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# Empowering the children's and women's forum as an effort to protect children and women from violence

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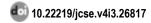
#### ARTICLE INFO **ABSTRACT** Many cases occur in Indonesia that show children and women have become victims of violence, one of which is domestic violence. There are many cases in the community of children and women Article history Received: 2023-06-06 who experience physical, psychological, sexual violence and neglect in the family, especially in the household. This community services uses FGD method to strengthen the children's and women's Revised: 2023-09-11 forum. The findings of this community services found that change is a must, so that in this case the Accepted: 2023-11-03 government needs to make efforts to educate the public to be more open and able to take care of Published: 2023-11-03 themselves to avoid becoming victims of violence, especially in the household. This community services take place in Dadaprejo, Batu, Esat Java. As a result, the Women and Children Forum is an Keywords important tool to be carried out as a means of communication that is implemented to prevent Children women and women from becoming victims of violence. Dadaprejo Forum Legal protection Woman Memberdayakan forum anak dan perempuan sebagai upaya melindungi anak dan perempuan dari kekerasan. Banyak kasus yang terjadi di Indonesia yang menunjukkan anak dan perempuan Kata Kunci menjadi korban kekerasan, salah satunya kekerasan dalam rumah tangga. Banyak kasus di Anak-anak Dadaprejo masyarakat anak dan perempuan yang mengalami kekerasan fisik, psikis, seksual dan penelantaran dalam keluarga, khususnya dalam rumah tangga. Pengabdian masyarakat ini menggunakan Forum metode FGD untuk memperkuat forum anak dan perempuan. Temuan dari pengabdian Payung hukum masyarakat ini ditemukan bahwa perubahan adalah suatu keharusan, sehingga dalam hal ini Wanita pemerintah perlu melakukan upaya untuk mendidik masyarakat agar lebih terbuka dan mampu menjaga diri agar tidak menjadi korban kekerasan khususnya dalam rumah tangga. . Pengabdian masyarakat ini berlangsung di Dadaprejo, Batu, Esat Jawa. Oleh karena itu, Forum Perempuan dan Anak menjadi sarana yang penting untuk dilakukan sebagai sarana komunikasi yang dilaksanakan untuk mencegah perempuan dan perempuan menjadi korban kekerasan. Copyright © 2023, Erdianti et al This is an open access article under the CC-BY-SA license ന ത

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# INTRODUCTION

The problem of children and women is always interesting to discuss, this is a realistic condition that occurs in society that can be seen that children and women are the parties who often become victims of violence. However, it is undeniable that it is very possible that men can also be victims of violence, but more women are victims than men (Rahmatika, 2021).

Relating to a child who becomes the next generation of the nation, in essence the child is unable or unable to protect themselves from various forms of actions that can cause harm physically, mentally, mindset and growth and development of children (Disemadi, Al-Fatih, & Yusro, 2020). With violence that has an impact on many things, it is necessary to have special protection efforts and against children. Every child needs help from others, be it parents,







community, family, teachers and other parties in order to protect themselves from various situations and conditions that may endanger or even threaten them. But the reality is that not all children get full protection and love from parents who should be the closest environment to provide protection for the child. Often there are many cases related to children who get violence from their parents (Novita Erdianti & Al-Fatih, 2019).

Usually, this violence occurs due to broken home family conditions, insufficient economic conditions, disharmony that occurs within the family and so on. This condition will certainly affect and inhibit the growth of the child who should receive treatment like other children in general. Violence is very close to the life and growth of children. Child protection is the responsibility of all communities, not just families. All levels of society have a role and responsibility in the implementation of child protection, in accordance with the mandate of Law No. 35 of 2014 concerning amendments to Law No. 23 of 2002 concerning child protection. According to Law No. 35 of 2014, the definition of a child is not yet 18 years old, including children who are still in the womb. Child Protection Law No. 35 of 2014 states that child protection is all activities to guarantee and protect children and their rights to live, grow, develop, and participate, optimally in accordance with human dignity and dignity, and get protection from violence and discrimination.

Based on the understanding of the above Law, it can be explained that child protection is all activities that intend to ensure the fulfillment of children's rights and protect children's rights (Al-Fatih & Aulia, 2021). Ensuring the fulfillment of children's rights is related to ensuring children's rights to live, participate, grow, and develop in every sphere of life (Liebel, Budde, Markowska-Manista, & Meade, 2023). While the protection of children's rights is related to the protection of children from violent behavior and discrimination. So that when children get protection, it means that they will form children who are qualified, have noble character, are happy and prosperous.

This means that it will form a quality next generation to improve the quality of the Indonesian nation (Erdianti & Fatih, 2019). May children not only have the potential to become victims of violence but also in this case children also have the potential to become perpetrators of criminal acts or delinquency so that in this case it is good as victims and perpetrators in this case it becomes the same problem as important to be addressed immediately Based on data from the 2020 Indonesian Child Profile published by the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection, the number of children in Indonesia in 2019 reached 84.4 million, the number of children, this makes Indonesia in the fourth position in the world as a country that has the highest number of children. This high number raises various problems, there are still many children in Indonesia who have not felt the rights that should be obtained. Therefore, the image of Indonesian children is the target of child rights protection programs pursued by the Government of Indonesia, especially by Regional Governments as governments that are directly close to children's lives, so they are required to be more proactive and critical of the fulfillment of children's rights (Muna, Solehuddin, & Mahmudah, 2022).

In addition to children, it turns out that women are also not a few who experience violence. Various forms of violence are often experienced by women including harassment, rape, murder and even women who are traded for prostitution. Even in the Law on the Elimination of Domestic Violence, it states that the definition of domestic violence is a form of violence, especially against women that causes physical, mental and sexual violence suffering and domestic neglect. The term especially women indicates that it is women who are more victims than men. Based on the Annual Record (CATAHU) issued by Komnas Perempuan that there were 431,471 cases of violence against women consisting of 421,752 cases sourced from case data/ cases handled by Religious Courts, 14,719 cases handled by service procurement partner institutions spread across one third of provinces in Indonesia and 1419 cases from the Service and Referral Unit (UPR), a unit deliberately formed by Komnas Perempuan to receive complaints from victims who came directly or call Komnas Perempuan. Of the 1419 complaints, 1,277 were gender-based and 142 non-gender-based cases. Data on reported violence has increased significantly over the past five years.

Children and women who are vulnerable positions to become victims of criminal acts are one of the triggers for the need for women's and children's forums in the community as a means or forum of communication for children and women to express opinions when they face problems (Gomes, 2013). As another effort to ensure the sustainability of children's rights, a Children's Forum organization was also established which is regulated through the Regulation of the Minister of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Number 18 of 2019 concerning the Implementation of Children's Forums. The Children's Forum organization is a multi-level organization from villages to regional and international levels. In Dadaprejo sub-district, the establishment of children's forums and women's forums is important to do considering that cases of children who are perpetrators of criminal acts have increased (Alaby, 2019). If in the middle of district, in the environment around Dadaprejo sub-district drinking is still a common thing among adults, plus if there is a celebration or village activity there are still several people who drink these drinks, so this will have an effect on children who are feared to think drinking is something normal. If children have started trying to drink alcohol, it has the potential for children to be trapped in other conditions, namely the possibility of children becoming criminal offenders.

In addition to trying to drink, there are still minors who abuse drugs. They mix drinks using drugs such as Bodrek, or Antimo which is then also mixed with amethyst. Abuse of these drugs mixed with amethyst has an impact on hallucinations in children that are quite intense so that it is very dangerous for the condition of these children. This condition requires special attention from various parties, including village officials. Another problem that also needs

attention is the condition of children who are also involved in several criminal acts, this condition the proposer knows based on the results of the proposer's communication with the head of Dadaprejo Village, where there are still children who must deal with law enforcement officials who need attention from their families, communities and village officials.

With these conditions, there should be efforts made by the village to provide protection for children so that in this case one of the efforts that can be done by the village is to create legal protection for children by creating a child-worthy village / village that will always try The Children's Forum is a forum that moves and aims to help reduce the number of crimes against children or There should be a role for the community. What is done is useful to protect children from the influence of negative things. A child can be affected by an unfavorable community environment because child protection in Indonesia is still weak, the closest community empowerment is family, play environment, and school. Child protection will never stop, until the potential resources of successors to the nation's ideals are maintained. Child protection must have two aspects, the first aspect relates to laws and regulations governing children's rights, criminal children and concerns the implementation of these regulatory policies.

The second aspect is the role of the child and parent's environment in protecting children from the influence of perpetrators. This children's forum will bridge communication and interaction between children and the government in order to fulfill children's participation rights. Nationally, there have been 31 Provincial Children's Forums, 401 District/City Children's Forums, 267 Sub-District Children's Forums, and 170 Village/Village Children's Forums. This number is relatively small compared to the total number of areas in Indonesia today. This is certainly not in accordance with the mandate of Law No. 35 of 2014 concerning Child Protection that every child has the right to live, grow and develop, and have his opinion respected. Based on the explanation above, the formulation of the problem raised is how is the urgency of the existence of the Children's Forum and Women's Forum as an effort to protect children and women? those topics were related to the SDG's goals, related to the Gender Equality topics, which is bring equality to children and women in the society without any violence.

#### **METHOD**

The target of community is Dadaprejo children and women forum. Dadaprejo is a village located in Batu City, East Java. The parties involved in this service activity is the Village Government, women organization such as PKK and also the community services from Faculty of Law, Universitas Muhammadiyah Malang. The method that explains the stages or steps in implementing the solution offered to resolve the problem which chosen by the author(s) is Focus Group Discussion (FGD) and seminar model (Al-Fatih & Siboy, 2021). The science and technology transferred/introduced regarding the WAG interaction, webinar and online discussion. Instruments or tools and materials used in community service activity are Power Point (PPT) and brochure. Data collection techniques by list from the authors. To indicate this community service success or not, the author(s) take a control in the WAG of children and women that in keep contact in group. For dissemination, this community services also provide in a scientific paper with purposive method (Ansari & Negara, 2023), such as this paper as an output.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Based on the Regulation of the Minister of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection No. 18 of 2019, what is meant by Children's Forum is a forum for children's participation where members are representatives of children's groups or children's activity groups or individuals, managed by children and fostered by the government, as a means of channeling children's aspirations, voices, opinions, desires, and needs in the development process (Paramitha & Sukardi, 2023). The Children's Forum has a function as a forum for Children's Participation that accommodates the aspirations, voices, opinions, desires, and needs of Children regarding the fulfillment of Children's Rights and Special Protection of Children in the development process in accordance with the level of the area where the Children's Forum is located.

The Ministerial Regulation became the basis for the establishment of children's forums at the regional level so that it became clear about its position. In various cities and regencies in Indonesia already have children's forums as a place for children to participate and be listened to their opinions. Broadly speaking, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) groups children's rights into 4 (four) groups of basic rights, namely the right to survival, the right to grow and develop (development rights), the right to protection (protection rights), and the right to participate (participation rights) one of the principles is children's participation in environmental development which is also one of the rights of 31 children's rights (Jörgensen, Wood, Lynch, Spencer, & Gunnlaugsson, 2023). According to the Regulation of the Minister of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection of the Republic of Indonesia Number 3 of 2011 Article 1 Paragraph 2, "Child participation is the involvement of children in the decision-making process about everything related to themselves and is carried out on awareness, understanding and mutual will so that children can enjoy the results or benefit from the decision.

Children need to be involved in decision making, including in making decisions on regional development plans to create a city that is worthy of them (Publik, Sari, Rusli, & Riau, 2023). The above shows that children's participation is the basis and stepping stone that ensures that children are subjects of equal human rights and therefore are not always the object of a development process. Currently, the government has established and fostered a children's participation forum called the Children's Forum, which consists of all children and the management consists of representatives of children's groups. This children's forum was formed with the aim of bridging the interests of children and the interests of adults. The children's forum is a media, forum or institution to fulfill the child's right to participation, to specifically affirm article 10 of Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection (Abdullah & Ismail, 2019). As a form of commitment in responding to the understanding of the importance of children's participation rights to create a world that is worthy of children (Pratama, 2023).

Unlike the children's forum, the women's forum here basically has a need for its existence but unfortunately the legal umbrella for the women's forum is not specifically regulated in ministerial regulations such as the children's forum. Many women's empowerment efforts were carried out after realizing and acknowledging that there were many problems faced by women's groups. Some of the problems faced are the treatment of injustice to women in the fields of education, health, politics and economics (Banks, 2019). Furthermore, women in Indonesia are also faced with various problems of violence ranging from verbal violence, physical violence to even sexual violence. Patriarchal culture is considered to have a strong aspect causing these women's problems.

Patriarchal culture places women in the number two (subordinate) position in various aspects of development. With this condition, the way to solve women's problems is to increase women's bargaining position. Many strategies are taken to improve women's bargaining position both various counseling, training, awareness and no less important than that is the organization of women (Qizi, Qizi, & K, 2023).

Solving women's problems will be more effective if women organize, namely in groups according to the same problems and needs (Johansson & Kreft, 2023). Women's organizations are one of the solutions to women's problems and efforts to realize the protection of women. Women's organizations here can be a forum for women to express aspirations or opinions or even as a place to vent for women about the problems they face. The existence of women's organizations in society can be said to have a large number, because the purpose of women's organizations depends on the purpose of the organization formed. Just like other organizations, the women's forum here is devoted as a forum for women to communicate either in one direction or two directions in order to prevent violence experienced by women (Amirah, Ulviani, & Muthahharah, 2023).

For example, counseling women about preventing violence against women One of the communities that has a focus on women's issues in Dadaprejo Village is the Women's Care Forum, this forum was created at the initiation of lecturer service activities carried out in the Dadaprejo environment, this women's care forum aims to increase awareness about the conditions experienced by women, especially the most related to cases of domestic violence, namely domestic violence. This forum is usually carried out during PKK meetings both at the RT level and RW level. This women's forum at the village level is a bridge for the Batu city local government as an institution that guarantees women's protection so that women's problems in the village or village will be conveyed to the Batu City government.

This women's care forum activity is carried out by various methods, namely counseling and socialization on Child Protection and Elimination of Domestic Violence This socialization and counseling is carried out to educate the community about the importance of child protection. Socialization and counseling activities are carried out with the aim of informing students in schools and the general public so as much as possible not to commit acts of violence against children. This socialization and counseling are carried out in schools and in the general public. The Children's Forum and Women's Care Forum are a means to achieve Child Worthy Villages and Villages that guarantee the protection of women's rights.

# CONCLUSION

The issue of child and women protection is a topic that is always interesting to talk about, this condition is very concerning for the Indonesian state, thus it is necessary to make legal protection efforts to prevent children and women from becoming victims of violence. Given that currently the amount of violence against children and women is increasing. Prevention efforts that can be done are to create a safe, comfortable environment for the growth and development of children and women that can be provided by villages or villages so that the community will be facilitated to be able to convey complaints and problems experienced in their families. Children's Forum and Women's Care Forum are solutions that will be able to provide hope for the community by educating the public to be able to provide protection for children and women as part of citizens who are guaranteed their rights.

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