



The Impact of Women Trafficking as a Threat to Mental Health

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Abstract. This research aims to explore the impact of women's trafficking as a threat to mental health in the context of an increasingly broad concept of security in the era of globalization. The idea of security is now not only limited to military aspects, but also includes other areas such as health security. Mental health is an essential part of health security, where depression is a severe threat to victims of human trafficking, especially for trafficked women. This research uses qualitative methods to analyze the impact of women's trafficking as a threat to mental health on the Entikong border, Indonesia. The research method used in this research is a qualitative descriptive approach using literature studies and other supporting documents. The study results show that trafficking in women threatens victims' mental health through psychological and physical violence, as well as the risk of diseases such as HIV/AIDS. This causes trauma that leads to depression, detrimental to the mental health and safety of the victims. As a recommendation, cooperation is needed to improve the mental health of victims and reduce human trafficking, especially at the Entikong border, Indonesia.

Keywords: Impact, Women Trafficking, Mental Health.

1 Introduction

Era 4.0 causes a borderless world, which creates problems in people's lives in the digital era [1]. Political education is critical to deal with issues that occur in society [2]. One of the problems that happens in society is human trafficking. Human trafficking is a severe problem that has an impact on the public health emergency of 12 to 30 million people, including more than 5 million children [3]. Currently, human trafficking has become a form of modern slavery.

The government has taken policies to deal with development problems [4]. One of them is the issue of human trafficking, and human trafficking is not something new. Until now, human trafficking continues to occur. The possibility of human trafficking is now a well-organized activity. Apart from that, there is a need for community participation in politics to elect competent leaders who can minimize human trafficking. One of them is the role of the community in culture by making woven crafts. This culture can prevent all forms of human trafficking and increase added value to the economy [5]. This also strengthens solidarity between communities in both urban and rural areas.

Victims of human trafficking are thought to come from less developed countries who come to developed countries in search of better economic opportunities but are then

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trapped in conditions of forced labor or debt bondage at the hands of their employers, employment agencies, or informal recruiters [6]. Apart from that, the geographical conditions that strongly support Tebedu, which borders Malaysia directly, have resulted in a large potential for human trafficking activities abroad. As a developing country, Indonesia is struggling to escape human trafficking.

Increasing poverty and low education make it easy for border communities to agree to direct agreements. The large population and low economy make Indonesia a labor supplier in international trade today. In 2018, the complaint system of the Indonesian Migrant Worker Placement and Protection Service Center received 4,678 complaints from Indonesian Migrant Workers. placed abroad, an increase from 4,475 complaints in 2017. Of the 4,678 complaints, the Indonesian Migrant Worker Placement and Protection Service Center reported 36. proven to be a case of human trafficking [7]. There are still many people who use borders as a way to carry out human trafficking, especially people in border areas. One of the border areas is the Entikong border. This problem certainly has an impact on weakening government policy in handling human trafficking cases, considering that Entikong is located in a border area that is prone to things that threaten security.

Furthermore, the current sense of security focuses not only on military matters. Initially, the popular idea of military security worldwide was during the Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union. Furthermore, the definition of security, which is synonymous with the military world, is also known by another name, traditional security. Traditional security is a definition of security based on the concept of a country that is safe from danger, feeling physically and psychologically threatened as a military. This condition is the country's primary concern, so every country takes strict military security measures to provide traditional security to its people. Thus, the traditional security concept is safety from external attacks and efforts to resolve territorial integrity.

As we enter the era of globalization, the concept of security experiences changes related to war, the military, and human security. Places that are prone to human trafficking are on the West Kalimantan border (Kartikasari and Elyta 2021). Human trafficking at the Entikong border is suspected to have disrupted human security, namely mental health safety. In human trafficking, victims experience depression due to human trafficking which then leads to mental disorders. This depression will significantly affect the mental health of its victims. Mental health is a dynamic condition that allows people to apply their abilities to society's daily values.

Recent studies on health risks and morbidity patterns in trafficked men, Recent research on health hazards and morbidity patterns in trafficked men, women, and children involved in various forms of forced labor [9]. The findings of this study revealed that working circumstances are violent and risky, and victims of human trafficking require access to health services, particularly mental health care. Other studies have examined hurdles to detection and management, including knowledge gaps regarding the processes of screening for trafficking, supporting victims, and making referrals. According to research, a patient-centered approach to trauma and

knowledge can create a safe setting for screening patients at risk of human trafficking [10]. The focus on the topic distinguishes this research from earlier studies. Based on the background information provided, the researcher developed the problem, which is how women's trafficking poses a security threat to mental health.

2 Methods

The main objective of this research is to provide an understanding of the impact of women's trade on mental health, particularly at the Entikong border. The choice of a qualitative descriptive approach using literature studies and supporting documents is deemed an appropriate method for analyzing this phenomenon. With this approach, the researcher gains a deep understanding of the issues being analyzed. The literature study is conducted using various sources related to the problems analyzed by the researcher, utilizing scientific articles, books, online articles, and other official documents that discuss topics relevant to this research. The results of this analysis obtained from these documents are used to strengthen the findings from the literature study and provide a broader context regarding the issue being researched. The next result of the analysis is used to support the findings from the accurate research on the impact of women's trafficking on mental health in the Entikong border area, Indonesia.

3 Discussion and Results

The Impact of Women's Trafficking on Psychological Problems

The trafficking of women is a form of trade that has a significant impact on women, not only physically harming them but also psychologically affecting the victims of women's trafficking. The psychology of women who become victims of trafficking can be severely shaken due to various factors, including the physical violence experienced by victims during the trafficking period. This continuous physical abuse leads to both physical damage and severe psychological harm, resulting in increased stress, anxiety, and significant sadness due to the physical violence and other terrifying events. In addition, physical violence can trigger other psychological issues, such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), which causes sufferers to experience nightmares, flashbacks, and excessive fear [11]. This problem not only raises the risk of sexually transmitted diseases (S.T.D.s) but also causes trauma and mental disorders. Symptoms of depression and stress experienced by the victim characterize this condition [12].

Attractive health insecurity has a link not only to avoidable pain and death but also to the economic depletion of society's dangerous asset base in order to fund urgent medical care. Emergencies frequently start a vicious cycle of poverty [13]. To date, there is little evidence regarding human health and human trafficking. A systematic review in 2012 identified only 16 studies that addressed the violence and health problems experienced by trafficked women and girls [14]. Much research has been conducted on health and human trafficking, especially on sexual exploitation. This is

proven by general evidence that focuses on sexual health, which has a lower level, namely mental health. However, research on the risks and health consequences for non-sexual human trafficking victims is limited.

The global report on human trafficking defines it as a type of violence against women. According to global human trafficking reports, victims are subjected to a variety of physical, sexual, and emotional violence. In addition, victims of human trafficking face imprisonment, forced abortion, and physical violence from their captors [15]. This problem implicitly harms the population's well-being and the community's social capital [16]. One strategy for combating human trafficking is bilateral collaboration between Indonesia and Malaysia (Elyta and Sahide 2021).

The traumatic effects experienced by trafficking victims differ mainly depending on the type of trafficking. Sex trafficking is the most devastating, especially when it happens before the age of 18. Human traffickers typically utilize a range of ways to manipulate their victims, such as incarceration, physical abuse, rape, and threats to the victim's family. The victims feel it both psychologically and physically. Baby trafficking, like adult trafficking, is done with the aim of sexual and economic exploitation. Children can be subjected to several forms of severe exploitation and abuse [18]. When protective elements, particularly family and community support, fail, the impact on survivors becomes much more complex.

Psychological Suffering due to HIV/AIDS

The issue of human trafficking, particularly concerning women, not only leaves behind marks of physical violence experienced but also has detrimental psychological effects. Moreover, victims of human trafficking often have to bear various illnesses that arise from their experiences, one of which is exposure to HIV/AIDS, a contagious disease frequently associated with social stigma. This can exacerbate existing inequalities and discrimination. This stigma can have a significant impact on the psychological suffering of the victims. The stigma imposed by society, particularly on female trafficking victims who are living with HIV/AIDS, can lead to prolonged psychological trauma that affects their daily functioning and social relationships, caused by stress and uncertainty about their future. [19][20]. In addition, the high risk of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) also occurs due to the lack of access to healthcare services and education regarding safe sexual relationships. The study found that 6 of the 13 cases had a relatively high prevalence of HIV/AIDS compared to the victims of human trafficking and prostitution. In addition, these findings indicate that the majority of women who are trafficked are still underage and have experienced sexual abuse. This condition proves the poor reproductive health of women who are victims of human trafficking [11].

Global health security in the long term will only be achieved with sustained and sustainable investment [21]. The investment in question can be in the form of health recommendations. Compliance with public health recommendations is critical to the safety and well-being of the public [22]. As is known, health is an essential asset in

people's lives. Today's mental health of people is one of the dominant issues related to human trafficking activities.

One study reported on the mental health outcomes of human trafficking victims. The study looked at the mental health outcomes of trafficking victims, reporting that depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder were the most common conditions. As many as 83.6% of human trafficking victims stated that they had experienced depression. In addition, victims of human trafficking also experience hostility, aggression, social exclusion, and changes in behavior in the presence of victims of human trafficking, as well as a lack of motivation to help victims of human trafficking [23].

Inadequate education and social support can also worsen this condition. Women affected by HIV/AIDS often do not have access to adequate health services, which can cause their health to decline and increase the risk of serious complications [24]. In addition, the stigma of HIV/AIDS can also affect their relationships with their families and communities, which can cause them to feel isolated and not get the support they need.

The victim's HIV/AIDS route then has the potential to become a bioterrorism weapon. Bioterrorism or biological attack is the process of releasing viruses and bacteria or other biological agents that can cause victims such as humans, animals, and plants to become sick and even die. Bioterrorism poses a complex threat to national, international, and human security, requiring a multidisciplinary approach to preparation and planning [25]. The explanation above relates to the endemic bioterrorism disease that occurs in the workforce, including workers from Indonesia.

Various forms of support are needed to address the impacts caused by human trafficking, particularly on society and the government, which can provide education on prevention and how to treat individuals affected by HIV/AIDS as a way to reduce the stigma surrounding HIV/AIDS. Additionally, psychological support should be offered to those who have experienced trauma due to the disease as a step to alleviate their psychological suffering and improve the quality of life for HIV/AIDS patients, especially victims of human trafficking.

4 Conclusion

The impact caused by the trade of women, particularly in Entikong, results in various significant effects for the victims of this trade. Victims experience mistreatment over a long period, which leads to various issues not only physically but also psychologically. The physical violence experienced by the victim continuously is what causes deep psychological trauma, which can impact the victim's psychology, leading to conditions such as stress, anxiety, and depression. In addition, the impact of women's trafficking that significantly affects the psychology of the victims is the transmission of HIV/AIDS, which leads to stress, feelings of guilt, shame, and low self-esteem. This is based on the fact that the social stigma surrounding HIV/AIDS can also lead to social isolation and depression among the victims. Therefore, the

victims of human trafficking, particularly women, require special attention in efforts to recover and rehabilitate them, especially in terms of psychological health, through a holistic approach that involves various parties in supporting the creation of a supportive environment for this psychological recovery. Mental health has become a tangible form of security for everyone in the world today. In the era of globalization, the definition of security is no longer limited to military aspects; the concept of security is widespread, including human security. One aspect of human security is the mental health security that every individual in the world must possess today.

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