# Increasing Adolescent Legal Awareness About Emergency Prevention Of Drugs Abuse In The Young Generation At The Al-Ma'un Shelter House, Bengkulu City

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## **Abstract**

The spread of drugs is almost unavoidable. Nowadays, drug abuse has reached an alarming situation and has become a state problem. This situation is very concerning because the number of narcotics abuse victims in Indonesia has lately increased. In addition, its victims include the underprivileged community and involve children or young teenagers. It's worrying considering that they are the next generation in the nation. The Al-Ma'un Shelter House is an institution for fostering and assisting underprivileged children, especially street children in Bengkulu. The partner's issue was the lack of socialization on drug abuse prevention among the younger generation. It is essential to work together in protecting children from the harm of drugs. Thus, the community service team from Bengkulu University performed socialization or legal counselling on drug abuse prevention to increase legal awareness among the younger generations in Al-Ma'un Shelter House, Bengkulu. This community service activity used the lecture, discussion, and question and answer methods. During the Covid-19 Pandemic, the participants in this community service activity were 15-25 young generation (children and teenagers) in Al-Ma'un Shelter House. Socialization of drug abuse prevention was held on September 24, 2021, in Al-Ma'un Shelter House, Bengkulu. The participants showed enthusiasm for this activity. Drug abuse prevention socialization potentially increases knowledge and legal awareness among the young generations in Al-Ma'un Shelter House, Bengkulu. There should be more socialization or legal counselling from the government and law enforcement officials. In addition, the roles of parents in the family and educators in schools are also crucial.

Keywords: Socialization; Legal Counseling; Drug abuse prevention

## **Abstrak**

Penyebaran narkoba hampir tidak bisa dihindari. Penyalahgunaan narkoba dewasa ini telah mencapai situasi yang mengkhawatirkan dan telah menjadi masalah negara. Keadaan ini sangat memprihatinkan karena jumlah korban penyalahgunaan narkotika di Indonesia akhir-akhir ini semakin meningkat. Selain itu, korbannya adalah masyarakat kurang mampu dan melibatkan anak-anak atau remaja. Ini mengkhawatirkan mengingat mereka adalah generasi penerus bangsa. Pondok Pesantren Al-Ma'un merupakan lembaga pembinaan dan pendampingan anak-anak kurang mampu, khususnya anak jalanan di Bengkulu. Masalah mitra adalah kurangnya sosialisasi pencegahan penyalahgunaan narkoba di kalangan generasi muda. Sangat penting untuk bekerja sama dalam melindungi anak-anak dari bahaya narkoba. Untuk itu, tim pengabdian masyarakat Universitas Bengkulu melakukan sosialisasi atau penyuluhan hukum pencegahan penyalahgunaan narkoba untuk meningkatkan kesadaran hukum di kalangan generasi muda di Rumah Singgah Al-Ma'un Bengkulu. Kegiatan pengabdian masyarakat ini menggunakan metode ceramah, diskusi, dan tanya jawab. Pada masa Pandemi Covid-19, peserta kegiatan pengabdian masyarakat ini berjumlah 15-25 generasi muda (anak-anak dan remaja) di Rumah Singgah Al-Ma'un. Sosialisasi pencegahan penyalahgunaan narkoba dilaksanakan pada tanggal 24 September 2021, di Rumah Singgah Al-Ma'un, Bengkulu. Antusiasme peserta terhadap kegiatan ini sangat tinggi. Sosialisasi pencegahan penyalahgunaan narkoba berpotensi meningkatkan pengetahuan dan kesadaran hukum di kalangan generasi muda di Rumah Perlindungan Al-Ma'un, Bengkulu. Harus ada sosialisasi atau penyuluhan hukum yang lebih banyak dari pemerintah dan aparat penegak hukum. Selain itu, peran orang tua dalam keluarga dan pendidik di sekolah juga sangat menentukan.

Kata kunci: Sosialisasi; Konseling Hukum; pencegahan penyalahgunaan narkoba

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## INTRODUCTION

The problem of drug abuse needs attention from the Indonesian government and the international world. Entering the 20th century, international attention to the problem of narcotics has increased, one of which through the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs in 1961 (Adi, 2009). Drugs are a critical and complex issue that must involve many parties because drugs are not just an individual problem but everyone's problem. Finding the right solution must involve and mobilize all parties, including the government, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and local communities. One of the efforts to overcome the dangers of drugs is to carry out a program focusing on school-age children (Pengadilan Negeri KarangAnyar Kelas II, 2015). In Indonesia, the development of drug addicts is overgrowing. Drug addicts generally come from various professional business circles. Primarily, any profession that consumes drugs begins by experimenting with drugs. Bengkulu City has Al-Ma'un Shelter House to foster street children. However, this shelter house can not coordinate all street children in Bengkulu. It is located at Fatmawati 1, Number 20, Penurunan Sub-District, Ratu Samba District. It was established approximately three years ago under the guidance of the Bengkulu City Social Service. Operational activities in the Shelter House occur every Wednesday and Friday, including mentoring in mental and spiritual development, science, skills, arts, and entrepreneurship. According to Bengkulu City Social Service data, the number of street children under the guidance of the Al-Maun Shelter House is currently approximately 35 people. However, the street children who often come to the Shelter House are around 50 people.

The data shows that most drug users are in the adolescent age group. Adolescence is a developmental phase between childhood and adulthood. It has an enormous desire to experiment, follow trends and lifestyles, and have fun. Although all these tendencies are natural, they have the potential to motivate teenagers into drugs use. Thus, the adolescent is at a strategic age in the distribution of drugs. Further, development in childhood and adolescence will affect life in adulthood.

The problem becomes even more severe when teenagers are infected and transmit HIV/AIDS because of using drugs through needles interchangeably. This situation will threaten the next generation in the nation. Drug abuse prevention is not only the task of a group of people but our collective duty. Thus, it is necessary to perform efforts to prevent drug abuse from an early age by providing sufficient knowledge. (Masita, E. D., Isnaini, Y., & Lestari, P. C. A. 2021)

# GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMUNITY, PROBLEMS, AND TARGET SOLUTIONS General description

Al-Ma'un Shelter House is an institution for fostering and assisting underprivileged children, especially street children in Bengkulu. It was established based on the Decree of the Bengkulu Muhammadiyah Regional Leadership on January 30, 2016. However, it had previously been initiated in

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September 2015. It began with Friday sharing activities which were lunch activities for the poor, sponsored by *Bebek Manter*, and working together with Lazismu PWM Bengkulu. In three years since establishing the Al-Ma'un Shelter House, this institution has moved from Telkom park to the Suprapto Muhammadiyah Mosque. Finally, in April 2019, the Al-Ma'un shelter house received a use grant in the form of an empty house belonging to the University of Muhammadiyah Bengkulu. This house has four bedrooms and a large living room so that children can carry out routine activities. At the same time, it is a resting place for children who have been sleeping at Simpang Lima Taman Telkom. The operational activities continue to run even with many physical shortcomings and no electricity and water network. The big dream for the Al-Ma'un shelter house is more intensive coaching and mentoring. In the future, Al-Ma'un Shelter House will enhance into a boarding school for underprivileged children, especially street children (Masita, E. D., & Maimunah, S. 2018).

### Problem

The partner's issue was the lack of socialization on drug abuse prevention among the younger generation in Al-Maun Shelter House, Bengkulu. It is essential to work together in protecting children from the harm of drugs. Children must comprehend the dangers of drugs and their negative consequences. The younger generation needs information, strategies, and abilities to prevent them from the dangers of drugs.

# Target solution

The community service team from Bengkulu University performed socialization or legal counseling on drug abuse prevention to increase legal awareness among the younger generation in Al-Ma'un Shelter House, Bengkulu. This legal counseling was vital to prevent drug misuse among children and adolescents. The activity included:

- 1. Providing knowledge and increasing legal awareness in the younger generation regarding drug abuse prevention;
- 2. Giving understanding to the younger generation regarding the logical consequences of drugs misuse. The goal was to increase public knowledge regarding drug abuse prevention through school-age education. The socialization included the negative aspects of drug misuse and legal sanctions for users and dealers, so there was a changed mindset in the younger generation. The practical benefit of this activity was a model for drug abuse prevention through school-age education. This socialization focused on providing a correct understanding of narcotics and illegal drug abuse among the younger generation. In addition, the output of this community service was increased knowledge of drug abuse, its sanctions, and its prevention, especially in children and teenagers. (Fachry et al., 2017; Grazuleviciene et al., 2017)

## **METHOD**

This method could explain to the partners about drug abuse, its causes and effects, its prevention, and law and regulations on Narcotics. In carrying out this lecture method, the speaker must avoid theoretical

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discussions because the participants were still children and teenagers. In addition, the speaker should use everyday language and related cases. The lecture presentation time ranges from 30 to 45 minutes, followed by a question and answer discussion and dialogue. Discussion, questions and answers, and dialogue (Masita et al., 2019; Rahmidani et al., 2019)

In this community service activity, activity, discussion, question and answer, and dialogue used two-way communication. The communication was the participation of the younger generations in Al-Ma'un Shelter House to find solutions to their problems. After that, empowerment the participant to develop counseling programs. This activities to use quesiner pre and post quesioner include knowladge, Awarness and empowerment (Aswiyati, 2016; Juwariyah, Widyaswati and Meiriyanti, 2018)

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

During the Covid-19 Pandemic, the participants in this community service activity were 15-25 young generation (children and teenagers) in Al-Ma'un Shelter House. Socialization of drug abuse prevention was held on September 24, 2021, in Al-Ma'un Shelter House, Bengkulu. The participants showed enthusiasm for this activity. It can be seen from their involvement in the question and answer session that participants actively asked questions about the legal counseling materials. (Masita, E. D., Isnaini, Y., & Lestari, P. C. A. 2021)

Table 1 Knowladge And Empowerment Level

Problem	Skor pre	Skore post
Knowladge	Low (total score 10)	High (totla score 40)
Aw <mark>arnes</mark> s	Low (total score 10)	High (totla score 30)
Empowerment	Low (total score 15)	High (totla score 25)

## CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Drug abuse prevention socialization potentially increases knowledge and legal awareness among the young generations in Al-Ma'un Shelter House, Bengkulu. There should be more socialization or legal counseling from the government and law enforcement officials. In addition, the roles of parents in the family and educators in schools are also crucial.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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