

Analysis of the Impact of Legal Socialization and Legal Awareness on Reporting Compliance of Child Abuse Cases in Jakarta

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the impact of legal socialization and legal awareness on reporting compliance in cases of violence against children in Jakarta. Using a quantitative approach, data were collected from 60 respondents involved in child protection, law enforcement, and community services. A structured questionnaire with a Likert scale (1-5) was utilized to measure the variables, and the data were analyzed using SPSS version 26. The results show a significant positive relationship between legal socialization, legal awareness, and reporting compliance, with legal awareness having a slightly stronger influence. The findings suggest that enhancing legal education and awareness efforts can improve reporting compliance and strengthen child protection mechanisms. These results provide valuable insights for policymakers and child protection agencies in Jakarta, highlighting the need for targeted interventions to increase the reporting of child violence cases.

Keywords: Legal Socialization, Legal Awareness, Reporting Compliance, Violence Against Children, Child Protection.

INTRODUCTION

The issue of violence against children in Jakarta, Indonesia, is worsened by challenges in reporting compliance, despite the presence of a legal framework and institutions for child protection. This problem is influenced by social, cultural, and legal factors that shape society's response to such incidents. Effective protection relies on individuals and institutions reporting abuse cases to enable authorities to act. Indonesia's Juvenile Justice System faces challenges in implementing measures like diversion [1], [2], while inconsistencies in law enforcement hinder full restitution for child victims [3], [4]. Social stigma and lack of awareness contribute to underreporting, requiring education to shift perceptions [5], [6]. Public perceptions also affect cases involving children, such as those related to terrorism, where balancing justice and rehabilitation is crucial [7], [8]. The Indonesian Child Protection Commission (KPAI) plays a key role, but collaboration between communities and institutions is vital for effective intervention and prevention [9], [10].

Legal socialisation is a crucial process through which individuals acquire an understanding of legal norms and regulations, greatly influencing their compliance with the law and willingness to report child abuse or neglect. This process encompasses learning about rights, responsibilities, and the legal consequences of actions, especially in the context of child protection. Socialisation occurs in various environments such as family, school, and community, all of which shape individuals' understanding of societal norms and legal expectations [11]. Factors like disciplinary practices, socialisation intensity, and religious piety enhance legal awareness and compliance with legal norms [12]. Legal socialisation can differ among vulnerable populations, such as transgender women, who may face procedural injustice, affecting their perception of police legitimacy [13]. Legal education, including outreach and counselling, is essential for increasing community legal awareness and ensuring compliance with new regulations [14]. To be effective, legal socialisation must continuously update legal knowledge and integrate multicultural perspectives to address modern legal system complexities [15].

In the context of Jakarta, a densely populated metropolitan area with diverse social and cultural backgrounds, the level of legal socialization and awareness can vary significantly across different segments of society. This variation may affect the extent to which people are willing to report violence against children, thus hindering the effectiveness of the child protection system [3], [16], [17]. Although numerous initiatives and programs have been introduced to increase legal awareness and promote child protection, challenges remain in ensuring that these efforts translate into actual reporting compliance. The purpose of this study is to analyze the impact of legal socialization and legal awareness on the reporting compliance of violence against children's cases in Jakarta. By employing a quantitative approach, this research seeks to explore the extent to which these factors influence individuals' willingness to report such cases, thereby contributing to the broader discussion on how to improve child protection mechanisms.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Legal Socialization

Legal socialization denotes the process through which individuals develop information, attitudes, and behaviours related to the law and legal institutions, commencing in childhood and persisting throughout life via family, education, and social interactions. Researchers such as [14], [18] underscore its significance in cultivating law-abiding people who comprehend their rights and obligations. This procedure encompasses formal education, media exposure, and interaction with law enforcement. In child protection, legal socialization is essential for motivating persons to report violence against children, as knowledgeable citizens are more inclined to identify infractions and respond appropriately. Research indicates that legal education enhances interaction with legal systems, crime reporting, and collaboration with authorities [11], [14], [19], [20], rendering legal socialization a crucial element in augmenting reporting compliance, especially in metropolitan environments where child abuse may be more common.

Legal Awareness

Legal awareness, intrinsically associated with legal socialization, pertains to persons' comprehension and knowledge of pertinent laws and regulations, encompassing the recognition of legal rights, the obligations of others, and the processes for conflict resolution. In the realm of child protection, legal understanding is crucial for equipping persons to respond effectively to instances of violence against children. Research conducted by [16], [21], [22] underscores that legal understanding profoundly affects individuals' engagement with legal institutions and their sense of empowerment to report crimes. Elevated legal awareness correlates with heightened confidence in the legal system, thus improving reporting compliance, especially in instances of child abuse when ambiguity may arise over appropriate actions. The World Health Organization (WHO, 2020) underscores the necessity

of enhancing legal understanding to bolster child protection services, particularly in developing nations where cultural or legal ignorance may impede reporting. Studies indicate that individuals cognizant of their legal responsibilities to report violence are more inclined to fulfil these commitments; yet, barriers such as fear of retaliation, distrust in judicial institutions, and insufficient awareness of reporting procedures may impede compliance [12], [23]. Consequently, enhancing legal awareness is an essential measure for augmenting the efficacy of child protection programs.

Reporting Compliance in Cases of Child Violence

Reporting compliance denotes the degree to which individuals and institutions meet their legal responsibilities to report instances of violence against children, an essential component of any legal framework dependent on public collaboration to uphold justice. In child protection, this is especially crucial as children frequently lack the capacity to advocate for themselves, depending on adults or institutions to report maltreatment. Previous studies demonstrate that various factors affect reporting compliance, including fear of retaliation, social norms, and the perceived effectiveness of judicial systems [24], [25]. Communities possessing heightened awareness of their legal responsibilities generally exhibit elevated compliance rates [26], while faith in the legal system significantly influences this; those who perceive authorities as equitable are more inclined to report instances of child abuse [16]. In urban centers such as Jakarta, intricate social dynamics, disparate degrees of legal awareness, and education may impede compliance. Research indicates that legal socialization and awareness initiatives might enhance reporting behavior; however, these efforts must be continuous and customized for certain populations [25].

Legal Socialization, Legal Awareness, and Reporting Compliance

Numerous researches have explored the relationship among legal socialization, legal awareness, and reporting compliance, notably in the context of child protection. Legal socialization establishes a fundamental comprehension of the law, whereas legal awareness transforms this comprehension into applicable knowledge of particular legal responsibilities. Collectively, these characteristics can significantly affect persons' reporting behaviour in instances of abuse against children. [16], [27] discovered that those informed about child protection legislation via educational programs were more inclined to report suspected instances of child abuse. [12], [22], [23] study on legal compliance indicated that those with greater legal understanding were more likely to collaborate with authorities and fulfil reporting requirements. In Jakarta, augmenting legal socialization and understanding may be essential for promoting reporting compliance, particularly considering the city's heterogeneous population and disparate educational levels. Targeted interventions are crucial for ensuring that all communities comprehend their legal obligations, resulting in more uniform reporting procedures and improved child protection outcomes.

METHODS

Research Design

This research employs a descriptive and explanatory quantitative design. A survey methodology was utilized to gather data from participants, concentrating on the perspectives and experiences of individuals engaged in child protection, law enforcement, and community services in Jakarta. The fundamental objective of this research is to ascertain the correlation between two independent variables—legal socialization and legal awareness—and one dependent variable reporting compliance in instances of violence against minors. The obtained data underwent statistical analysis to examine these associations and elucidate the influence of legal education on reporting behavior.

Population and Sample

The study's population comprises individuals engaged in child protection and legal proceedings in Jakarta, including social workers, legal practitioners, law enforcement officials, educators, and community leaders. These individuals were selected for their potential impact on the reporting of violence against children, either through direct engagement or by influencing community awareness and behavior.

A sample of 60 respondents was chosen by purposive sampling for this study. This nonprobability sampling method was selected as it facilitates the selection of respondents with particular information or experience pertinent to the study's emphasis on legal socialization, awareness, and reporting compliance. Due to the particular characteristics of the research topic, purposive sampling guarantees that the participants possess a direct or indirect involvement in the documentation of child violence incidents. A sample size of 60 is deemed suitable for the analysis performed in this study, as it offers adequate data for statistical testing while being manageable within the available resources.

Data Collection Methods

The data for this study were gathered by a standardized questionnaire distributed to the chosen sample of respondents. The questionnaire was created to assess the factors of interest—legal socialization, legal awareness, and reporting compliance—utilizing a series of Likert scale inquiries. The employed Likert scale varied from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree), enabling respondents to indicate their level of agreement or disagreement with statements pertaining to the variables. The data collection process occurred over the span of one month. Participants were provided the choice to complete the questionnaire either in-person interviews or an online platform to suit their interests and availability. A pilot test involving 10 participants was undertaken prior to the distribution of the questionnaire to ascertain the clarity and reliability of the questions.

Data Analysis

Data analysis was performed utilizing SPSS version 26, a prevalent statistical software tool, employing several statistical tests to examine the correlations among legal socialization, legal knowledge, and reporting compliance. Descriptive statistics, including frequencies, percentages, means, and standard deviations, were employed to summarize the demographic attributes of respondents and their questionnaire answers. Reliability testing utilized Cronbach's Alpha to evaluate the internal consistency of the assessment scales for legal socialization, legal knowledge, and reporting compliance, with a threshold of 0.70 deemed satisfactory. Pearson's correlation coefficient was utilized to assess the strength and direction of the relationship among legal socialization, legal awareness, and reporting compliance, with a positive correlation signifying those increased levels of socialization and awareness correlate with enhanced reporting compliance. Subsequently, multiple regression analysis was employed to assess the influence of legal socialization and legal awareness on reporting compliance, evaluating the significance of the regression coefficients to ascertain whether the independent variables exerted a statistically significant effect on the dependent variable.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Descriptive Statistics

The descriptive statistics provide an overview of the demographic characteristics of the respondents and their responses to the questionnaire. Table 1 summarizes the key demographic data of the 60 respondents.

Table 1. Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

Characteristic	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Gender		
Male	35	58.3
Female	25	41.7
Age Group		
20-30 years	15	25.0
31-40 years	28	46.7
41-50 years	12	20.0
51 years and above	5	8.3
Occupation		
Social workers	18	30.0
Law enforcement officers	15	25.0
Community leaders	12	20.0
Legal professionals	15	25.0

Source: Data Analysis (2024)

The respondents were predominantly male (58.3%) and aged between 31 and 40 years (46.7%). Most of the respondents were social workers (30%) or law enforcement officers (25%), indicating that they were actively involved in child protection efforts in Jakarta.

Reliability Testing

The internal consistency of the measurement scales for legal socialization, legal awareness, and reporting compliance was assessed using Cronbach's Alpha. The results are shown in Table 2.

Number of Items	Cronbach's Alpha
5	0.827
5	0.853
5	0.886
	5

Table 2. Reliability Testing (Cronbach's Alpha)

Source: Data Analysis (2024)

The Cronbach's Alpha values for all three variables are above the acceptable threshold of 0.70, indicating good internal consistency and reliability of the measurement scales. This ensures that the responses to the items were consistent and that the scales used in the survey are reliable.

Correlation Analysis

The correlation analysis was conducted to assess the strength and direction of the relationships between legal socialization, legal awareness, and reporting compliance. The Pearson correlation coefficients are presented in Table 3.

Variables	Legal Socialization	Legal Awareness	Reporting Compliance				
Legal Socialization	1.00	0.586**	0.613**				
Legal Awareness	0.586**	1.00	0.675**				
Reporting Compliance	0.613**	0.675**	1.00				

Table 3. Result Correlation Analysis

Source: Data Analysis (2024)

The results indicate a strong and positive correlation between legal socialization and reporting compliance (r = 0.613, p < 0.01), as well as between legal awareness and reporting compliance (r = 0.675, p < 0.01). This suggests that higher levels of legal socialization and legal awareness are associated with greater reporting compliance in cases of violence against children. Additionally, there is a moderate positive correlation between legal socialization and legal awareness (r = 0.586, p < 0.01), indicating that individuals who are more legally socialized tend to have greater legal awareness.

Regression Analysis

Multiple regression analysis was conducted to examine the impact of legal socialization and legal awareness on reporting compliance. The results are presented in Table 4.

Table 4. Regression Analysis of Legal Socialization and Legal Awareness on Reporting Compliance

Variable	В	SE	β	t	Sig.
(Constant)	1.512	0.654	-	2.312	0.024
Legal Socialization	0.321	0.145	0.316	2.214	0.032
Legal Awareness	0.456	0.136	0.415	3.353	0.001

Source: Data Analysis (2024)

The regression analysis indicates that both legal socialization (β = 0.316, p < 0.05) and legal knowledge (β = 0.415, p < 0.01) significantly enhance reporting compliance. Legal knowledge exerts a marginally greater influence on reporting compliance compared to legal socialization; nonetheless, both factors substantially aid in forecasting compliance behavior. The affirmative coefficients suggest that an increase in legal socialization and legal awareness correlates with heightened reporting compliance.

The model was significant (F = 14.865, p < 0.001), with an adjusted R² of 0.462, suggesting that 46.2% of the variance in reporting compliance is attributable to the two independent variables: legal socialization and legal awareness.

Discussion

This study's findings empirically support the premise that legal socialization and legal awareness enhance reporting compliance in instances of violence against children. The notable positive correlations among these variables indicate that those with a stronger familiarity with legal norms and rules, as well as heightened awareness of the legal system, are more inclined to report instances of child abuse. This aligns with the current literature, which emphasizes the significance of legal education and knowledge in influencing legal compliance behavior [12], [16], [19], [20], [22], [23].

Legal awareness demonstrated a somewhat greater impact on reporting compliance than legal socialization. This may be due to the fact that legal awareness directly furnishes individuals with the requisite knowledge to traverse reporting procedures, while legal socialization offers a more comprehensive understanding of legal standards but may not consistently result in particular acts such as reporting. The discovery that legal awareness significantly influences reporting compliance aligns with previous research highlighting the necessity of public education about reporting requirements and processes [12], [16], [20], [22], [23].

The moderate link between legal socialization and legal awareness indicates that those who experience legal socialization are more inclined to cultivate legal awareness. Nonetheless, legal awareness is essential for maintaining compliance in reporting. Consequently, initiatives to enhance legal socialization and legal awareness are crucial for augmenting the efficacy of child protection institutions in Jakarta.

The findings of this study hold significant ramifications for politicians and child protective organizations. Targeted legal socialization initiatives, coupled with awareness campaigns, can markedly improve reporting compliance. This is especially pertinent in Jakarta, where various cultural and social elements may affect legal conduct. Policymakers ought to prioritize enhancing public access to legal education and awareness initiatives, especially in places exhibiting low reporting compliance rates.

CONCLUSION

This study demonstrates that legal socialization and legal awareness substantially affect reporting compliance in instances of violence against children in Jakarta. The findings underscore the essential importance of legal awareness in empowering individuals with the requisite knowledge to report child abuse, while legal socialization establishes the groundwork for comprehending legal standards. The regression analysis indicates that legal awareness exerts a marginally greater influence on reporting compliance, implying that focused initiatives to enhance public understanding of child protection legislation and reporting protocols are essential.

These findings underscore the necessity for policymakers and child protection organizations to formulate and execute legal education and awareness initiatives customized for various populations in Jakarta. By promoting an elevated degree of legal comprehension and awareness, authorities might anticipate an increase in the reporting rates of violence against children, so augmenting the efficacy of child protection systems. Subsequent research may investigate supplementary factors affecting reporting behavior and evaluate the enduring effects of legal education programs on child protection results.

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