



The Role of Parents in Overcoming Juvenile Delinquency According to the Islamic Perspective

Bahy Rynar Murfid

Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia

bahyrm@upi.edu

Aceng Kosasih

Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia

acengkosasih@upi.edu

Nurti Budiyanti

Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia

nurtibudiyanti@upi.edu

Abstract

Juvenile delinquency has become a common phenomenon in society. Although various efforts have been made in order to overcome this problem, the behavior of young people to show their existence in these deviant ways is never ending. Apart from creating a space for actualization to accommodate their various interests and talents, the role of parents is very important in dealing with juvenile delinquency. In particular, this article examines the role of parents in overcoming juvenile delinquency from an Islamic perspective. The purpose of this study is to find alternative solutions, especially solutions that come from family influences. Meanwhile, the method used in the research uses a research library, namely analyzing and reviewing various previous scientific articles. The results obtained from this study indicate that the role of parents is very important in overcoming juvenile delinquency. The presence of parents by inviting positive dialogue to their teenage children is needed so that they get exemplary figures from the attitudes and behavior of their parents. In this case, parents also need to teach their children with commendable morals (*al-Akhlak al-Mahmudah*).

Keywords: Juvenile Delinquency, the Role of Parents, *Akhlak*, Exemplary

Abstrak

Kenakalan remaja telah menjadi fenomena umum di tengah masyarakat. Meski berbagai upaya dilakukan dalam rangka mengatasi persoalan ini, namun perilaku kaum muda untuk menunjukkan eksistensinya dengan cara-cara yang menyimpang ini, tidak pernah ada habisnya. Selain diperlukan penciptaan ruang aktualisasi untuk mengakomodasi berbagai minat dan bakat mereka, peran orang tua sangatlah utama untuk mengatasi kenakalan remaja. Secara khusus, artikel ini mengkaji tentang peran orang tua dalam mengatasi kenakalan remaja menurut perspektif Islam. Tujuan penelitian ini dalam rangka mencari solusi alternatif, terutama jalan keluar yang datang dari pengaruh keluarga. Sementara itu, metode yang digunakan pada penelitian menggunakan kajian pustaka (*research library*), yaitu menganalisis dan mengkaji berbagai artikel ilmiah yang terdahulu. Hasil yang didapatkan dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa peran orang tua sangatlah penting dalam mengatasi kenakalan remaja. Kehadiran orang tua dengan mengajak dialog secara positif kepada anak-anak remajanya sangat dibutuhkan agar mereka mendapatkan figur teladan dari sikap dan cara berperilaku orang tuanya. Dalam hal ini, orang tua juga perlu mengajari anak-anaknya dengan akhlak terpuji (*al-Akhlak al-Mahmudah*).

Kata Kunci: Kenakalan Remaja, Peran Orang Tua, Akhlak, Keteladanan

Introduction

Juvenile delinquency is not a problem that has emerged recently. This problem has existed for a long time, but remains a social issue that gets great attention from every country, including Indonesia. This problem does not only occur in young people living in urban areas, but also in rural areas.

Juvenile delinquency is an act that violates norms, rules, or laws in society that is carried out during adolescence or the transition between childhood and adulthood. Juvenile delinquency includes all behaviors that deviate from the norms of criminal law committed by juveniles. This behavior will harm the perpetrator himself and the people around him.

Nowadays, teenagers are no longer afraid to show their deviant behavior in public. For example, consuming alcoholic beverages, holding student brawls, committing sexual violence against the opposite sex in school classes or in public places, and even injuring other people. In fact, there are things that are even

worse. They began to know the world of drugs and sex. Such behavior, if left unchecked, will threaten their future as the next generation of the nation's leadership relay (Antonius et al., 2016).

The mass media talk a lot about the anarchic behavior of students which makes various parties confused. The level of brutality of Indonesian students has reached a high crime rate. Therefore, who is most responsible for this problem? In the era of globalization, students' problems with their negative actions need special attention from various parties, especially parents and teachers as mentors, directors, and role models.

Students are the next generation of the nation's struggle, if the younger generation is damaged, the future of a country and religion will be destroyed (Yaqin, 2016). Adolescence is a period of transition from childhood to adulthood. A teenager is no longer a child. However, they are still not mature enough to be considered as mature individuals in thought and action.

This generation is in a period of searching for identity, so to show their existence they often go through mistakes. Their mistakes often cause anxiety and unpleasant feelings for the surrounding environment. Mistakes made by teenagers will only please their peers. This is because they are all still in the process of finding their identity. Various mistakes that cause environmental irritation are often referred to as juvenile delinquency (Sumara et al., 2017).

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Juvenile delinquency is an act that violates the norms, rules, and laws in society that is carried out during adolescence or the transition from childhood to adulthood. Juvenile delinquency includes all behaviors that deviate from the norms of criminal law committed by teenagers (Antonius et al., 2016). Quoted from Sumara (Sumara et al., 2017), Kartini Kartono also argues that the factors that cause juvenile delinquency include: First, children do not get enough attention, affection, and educational guidance from their parents, especially guidance from their father because the father is too busy with work outside the home and his own inner conflicts; Second, the physical and psychological needs of adolescents are not met, the wishes and hopes of children cannot be expressed properly, or do not receive compensation; Third, children never get the physical and mental exercise that is necessary for a normal life. They are not accustomed to be discipline and have good self-control.

Adolescence is a time when a child is in search of identity and wants to know who he really is. A child is said to be a teenager, if he has reached the age of 17. At this age, a child experiences a period called puberty. At puberty,

children usually want to try everything new in their life, various kinds of emotional turmoil arise, and many problems arise both in the family and in their social environment (Febriana, 2016).

A number of psychologists define adolescent youth as a generation that is in a phase, where they are facing uncertainty in determining their future. Adolescence begins around the age of 13 and ends around the age of 21 (Lisnawati, 2015). This age range is usually divided into three periods. Those are early adolescence at the age of 11-15 years, middle adolescence aged 15-17 years, and late adolescence aged 17-21 years.

Thus, it can be concluded that adolescence is a transitional age, where an individual has left the age of children who are weak and full of dependence. However, they are not yet at the stage of the age of someone who has a strong stance and is full of responsibility, both towards himself and towards society. The amount of this transition period depends on the circumstances and the social level of the community in which he lives. The more advanced society, the longer the age of the teenager, because he must prepare himself to adapt in a society that has many requirements and demands (Alif, 2016).

Research Method

This research design uses a literature review approach. Literature research is a study that examines or critically reviews the knowledge, ideas, or findings contained in the body of literature that is oriented towards academic studies. The design of this research is by looking for a number of journal articles has been published and discusses about the role of parents and juvenile delinquency. There are many journal articles that have reviewed this topic before, but for the purposes of limited and special research, only selected journal articles are used as references for studies in this research. Furthermore, mapping of concepts from study materials sourced from scientific journals is mapped to make an in-depth analysis in order to strengthen the argument of the findings in the research.

Result and Discussion

Family is the first environment for a child to learn various things that were never known before. In the learning process, a child will imitate what is taught and done by each member of his family (Rizky, 2018). Therefore, education in the family has an important role in fostering and developing children, especially with regard to inculcating religious values from an early age.

In Islamic doctrine, educating children is a very big responsibility. The prophet Muhammad illustrated the paramount of the responsibility to educate children as a shepherd. Prophet Muhammad explained that being a shepherd must be careful of the shepherd. That is to say, parents must continuously supervise and pay attention to their children so as not to get lost and fall into all despicable acts. This is especially true for Muslim parents who are obliged to take

care of their children so that they grow up according to the teachings of the Qur'an and al-Hadith. If this can be done, their children are safe from anger and danger, as is explained in many verses of the Qur'an (Yaqin, 2016).

In this case, it is important to remember the purpose of Islamic religious education, which is to form a Muslim personality whose soul and personality are in harmony with Islamic teachings. To achieve the goals of Islamic religious education, the Muslim community needs formal learning programs that have clear goals so that they can form teenagers with Islamic characteristics in accordance with the teachings of the Qur'an and al-Hadith.

Formal learning is a learning that organizes all the learning variables; such as goals, means, tools, time, place, and evaluation to achieve these goals. Thus, it can be understood that the purpose of Islamic religious education is the same as the purpose of the creation of human being, which is to serve Allah SWT. In other words, to form humans who can understand, believe, and practice the teachings of Islam. Moral education in Islamic teachings is one of the important points that must be taught, so that its people have noble character and can implement it in everyday life. As exemplified by the Prophet Muhammad (Yaqin, 2016).

According to Antonius (Antonius et al., 2016), the role of parents in preventing and overcoming juvenile delinquency can be classified into five roles: First, parents act as friends. Parents must be able to act as friends who are always by their children's side. This can be done by having a dialogue with them every day, then being able to provide solutions to their every difficulty and comfort them when they are sad. With the presence of parents as friends, it makes teenagers feel calm and happy if they have problems. The presence of parents as friends can prevent juvenile delinquency triggered by conflicts or social problems that arise either from themselves or from the social environment around them.

Second, parents act as educators. Adolescents should be given formal and informal education. In dealing with the problem of juvenile delinquency, parents must provide exemplary education at home, such as providing input in the form of Islamic advice. Third, parents as monitors. Parents should always monitor every teenager's attitude in order to eliminate various behaviors that have the potential to deviate.

Fourth, parents as supervisors. It is the duty of parents to prevent juvenile delinquency. Example: before being watched, A always drank alcohol. However, after his parents knew and watched him, then A no longer did that. Fifth, parents act as motivators. After committing a delinquency, the teenager can still be rehabilitated by means of parents providing continuous encouragement to the teenager to return to the right path, but not by violence or coercion but by a persuasive approach. However, if they have not committed delinquency, parents must also continue to provide encouragement and motivation so that the teenager remains in good condition and does not commit delinquency.

The obligation to guide and educate children by parents has also been confirmed in the following hadith: *“Not every child is born unless it is born in a state of fitrah. Then both parents will make it a Jew, Christian, or Magian. Like an animal giving birth to a perfect cub, do you see from it a stump (on the ear)?”*

Based on the hadith, it can be seen that how much influence parents have in shaping the behavior and characteristics of children. In nurturing and nurturing teenagers, parents should not only look at the good and bad behavior of them. But look at their communication patterns in hanging out with their friends, with whom they hang out and how broad their association is. This form of supervision is not an effort to limit children from socializing, but this kind of supervision is important to prevent children from promiscuity.

Then, what is also important is that parents should not show emotional behavior to their children. The inability of each parent to control emotions makes children temperamental. As a result, such parents cannot be a good model for their children (Febriana, 2016).

According to Suerlin (2013:124) in (Febriana, 2016), Parents play an important role in educating their children. From an early age, parents always give attention and affection for the growth and development of their children well. They also act as good role models, guides, and advisers. If children make mistakes, parents should not scold or give physical punishment. However, it can provide a warning or direction so as not to do it again. Of course, parents want their children to be useful individuals for religion, nation and state.

According to Sumara, the factors behind the occurrence of juvenile delinquency can be grouped into internal and external factors (Sumara et al., 2017). Internal factors are in form of identity crisis and weak self-control, while external factors are lack of attention from parents, lack of understanding of religion, influence of the surrounding environment and the influence of Western culture and association with peers, and the place they get education.

Children are a mandate given by God to parents who must be accounted for in the hereafter. Therefore, Islam requires parents to provide education and guidance to their children to worship Allah. This is as the words of the Prophet Muhammad narrated by Ahmad, Abu Dawud, and Al-Hakim, *“Command your children to pray when they are seven years old and beat them if they refuse to do it when they are ten years old and separate their beds.”*

According to Muzdalifah, juvenile delinquency, which is increasingly widespread today, will decrease if parents really carry out their roles and functions (Muzdalifah, 2018). The reason is that parents are the first and foremost educators in building morals or characters of children. Exemplary as a method in providing Islamic religious education is the most appropriate method in building children's morals. Through the example of parents, children can not only hear and see what their parents do at home, but also can practice the concepts, noble

values of Islam which are also exemplified by their parents at home, so that they will become a generation of pious Muslims.

A mother plays a very important role in the formation of a child's personality. This is greatly influenced by the attachment factor between mother and child (Kurniati, 2016). The closeness of mother and child has started since the breastfeeding period, so that personality formation can be started as early as possible. This is reinforced in the Qur'an surah al-Baqarah verse 233, which means as follows:

"Mothers may nurse [i.e., breastfeed] their children two complete years for whoever wishes to complete the nursing [period]. Upon the father is their [i.e., the mothers'] provision and their clothing according to what is acceptable. No person is charged with more than his capacity. No mother should be harmed through her child, and no father through his child. And upon the [father's] heir is [a duty] like that [of the father]. And if they both desire weaning through mutual consent from both of them and consultation, there is no blame upon either of them. And if you wish to have your children nursed by a substitute, there is no blame upon you as long as you give payment according to what is acceptable. And fear Allah and know that Allah is All-Seeing of what you do." (Q.S. 2:233).

Although there are many socio-cultural changes that occur in society, the inculcation of religious values for children, especially teenagers, should still be prioritized. Because, through the cultivation of religious values, there are moral and ethical values as a provision for their lives in society. When these children become the generation of knowledge, they will not forget the moral values they learned when they were teenagers.

Conclusion

Juvenile delinquency usually occurs because they are in a phase of self-discovery. Several forms of juvenile delinquency are such as student brawls, consuming alcoholic beverages and drugs, and having free sex. All this deviant behavior is not in line with Islamic teachings.

There are many factors behind the group of teenagers falling into promiscuity. However, in simple terms, these factors can be categorized into two groups, internal and external factors. Internal factors can be caused by a lack of attention from parents. In fact, parental attention is needed in the development of children in their teen ages. Parents must understand that adolescence is a time full of uncertainty. If their search for identity is not well controlled, there will be deviations and exposure to juvenile acquaintances. Meanwhile, one of the external factors is influenced by advances in information technology which encourages teenagers to behave badly as a result of their viewing through certain sites or social media that exhibit depravity in their behavior.

This study found that the role of parents in overcoming juvenile delinquency is needed, because parents are the first educators for children.

Children are also the responsibility of parents who must be guarded, cared for and guided in accordance with Islamic teachings. In this case, inculcating religious values in overcoming juvenile delinquency is very effective, because by providing religious values, children will understand that what they have done is wrong and will receive the consequences. In addition, the cultivation of religious values is also necessary because there are norms and ethics that are needed in social life.

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