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RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN VERBAL ABUSE AND SELF-CONFIDENCE ON CHILD AGED SCHOOL AT PABEAN SEDATI SIDOARJO

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Abstract

Background: Verbal abuse is a type of verbal abuse that can cause stress and have a negative impact on mental health. Verbal abuse if done continuously to children in the long term will have an impact on self-confidence in children.

Objective: The purpose of this study was to determine the relationship between verbal abuse and self-confidence in children in Pabean Village, Sedati District, Sidoarjo.

Methods: The method in this research is to use a quantitative type of research with a cross sectional research design. The sample in this study amounted to 36 people. The sampling technique used purposive sampling technique. Data collection using questionnaires and data analysis using the Spearman Rank (Rho) test.

Result: The results of the Spearman Rank statistical test obtained (p = 0.000; r = -0.570). The relationship between verbal abuse and self-confidence of school-age children, at Pabean Sidoaarjo has a strong relationship with a negative correlation.

Conclusion: The importance of preventing and overcoming verbal abuse in children. This research provides an understanding of the negative impact of verbal abuse on children's self-esteem and reinforces the need to develop approaches that involve protection and recovery for children who have experienced verbal abuse. Measures of protection, education and psychological support should be put in place to ensure the mental and emotional well-being of children in society.

INTRODUCTION

School-age children are children between the ages of 7 and 12. During this stage, children begin to develop independence, recognize friends, and become aware of the people around them. They also start to build a sense of guilt. Parents and the surrounding environment play an important role during this age as children become aware of their emotions, praise, and other responses about themselves (Dewi, Neviyarni, & Irdamurni, 2020).

When a child receives positive emotional recognition, they become happy and more motivated to engage in activities. Conversely, if a child experiences scolding, prohibitions, insults, or negative remarks, it can make them sad, fearful, and guilty. These negative experiences, including words or expressions, can carry over into school age and even adulthood (Aini, 2018). Based on preliminary data, it was found that 10 out of 15 children experienced verbal abuse.

Factors that contribute to the occurrence of violence against school-age children include their experiences and the surrounding environment. Parents with positive experiences tend to refrain from violence towards their children, whereas those with negative experiences may perpetrate violence. Many parents are still unaware that children have rights under the Indonesian Law, Republic of Indonesia Law Number 35 of 2014, Article 1 Paragraph 15a, which states that violence is any act towards a child that causes suffering or distress, whether psychological, sexual, physical, or neglect (Yulisetyaningrum, 2019).

Self-confidence is an important aspect for every individual. With self-confidence, a child can easily overcome challenges and develop a positive attitude without worrying about various situations and conditions. Confidence in individuals often diminishes due to frequent high-pitched talking or shouting at children (Marsari, Neviyarni, & Irdamurni, 2021).

Verbal abuse refers to emotional or behavioral mistreatment that hurts a child. Verbal violence often occurs because parents are unaware that what they say can be extremely harmful, causing emotional and psychological pain to their children. This is due to a misguided perception of children, where parents have excessive expectations and tend to forcefully impose their desires on their children (Yulisetyaningrum, 2019. The urgency of this research is that there are still many parents who intentionally or unintentionally abuse their children verbally.

METHODS

Study Design

The specific research design used in this study was a cross-sectional study.

Settings

The research was conducted in Pabean Village, Sedati Subdistrict, Sidoarjo. The data collection took place from February 7th to March 9th, 2023.

Research subject

The population in this study consists of 49 children, and a sample of 36 children is used. The sampling technique employed is purposive sampling, where respondents are deliberately selected based on predetermined criteria. The reason why total sampling was not used in the research id due time and resource constraints. The inclusions criteria for selecting respondents were school-age children (aged between 7 until 12 years old); residing in Pabean Village, Sedati Subdistrict, Sidoarjo District; willing to participate in the study and honestly complete the questionnaire; obtaining consent from parents of

guardians to participate in the research; and does not have a health condition that could hinder him from giving valid answers in the questionnaire data collection process.

Instruments

The instrument used in the study to assess the relationship between Verbal Abuse and Self Confidence in School-Aged Children in Pabean Village is a questionnaire. The questionnaire consists of several sections designed to gather relevant information from the participants. The verbal abuse questionnaire was adapted and modified from previous studies by Vanaja and Geetha (2017) and Noach and Sette (2022). There are 10 questions in this section. Scale/Category: The questions are rated on a Likert scale, ranging from 1 to 5, with 1 representing "Never" and 5 representing "Always." Participants are asked to indicate the frequency of verbal abuse they experience, including types of verbal abuse, such as shouting, comparison, or humiliation. The validity of this section was ensured by consulting previous research studies and relevant literature on verbal abuse. The questions were developed based on established definitions and indicators of verbal abuse. The self-confidence questionnaire was adapted from previous study. There are 8 questions in this section. Scale/Category: The questions are rated on a Likert scale, ranging from 1 to 5, with 1 representing "Strongly Disagree" and 5 representing "Strongly Agree." Participants are asked to rate their agreement with statements related to their self-confidence, such as their belief in their abilities and their comfort in social situations.

Data collection

The data in this study were collected during a specific time period, from February 7th to March 9th, 2023. The exact location where the data collection took place is Desa Pabean, Kecamatan Sedati, Sidoarjo. The data collection process involved distributing questionnaires to the participants and collecting their responses. The specific details of who collected the data are not mentioned in the given information, but it could be conducted by the researchers themselves or trained assistants who were familiar with the research objectives and protocols. The data collection process aimed to gather information relevant to the research variables and objectives, which would later be analyzed to draw conclusions and make interpretations.

Data Analysis

The data in this study was analyzed using the Spearman Rank (Rho) test. By conducting a Spearman rank correlation test (Rho) and analyzing the data using SPSS version 25, This statistical test measures the strength and direction of the relationship between two variables. The significance level was set at $\alpha \leq 0.05$ to determine the statistical significance of the results.

Ethical Consideration

This research has been conducted in accordance with ethical principles, ensuring the rights and well-being of the participants. Informed consent was obtained from school-age children and their parents, who were provided with comprehensive information about the research. The confidentiality and security of the collected data were strictly maintained, and the data were used solely for research purposes. The research was carried out with integrity, ensuring the absence of data manipulation or bias.

There were no conflicts of interest that could influence the results or interpretation. Overall, this study adhered to ethical standards, prioritizing the welfare and rights of the participants.

RESULTS

Determine the Relationship between Verbal Abuse and Self-Confidence on Child Aged School at Pabean Village, Sedati Subdistrict, Sidoarjo District using Spearmen Rank (Rho) Test

Table 1. Cross-Tabulation for the Relationship between Verbal Abuse and Self-Confidence on Child Aged School at Pabean Village, Sedati Subdistrict, Sidoarjo District using Spearmen Rank (Rho) Test.

Verbal Abuse	Self Confidence						Total	
	Low		Currently		High			
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Heavy	4	11.1	13	36.1	0	0.0	17	47.2
Currently	11	30.6	0	0.0	1	2.8	12	33.3
Low	7	19.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	7	19.4
Total	22	61.1	13	36.1	1	2.8	36	100.0
$\rho = .000$; r = -.570								

Sources: Questionnaire Data, 2023.

Based on the table above, it can be observed that there were 13 respondents (36.1%) who experienced severe verbal abuse, 15 respondents (41.7%) who experienced moderate verbal abuse. Among them, the majority of respondents had low self-confidence, with 22 respondents (61.1%) falling into this category. A small portion of respondents had moderate self-confidence, with 13 respondents (36.1%), and only 1 respondent (2.8%) had high self-confidence. By conducting a Spearman rank correlation test (Rho) and analyzing the data using SPSS version 25, a correlation coefficient value (rs) of -0.570 was obtained. This indicates a relationship between verbal abuse and self-confidence among school-age children in Pabean Village, Sedati Sub-district, Sidoarjo.

DISCUSSION

Based on the research findings, it was found that some children who experience severe verbal abuse have low self-confidence, and those who experience moderate verbal abuse also have moderate to low levels of self-confidence. The correlation test calculation in table 1 above resulted in a correlation coefficient (rs) of -0.570 with a p-value of 0.000 or $p < 0.05$. Therefore, the null hypothesis (H0) is rejected, and the alternative hypothesis (H1) is accepted, indicating a significant relationship. Verbal abuse is a form of violence that targets a person's emotions by using harsh words that can hurt them mentally and emotionally (Vanaja & Geetha, 2017). Verbal abuse is the use of language to harm others,

either through spoken or written words, without understanding the proper and appropriate use of language (Noach & Sette, 2022).

Verbal abuse or verbal harassment is the act of using words that demean, hurt, or belittle someone. Verbal abuse can have negative impacts on a person's mental and emotional health. One of the effects of verbal abuse is the lowering of a person's self-confidence. When someone is treated with demeaning or insulting words, it can affect their self-image. Those words can make someone feel worthless or incompetent, ultimately lowering their self-confidence. In addition to demeaning words, non-constructive criticism can also lower a person's self-confidence. Criticism that is not accompanied by helpful advice or solutions can make someone feel incapable and lacking in self-confidence is an individual's belief in their own abilities to achieve goals and overcome life challenges. When someone is subjected to verbal abuse, it can affect their level of self-confidence. Demeaning and hurtful words can make someone feel unworthy and incapable of achieving their life goals. This can lead to a lack of self-confidence in social situations and difficulties in decision-making.

According to Pardede (2020), verbal abuse by parents is one of the factors that affect low self-confidence in children. This study shows a direct positive influence of verbal abuse on self-confidence. Continual or repeated verbal abuse can cause trauma in individuals. Trauma resulting from verbal abuse can lead to anxiety disorders, depression, or post-traumatic stress disorder. This can result in a decrease in self-confidence and a loss of trust in oneself and the surrounding environment.

LIMITATION

During this research, the limitations experienced by the researchers include not examining the factors of parental education level and knowledge regarding verbal abuse.

CONCLUSION

The majority of school-age children in Pabean Village, Sedati Sub-district, Sidoarjo, experience moderate to severe levels of verbal abuse. The presence of verbal violence contributes to low self-confidence in school-age children. The most common form of verbal abuse experienced by children is shouting and frequent comparison with other peers, leading to a lack of high self-confidence. There is a negative relationship between verbal abuse and self-confidence in school-age children in Pabean Village, Sedati Sub-district, Sidoarjo. This means that as verbal abuse increases, the level of self-confidence in children decreases.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTION

Denis Farida: Literature review, conceptualization, methodology, investigation, resources, and manuscript drafting.
Alpian Jayadi: Literature review, conceptualization, methodology, investigation, resources, and manuscript drafting.

Heri Nur Cahyanto: Literature review, conceptualization, methodology, investigation, resources, project administration, and manuscript drafting.

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Denis Farida   : None.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Authors declare that there is no conflict of interest in this research.

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