevention is not only from the government but also from the community nationally and internationally, where the community is very influential in preventing trafficking in persons. Therefore, the problem is what the role of society is in preventing the occurrence of trafficking in persons.

METHOD

The method used is the literature review method or library research method using secondary data. Secondary data is data ready to be used for analysis. Data were collected using library studies by researching books, literature, notes, and reports related to problem-solving [4]. The literary sources used are textbooks and references, reports of research results, and international conventions. The obtained data is compiled, analyzed, and deduced. The analysis used is a literature analysis or a detailed analysis of the discussion of the contents of written information or printed in the mass media.

RESULT & DISCUSSION

Prevention of child trafficking is the responsibility of all elements. The state cooperates with the support and participation of the community. The community's role is to help prevent the occurrence of child trafficking, both individuals and community groups or organizations. All elements of society participate in preventing child trafficking. The community is active and has initiatives in preventing child trafficking so that prevention can be more effective.

Child trafficking is the recruitment, transfer, shipping, placement, or reception of minors for exploitation, and it uses threats, violence, or other coercion such as kidnapping, fraud, or abuse of authority or important positions. Child trafficking is aimed at exploitation: for work (including slavery and ransom), sexual abuse in prosthesis and pornography, for illegal work including begging and drug trafficking, child trafficking through adoption, and arranged marriages (Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention). Many factors encourage child trafficking, such as economic, social, and cultural factors. Child trafficking often occurs in poor, post-conflict, and post-disaster areas. These factors do not stand alone, mutually influential, resulting in child trafficking. Factors that cause child trafficking in each country have specific factors or their development that makes children vulnerable to being the target of child trafficking.

Preventing crime from occurring is an effort that requires action, anything designed to reduce the true level of crime and/or things that can be considered a crime [5]. According to the United Nations, Guidelines for the prevention of crime in 2002 states that crime prevention is defined as comprising: strategies and measures that seek to reduce the risk of crime occurring and their potentially harmful effects on individuals and society, including fear of crime, by intervening to influence their multiple causes. In Article 9 of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime explains, inter alia, that 1) States Parties shall establish comprehensive policies, programs, and other measures: (a) To prevent and combat trafficking in persons; and (b) To protect victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, from revictimization. 2) States Parties shall endeavor to undertake measures such as research, information, and mass media campaigns and social and economic initiatives to prevent and combat trafficking in persons [6]. The protocol of this UN Convention is an international instrument. Therefore, countries that have ratified the convention are obliged to implement and as a legal basis in the prevention of trafficking in persons.

According to A. Qirom Samsudin M, preventing crime is better than educating criminals to be good again, because it is not only calculated in terms of cost, but this effort is more manageable and will get satisfying results and achieve goals [7]. Prevention of child trafficking from a social approach is prevention that involves the community actively working together between citizens and with government agencies and community institutions to prevent crime, especially child trafficking. This means that community participation is needed in preventing child trafficking. Community participation is an indispensable strategy to respond to child trafficking that occurs in the community. The government cannot be alone in preventing child trafficking because it is a national crime and a transnational and organized crime, so it is demanded to be comprehensive and integrated prevention with the active participation of the community both individually and in groups.

According to Arnstein, community participation is a process that involves the community, which is a continuous two-way communication process to increase the community's full understanding of a process of the activity. Provide information to the public about child trafficking and all aspects related to child trafficking through counseling, outreach, and ongoing training. It can cover the importance of disseminating information about what and how child trafficking should be watched out. This builds community understanding and awareness of trafficking to increase concern for children, their children, and the children around us. For example, when in the neighborhood, we see neighboring children going together with strangers, we need to be concerned about asking or giving information to the parents or families of these children. If the community is aware of child trafficking, then the community takes the initiative to report to the authorities. The community in general, especially children/parents are very vulnerable to becoming victims or involved in child trafficking if they do not have sufficient knowledge about this problem. Information should be provided to the public about child trafficking with all its aspects and the community providing information on the occurrence of child trafficking. Providers of information are the first level of community participation, according to Wilcox's participation theory [8]. The second is a consultation where community participation is realized by providing ideas related to child trafficking issues. Thirdly, joint decision-making in the sense of society has a role in providing support for ideas, thoughts, and choices in developing opportunities needed in making a decision. Fourth is participation in acting together. After getting involved in decision-making, the community is involved in carrying out activities like participating in implementing programs to prevent child trafficking. Fifth, provide support such as

funding, advice, and other support to develop activities, such as increasing family resilience. [8, pp. 120-122]

Community Crime Prevention is a crime prevention model oriented to the community's power in tackling crime by developing informal social surveillance. Joint activities in the community determine the prevention of crime efforts, including child trafficking. Community participation in crime prevention is not new. Before the formation of the police organization, the community concerned is responsible for the security of the community itself. As time goes by, joint activities in the community reduced or even ceased to exist so that social control weakened. Values and social norms applicable in society experience changes, so people do not care about the conditions around them. This encourages child trafficking to develop. The moral is an essential foundation for developing social control in society so that people have moral responsibilities.

The Neighborhood Watch approach is a community participation strategy in which community groups organize, prevent, and report crimes in their environment [9]. Thereby encouraging the community to react collectively or together towards the prevention of child trafficking. An active and initiative society is needed to prevent child trafficking.

CONCLUSION

Community participation is needed to prevent child trafficking. The prevention of child trafficking is complex. It requires the involvement of all elements of society in an integrated manner. Community participation can be carried out in various forms, both individually and in groups. This can occur if there is a concern and willingness to prevent the trafficking of children. Therefore, the community needs to be given information to become aware of child trafficking with all its aspects continuously and comprehensively to bring a sense of concern to prevent child trafficking and manifest an active attitude and initiative from the community.

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