

Relationships Between Adolescents' Psychological Well-Being and Problem Behavior in Theft Cases in Youth Correctional Center Bandung

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ABSTRACT: This study aims to determine the relationship between adolescents' psychological well-being and problem behavior in children in conflict with the law (ABH) in theft cases in the Youth Correctional Center (YCC) Bandung. This research is preliminary to the development of a family function therapy design. The quantitative correlational approach is the research methodology employed in this study. Quota sampling was the sampling method employed. In incidents of theft, the study's sample quota was 36 (ABH). The Difficulty and Strength Questionnaire (KKA) measuring instrument was used to determine the level of difficulty and strength they experienced. Adolescent psychological well-being was measured using the Brief Scale of Psychological Well-Being for Adolescents (BSPWB-A)—Indonesian Version. The method of analysis used for the product-moment Pearson correlation test is the source of the data. The result of this study shows a significant negative correlation between adolescents' psychological well-being and problem behavior in children in conflict with the law (ABH) in theft cases in YCC Bandung ($r = -0.200$; $p < 0.05$). The hypothesis proposed is accepted. The implications of this study are the basis for the development of family functional therapy, which considers adolescents' psychological well-being as part of family functional therapy to reduce their problematic behavior.

Keywords: Adolescent's Psychological Well-Being, Problem Behavior, Theft Cases



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INTRODUCTION

The issue of adolescent behavior remains a focus worldwide. Problematic behavior is deviant behavior that leads to detention (Jessor, 2017). Problematic behavior in adolescents that results in detention makes troubled adolescents become Children in Conflict with the Law (ABH). Meanwhile, children in conflict with the law or committing criminal acts often receive responses from society, such as social sanctions (Septianeke Ocha & Rahayu Yusti, 2023). In Indonesia, the number of children in conflict with the law has increased significantly from year to year (Sholikhati,

2015). According to Law No. 11 of 2012 on the Juvenile Criminal Justice System, a child in conflict with the law is a child who is 12 years old but not yet 18 years old and is suspected of committing a crime (Sholikhati, 2015).

Criminal acts committed by children in conflict with the law result in them being placed in YCC. Since January 2015, five categories of criminal acts committed by ABH have been classified in YCC, namely sexual offenses commonly referred to as child protection cases, drug offenses, murder, theft, and fighting or disturbances of public order (Firdasannah, 2022a). The case of theft remains the most prevalent, so Firdasannah et al. n.d. (2024) research involved designing family function therapy to reduce troubled teenagers involved in theft cases at the YCC in Bandung City.

Adolescence means growing into adulthood. Adolescence has a broader meaning encompassing mental, emotional, social, and physical maturity (Hurlock, 1994). The transition from childhood to adulthood, which involves emotional issues, sometimes causes adolescents to slip into deviant behavior. Theoretically, adolescents with weak resilience, poor psychosocial competence, and identity confusion tend to have poor development or exhibit problematic behavior (Elvinawanty et al., 2022; Kadek Darmo Suputra et al., 2022). In contrast, positive adolescent development is characterized by social skills, positive emotions, effective emotional regulation, high self-efficacy, good self-management, good interaction with peers, and good cognitive abilities, which can reduce behavioral problems in adolescents (Arslan & Renshaw, 2018a, 2018b; Katja et al., 2002; Li et al., 2019; Rodliyal Muna & Azizul Hakim, 2023; Sun et al., 2012).

Subjective well-being is now the most empirically supported topic, examined at various life phases using research instruments verified in multiple languages (Viejo et al., 2018a). To put the eudaimonic approach to the concept of well-being into practice and measure it, Ryff proposed six dimensions: (1) autonomy, defined as the ability to have the strength to follow one's convictions, even if they contradict conventional wisdom; (2) environmental mastery, which includes the ability to manage the demands of daily life; (3) personal growth, defined as the perception that one's talents and potential are being fulfilled over time; (4) positive relationships with others, defined as having close, valued, significant connections with others; (5) purpose in life, or having goals and objectives that give life meaning and direction; and (6) self-acceptance, or the ability to recognize and accept one's strengths and weaknesses (Viejo et al., 2018a).

Studies about the relation of parental qualities to psychological well-being, school adjustment, and problem behavior in Chinese adolescents with economic disadvantage showed that perceptions of parental qualities were, in general, related to better adolescent psychological well-being (including existential well-being, life satisfaction, mastery, self-esteem, and general psychiatric morbidity), school adjustment (perceived academic performance and school conduct), and problem behavior (substance abuse and delinquency) (Shek, 2002). Furthermore, the research findings also explain that the psychological well-being of adolescents and their families relates to how adolescents cope with their behavioral problems (Christner et al., 2021).

However, the research results have not yet explained the behavioral dynamics of juvenile offenders at YCC Bandung. Therefore, it is necessary to prove the relationship between adolescents' psychological well-being and problematic behavior among juvenile offenders at YCC Bandung.

This data supports the development of family function therapy. So, this research aims to determine the relationship between adolescents' psychological well-being and problem behavior in children in conflict with the law (ABH) in theft cases in YCC Bandung.

METHOD

Sample and Procedure

The research subjects were selected using the quota sampling technique, which is a method for determining a sample from a specific population up to the desired number (quota) (Sugiyono, 2011). The quota sample determined in this study is 36 people. The determination of the quota number is based on (Gay et al., n.d.), which states that the sample should be at least 10% of the population in descriptive methods. The population in this study is 197 people, so the sample size should be 20 people, but the sample size was determined to be 36 people who are juvenile offenders in theft cases. The process of sampling included in this technique is non-probability sampling. Non-probability sampling is a technique that provides a different opportunity for each element or population to be selected as a sample (Sugiyono, 2011). The quantitative correlational approach is the research methodology employed in this study. The method of analysis used for the product-moment Pearson correlation test is the source of the data.

Measure

The questionnaire consisted of a measure of adolescent psychological well-being and a measure of problem behavior. The Difficulty and Strength Questionnaire (SDQ) measuring instrument was used to determine the level of difficulty and strength they experienced. SDQ was developed by Robert Goodman (A. Goodman et al., 2010; R. Goodman, 1997), and its psychometric quality has been analyzed in Indonesian in the self-report version by Istiqomah (2017) and Oktaviana & Wimbarti (2012); Siregar & Wimbarti (2018). The results of the scale measurement show a reliability of 0.759, and the factor analysis of the SDQ scale measurement can be considered successful because it explains > 50% of the item reduction according to the factor, which is 54.943% of the factor distribution. Then, in the teacher report version by Oktaviana & Wimbarti (2012) and Siregar & Wimbarti (2018). SDQ consists of 25 items with three answer choices: "Not True" (score 0), "Somewhat True" (score 1), and "True" (score 2) for favorable items. The scoring is reversed for items 7, 11, 14, 21, and 25 because these five questions are unfavorable. The entire 25 items of the questionnaire reveal five aspects of adolescent problems, namely 1) emotional problems, 2) conduct problems, 3) hyperactivity, 4) peer problems, and 5) prosocial. In this study, scoring was conducted following the original scale's manual guidelines (english version) to facilitate comparison with previous research results. The score range for each scale is between 0 to 10, while the total score range is 0-50. Categorization for clinical screening has been reported previously (Wiguna & Hestyanti Y, 2012).

Meanwhile, Adolescents' psychological well-being was measured using the Brief Scale of Psychological Well-Being for Adolescents (BSPWB-A)—Indonesian Version. BSPWB-A is a measurement tool developed by (Viejo et al., 2018b). It has been adapted into Indonesian by Sunardy et al. (2023) to measure adolescents' psychological well-being levels. There are 20 items

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on the measurement tool divided into four dimensions, namely self-acceptance (5 items), positive interpersonal relationships (5 items), autonomy (6 items), and life development (4 items).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In this study, all respondents are male children under care in theft cases. A total of 36 juvenile delinquents with educational levels of elementary school, middle school, high school, and vocational school. All of them have served more than one term. The demographic data of the respondents is illustrated in Table 1. It can be seen that 100% of the respondents are male, with the majority being 19 years old at 39%, and the education level is predominantly at the vocational high school level, accounting for 33.36%.

Table 1. Research Demographic Data

Demographic	Category	Frequency	Presented
Gender	Man	36	100%
	Total	36	100%
Age	16	2	5.5 %
	17	10	27.8%
	18	8	22.2%
	19	14	39%
	20	2	5.5%
	Total	36	100%
Educational Level	Failed Elementary School	6	16.66%
	Elementary School	6	16.66%
	Junior High School	6	16.66%
	Senior High School	6	16.66%
	Vocational School	12	33.36%
	Total	36	100%

Based on the standard scores of the research variables in Table 2, the standard score for the adolescent psychological well-being variable is 76, obtained from the average value. Meanwhile, the standard score for the problem behavior variable has been determined by its own test tool, which is 0-15 for the normal category, 16-19 borderline, and 20-40 for the abnormal category.

Table 2. A standard score of Research Variables

Variable	N	Std score	Criteria
Adolescent's Psychological Well-being	36	76	High, Low
Problem Behavior	36	0-15, 16-19, 20-40	Normal, Borderline, Abnormal

Based on the frequency distribution of respondent score categorization in Table 3, the study's results on 36 juvenile delinquents in theft cases showed that 20 respondents fell into the low category of adolescent psychological well-being, accounting for 55%. Meanwhile, 45% or 16 respondents fell into the high category of adolescent psychological well-being. The variable of problematic behavior was predominantly in the borderline criteria, with 50% or 18 respondents. Sixteen respondents, or 45%, fell into the standard criteria and were two respondents in the abnormal category, accounting for 5%.

Table 3. Frequency Distribution of Respondent Score Categorization

Adolescent's Psychological Well-Being			
Category	Criterion	Frequency	Presents
High	>76	16	45%
Low	≤ 76	20	55%
Total		36	100%
Problem Behavior			
Normal	≤ 15	16	45%
Borderline	$15 < X \leq 19$	18	50%
Abnormal	≥ 20	2	5%

The data normalcy test employs the Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test one-sample test with a significance threshold of 0.05 utilizing the IBM Statistics SPSS version 26 program, based on the findings of the prerequisite test in this study. The values of the two variables in this study are generally distributed because the computation results in Table 4 indicate that the normality test value of the problem behavior is 0.052. The normality test value of the adolescent's psychological well-being is 0.061.

Table 4. Normality Test Results

One-Sample Kolmogorov Smirnov Test					
Variable			Sig	Rules of normality	Information
Adolescent's	Psychological	Well-being	0.061	p> 0.05	Normal
Problem Behavior			0.052	p> 0.05	Normal

The results of the normality and linearity tests led to the conclusion that this research data was categorized as parametric data to use the *Pearson Product Moment* correlation analysis technique to determine whether or not there was a relationship between the psychological well-being of adolescents and problem behavior in children in conflict with the law (ABH) in theft cases at YCC Bandung.

Table 5. Test the Correlation Coefficient Hypothesis

Variable Relationships	<i>Pearson Product Moment</i>			
	N	Pearson Correlation	Sig	Information
Adolescent's psychological well-being and problem behavior	36	-0.200	0.001	There is a negative relationship.

According to the findings of the Pearson correlation test of the coefficient with product moment in the above table, there is a -0.200 association between adolescents' psychological well-being and problem behavior, with a significance value of 0.001 ($p < 0.05$). The proposed hypothesis is accepted. According to the hypothesis test results, adolescents' psychological well-being and problem behavior among children in conflict with the law (ABH) in theft cases at YCC Bandung were shown to be negatively and significantly correlated. A correlation score of -0.200 signifies that the correlation points in the opposite or negative direction. According to Cohen's (1970) classification, the study's high correlation coefficient between emotional intelligence and the propensity for violent behavior falls into the low category.

The practical contribution of adolescents' psychological well-being and problem behavior in this study was 20.0%, while the rest, or 80.0%, was determined by other variables not studied. The results of this study follow research conducted by Arslan & Renshaw (2018a), which shows that student subjective well-being is a predictor of adolescent problem behaviors. In addition, Katja et al. (2002) stated that there are relationships among adolescent subjective well-being, health behavior, and school satisfaction. This study's results follow research by Christner et al. (2021) about children's psychological well-being and problem behavior during the COVID-19 pandemic. These findings shed light on the psychological well-being of children and their families during governmental lockdown measures, as well as on relations between children's coping and demographic background. Meanwhile, the relationship results are in the low category, which the small number of respondents can cause. This can be a suggestion for development to find out the relationship between adolescent psychological well-being and problematic behavior in more depth in research subjects with a more significant number.

The psychological well-being of juvenile ABH in theft cases can be related to their problematic behavior. Teenager who feels psychologically well determines how they cope with problems, control emotions, exhibit hyperactive behavior, and interact with their peers (Firdasannah, 2022b). In their study, Christner et al. (2021), adolescents' satisfaction with their school environment affects rule-breaking behavior. Moreover, the correlation between heavy alcohol use and high disease rates indicates that a culture that idealizes alcohol creates pressure on adolescents Christner et al. (2021). Education and health interventions, as well as parents, should focus on discussing alternative ways to express negative emotions, experiences, and independence from authority, all in interaction with adolescents or, in other words, enhancing their psychological well-being (Christner et al., 2021; Firdasannah, 2022a, 2023).

This dynamic can be equated with what happens to juvenile offenders in theft cases. They experience behavioral problems of seizing other people's belongings due to feeling inadequate with what they possess. Their psychological well-being needs to be improved to reduce the recurrence of such actions (Firdasannah, 2022a). Juvenile offenders in theft cases who do not have autonomy in their lives, such as not having the ability to get what they want, will be encouraged to do problematic actions such as stealing. They commit robbery because there is no way to get what they want in the right way—for example, teenagers who rob other people's cell phones due to their inability to buy them. In addition, the environment that is outside their control makes them have no choice but to do something right. This also encourages them to engage in problematic behavior. Teenagers who steal do not have self-development activities to support their welfare. This is related to the selection of hostile communities or relationships they choose. So, the behavior that is carried out is problematic instead of self-development. Their life goals also need to be clarified. This affects their emotional condition and self-acceptance. So, there is a relationship between the psychological well-being of adolescents and problematic behavior among juvenile offenders at YCC Bandung. The results of this study serve as a basis for developing family function therapy interventions to reduce problematic behavior in juvenile offenders in theft cases.

CONCLUSION

The proposed hypothesis is accepted. The results of this study indicate a significant negative correlation between adolescent psychological well-being and problematic behavior of children in conflict with the law (ABH) in theft cases at YCC Bandung. This means that the higher the psychological well-being of adolescents, the lower their problematic behavior, and vice versa. The lower the psychological well-being of adolescents, the higher the problematic behavior. These data are to support the development of family functional therapy programs. The implication is for the development of family functional therapy by considering increasing the variables of adolescent psychological well-being as part of family functional therapy to reduce their problematic behavior. Meanwhile, the limitation of this study is the small number of respondents. This can be a suggestion for development to find out the relationship between adolescent psychological well-being and problematic behavior in more depth in research subjects with a more significant number.

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