



ANALYSIS OF THE CONDITION OF CHILDREN EXPERIENCED FROM BROKEN HOME FAMILIES IN JANJIMATOGU VILLAGE, LUBUK BARUMUN DISTRICT, PADANG LAWAS DISTRICT

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Abstract

This study aims to explore the conditions of children from broken home families in Janjimatogu Village, Lubuk Barumun Subdistrict, Padang Lawas Regency. Employing a descriptive qualitative research method, data were collected through observations, interviews, and documentation with three children as primary informants. The findings reveal that broken home families result from several key factors: economic issues, poor communication, and infidelity. These factors significantly impact the mental, psychological, and social conditions of the children involved. Children often experience loneliness, emotional instability, and a lack of motivation to continue their education. Furthermore, inadequate parental care and support lead to feelings of insecurity and the absence of a harmonious family environment. One informant even demonstrated self-harming behaviour due to emotional distress. This study underscores the importance of parental roles in providing guidance, affection, and psychological support to mitigate the negative effects of broken home situations. These findings highlight the urgent need to strengthen family communication and build resilience as preventative and recovery measures.

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A. INTRODUCTION

Broken home is a situation and condition of the family where there is no longer harmony as many people expect. A peaceful, harmonious and prosperous household can no longer be obtained because of the commotion due to problems that fail to find a common ground between husband and wife. *Broken home* can be seen from two aspects, namely: *Broken home* is not only for divorced households but can also occur if one of the spouses dies. The consequences of a *broken home* certainly have a great influence on the relationship between parents and children both in terms of communication, mental, psychological, and the child's education. The children referred to here range from children, teenagers to adults (Imron, Bagus Sulisty, 2019).

According to a psychological or psychological point of view, anyone who experiences a *broken home* will also have a *broken heart*. A person's heart is enveloped in pain, disappointment, despair, and thinks that he or she is useless to live (Alifia, 2021). *Broken home* actually does not always have a negative impact on children, but it can have a positive impact. But most of the children are seen from their condition to lead to negative things such as anger, emotions, as if they are lonely, and always think of blaming themselves, feeling haunted by fear, and easily influenced by negative environments so that it is difficult to socialize and low enthusiasm for life (Yazida, Diane Monika, 2021).

It should be realized that many marriages do not produce happiness but do not end in separation. The factors that cause broken homes are inhibited family communication, economic problems, considerable age differences, differences in life principles, differences in how to educate children, social influences from the outside, either from neighbors, relatives, or friends, busyness and third-party interference (Shinta, Narulita Widhi, 2022).

The problems that occur a lot in family conflicts are those who experience difficulties, disharmony in the family or loss of happiness. Of course, the causes of unhappiness are also various, some are caused by the loss of loyalty of one of the husband or wife. In this case, it is the wife who suffers a lot, because she feels that her husband is no longer faithful to her. So that children are neglected and receive less attention from their parents (Zakiah Daradjat, 1972)

The position of parents is very important in directing, providing the basis for education and personality and even as a monitor of children's development and treatment. Children's behavior that is not in accordance with the norm due to a lack of attention, affection or one of the parents who does not play a role in the process of growing and developing children's education, so that the child feels that he or she has lost one of the figure role models that should be role models in children's moral behavior (Komang, 2023).

The family is the first and main place in children's education and a home for children, where they can pour out all their emotions, complaints, and problems they face, they also get happiness, can laugh, and solutions to the problems they face (Joy, et al, 2022). The family is used as a basic foundation through the formation of children's character or morals in the future (Tuti'il, et al., 2022). The function of the family in providing teaching is to lay the foundation of the child's personality. Through interaction in the family, children will not only get to know themselves and their parents, but also need to know the life of the community and the surrounding nature. This will certainly be used as a provision in his life in the future (Mutmainnah, Widyastuti, 2022).

Discuss family Damaged House with a lack of communication in the family, so that it can cause a problem to not be solved, usually with such a problem the child who suffers from Damaged House has types of characters including: quiet, naughty, hard and independent. Behind all of that child Damaged House also not all do negative things, but some lead to positive things (Atika, et al., 2019).

There are several studies that discuss Damaged House as conducted by Nadeiratul Laeli with the research title "Adolescent resilience from the family Damaged House in overcoming stress" (Nadiratul, 2023). The next research discusses "Changes in children's attitudes towards parents in the family Damaged House (Salmia, 2021). And the latest research by Marisa Angraini discusses "Social behavior of adolescents from the family Damaged House in Bentiring Village, Bengkulu City" (Marisa, 2022).

The difference between this study and the previous research is that this study discusses how the condition of children who experience family Damaged House, can they cope with what is happening in their family. This research focuses on the mental or psychological condition of children from the family Damaged

House. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to find out more about the condition of children Damaged House in continuing their daily lives after they have gone through a problem in the family.

B. METHOD

The design of this study uses qualitative research that is descriptive. The research was carried out from April 2023 to April 2023 in Janjimatogu Village, Lubuk Barumun District, Padang Lawas Regency. The data collection technique is carried out by direct field observation process, interviews with children who experience broken homes and documentation in the form of photos or images used to visually describe the conditions that occur during the activity process. The research instruments are a list of interview questions, a recording device and a notebook.

Meanwhile, the data analysis technique through the results of child interviews Damaged House, as quoted from (Mamik, 2015) defines that data analysis is a series of activities of analyzing, grouping, systematizing, interpreting and verifying data so that a phenomenon has social, academic and scientific value. And the informants in this study amounted to 3 people. Then in this case, the researcher also chooses an informant who is considered to know the problem to be discussed and is able to provide information that can be developed to obtain data.

C. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on interviews with children who experience broken *homes*, it was found that the condition of children during *broken homes* has several causes of broken *home* families , namely economic problems, communication problems with the family and infidelity problems.

Economic Problems

In the family, the obligation of a husband (father) is to provide for his wife and children, family life whose economy is often problematic such as the rise and fall of income makes the emotional level of husband and wife also increase. So that quarrels and divorces arise that make the child a victim of the emotions and selfishness of the father and mother. After the divorce takes place, the child's rights fall into the hands of the mother, but the father also does not want to provide any more alimony to his child, because according to the father, alimony is no longer part

of his duties, but if according to religion, the child's alimony is the father's obligation. As conveyed by the sister with the initials AS (informant).

From the economic problems experienced by the US, the US admitted that after their parents separated, their economic situation dropped dramatically because part of the head of the family no longer provided for them. And now there is only one US mother who provides for her daily life, where in the past her mother was only an IRT (housewife), therefore after the divorce or separation between the US mother and father, a mother must be ready to work to provide for her children. Then AS and his sister experienced some difficulties after the separation of his parents.

One of these difficulties is the decline in the level of education or the level of US schools. Because now only one mother provides for them, including in paying for tuition (SPP), so the US decided not to continue her schooling, because the US thought that by dropping out of school, the US could help her family's economic situation. The US, which had aspired to feel sitting in college, now cannot feel it because the current economic situation is declining and unsupportive.

Communication Problems

As explained in the introduction, a broken home is not always because the parents are divorced, but there are those who feel that their family is messy which every day in the house there is always a commotion, as conveyed by the sister with the initials MSR (informant) that there is a lack of communication between MSR family members so that there is no harmony in the family.

MSR also said that his father often did not have time to get together with them, because he was busy working and after MSR's father came home from work, his father also did not feel at home but preferred to gather with his friends at the lopo (coffee shop). Every time he returned home, his father was always angry because he felt that he had lost playing judol (online gambling), all his father's anger was vented on all of them. From there, quarrels occurred that made MSR's sister feel tired of her family's condition. However, MSR can't do anything, MSR can only cry and sometimes MSR blames his fate for why it has to be like this. From a small MSR until now he has never felt what a harmonious family and affection from a father is. MSR had thought about suicide and slashed his own hands. MSR often hurt himself due to his family's messy situation. On the other hand, with his father's

behavior like that, but his father could not escape his responsibility to continue to provide for his wife's children.

Infidelity Problems

As conveyed by the sister with the initials JSN, the initial destruction of herself and her family was when a first love for her was (father) who had the heart to love her mother and children. Where their family used to be fine and harmonious, was instantly destroyed because of their father's behavior. JSN did not think that his father had the heart to commit the affair against his mother. Then from that incident his mother chose to separate, because for his mother the unforgivable thing was infidelity.

His heart was broken because JSN did not expect his family to have to experience a problem like this. His days began to fall apart, and his school was no longer as active as before. JSN feels that this world is unfair to him, his mentality is damaged and he often hurts physically. JSN has not been able to accept that this incident happened to him, since his parents' divorce JSN often locked himself in his room, and also often yelled at his mother and brother and sister. Because of his anger towards his father, his anger also cannot be controlled by JSN to anyone. And until now, JSN still hates his father and his father's cheating.

The quality of a *broken home* family clearly plays an important role in shaping the personality of a broken child (Sania, 2018). The role of family education is so that children have provisions in preparing their character and development later in life with society. Character education does not lie only in school education, but more importantly lies in the educational process in the family, because children have more time to interact with their parents than teachers at school (Dicky, 2017). Character education also involves feelings so that they are able to distinguish between good and bad a value that will determine what action will be taken and in accordance with their desires through the process (Anik, 2020).

The family in the Islamic view has a significant meaning. Islam pays great attention to family life with rules that are useful in preserving family life from disharmony and destruction (Anung, 2017). Broken home is also defined as a lack of attention and affection from parents that makes a child's mentality frustrated, brutal and unmanageable. Broken home has a great influence on a child's mentality,

with this being what results in a child not having the intention to excel (Maulidya, 2022).

Allah SWT says in Surah At-Tahrim verse 6:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ وَأَهْلِيكُمْ نَارًا وَقُودُهَا النَّاسُ وَالْجَارَةُ عَلَيْهَا مَلَائِكَةٌ غِلَاظٌ شِدَادٌ لَا يَعْصُونَ اللَّهَ مَا أَمَرَهُمْ وَيَفْعَلُونَ مَا يُؤْمَرُونَ

Meaning: "O you who believe, protect yourself and your family from the fire of hell whose fuel is man and stone. Its guardians are harsh and violent angels. They do not disobey Allah against what He commands them and always do what is commanded" (Ministry of Religion of the Republic of Indonesia Mushaf Al-Qur'an Translation, 2014: 560).

Family in Islam It is a household built from a marriage between a man and a woman which is carried out in accordance with Islamic religious sharia that meets the requirements of marriage and the existing pillars of marriage. All human beings living in this world certainly yearn for security, peace and tranquility in making it happen. To realize this sense of security, humans need it more than the need for food and others. Therefore, Islam pays attention to this by fostering humans as part of a society based on an upright faith accompanied by noble morals (Winda Kustiawan, Kartini, 2020).

Family features

According to William J. Goode (2004), the form or criterion of the rift in the family (Damaged House) namely: *Invalidity*, It is an incomplete family because the father (husband) or mother (wife) does not exist and therefore does not carry out his duties or roles as determined by society. Cancellation, separation, divorce and leaving, The disconnection of the family here is caused because one or both couples decide to leave and stop carrying out their role obligations. *Blank membrane family*, Family members stay together but do not communicate or cooperate with each other and fail to provide emotional support to each other. *The absence of someone from the partner due to undesirable things*, Families break up because a husband or wife dies, is imprisoned, or is separated from the family due to war, depression or other calamities. *Failure of an undesirable important role*, this problem can result in a person's mental, emotional or physical down, which can lead to failure in carrying out the main role (Rome, 2020).

Causes and impacts of broken homes

The factors that cause *a broken home* can come from the inside or from the outside, but anything that comes from the outside can actually be faced if the factors from the inside have been successfully overcome. The factors that cause *broken homes* consist of closed communication, egocentric, economic, busyness, low understanding and the presence of third parties (Sirilius, 2017).

The impact of *broken homes* certainly has an impact on children who are young and adults, among these impacts is a decrease in children's learning achievement. Children's achievement drops because their parents no longer pay attention to their child's academic development. Then in another impact there are also children who behave aggressively. Aggressive behavior is also caused by the presence of children's carelessness (Marisa, 2022). Families with *broken homes* also have an impact on child delinquency, lack of religious knowledge for children. This impact can have a direct or indirect impact on the child's subconscious. In addition, *a broken home* can also result in decisions, a fracture of the parental relationship and suicidal tendencies. This triggers prolonged stress and will lead to mental unhealth (Joy, et al, 2022). Based on research, it was also found that *broken homes* cause deviant behavior (Musyarafah, 2019).

The solution to the condition of a *broken home* family that is not harmonious will have a negative impact on children. Family harmony or happiness can be realized if the family can play the family function well, such as: *Provides a sense of belonging, Provides a sense of security, Giving affection, Develop good relationships among family members.*

Then to create a harmonious household, there are several things that must be considered as said by Hawari: *Creating a religious life in the family, Have time to be with your family, Have good communication between family members, Mutual respect between fellow family members and There is a close relationship or bond between family members.*

With the explanation above, it can be concluded that to overcome the condition of a *broken home* family, family members need to carry out their respective roles in a family, strengthen religious knowledge, establish good communication and correct wrong communication in the family wisely. To restore the condition of a *broken home* family to a normal family, it is necessary to develop the resilience

and welfare of the family so that the family works as expected. Parents must also be able to maintain a harmonious family integrity by not bringing children to problems between the two couples. This must be underlined so that in the future this *broken home* can be minimized in the community. With such anticipatory steps, there will no longer be a term for *broken home* children who have mental disorders to appear active in socializing.

D. CONCLUSION

The findings indicate that broken home families profoundly affect children, impacting their mental, emotional, and social well-being. Key causes identified include economic struggles, poor communication, and infidelity. Economic challenges often lead to parental conflicts, eventually culminating in divorce. Post-divorce, children become the primary victims, facing diminished quality of life, including unmet basic needs and disrupted education. In some instances, children are forced to drop out of school to support their families financially, thereby limiting their future opportunities. Poor family communication also emerged as a significant factor in creating disharmony. The absence of parental presence, both physically and emotionally, causes children to feel neglected and lacking a role model. Consequently, these children often blame themselves and experience isolation, which may escalate to self-harming behaviours or suicidal thoughts.

Additionally, infidelity as a third factor inflicts profound trauma on children. They often feel betrayed and lose trust in one or both parents, negatively impacting their social relationships with family and peers. This study concludes that families play a vital role in shaping the character and well-being of children. To mitigate the adverse effects of broken home situations, there must be strengthened family communication, attention, and emotional support for children. The government and society must also actively provide family counselling services and educational programmes to raise awareness of the importance of maintaining familial harmony. Such measures are expected to enable children from broken home families to grow with mental resilience and actively participate in social life.

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