

# Effect of Ambivalent Anxiety Attachment to Children Victims of Sexual Violence in Karawang

Cempaka Putrie Dimala<sup>1\*</sup>, Elycita Evantri<sup>2</sup>

**Abstract---***This study aimed at determining how the effect of ambivalent anxiety attachment to children victims of sexual violence in Karawang. Subjects consisting of two children with the age of 12 years, are victims of sexual violence, residing in Karawang, have an ambivalent anxious attachment pattern with parents. Researchers working with the P2TP2A Karawang regency to retrieve data, data taken is data reports from 2016-2017. The method used in this research using a qualitative method with a case study approach. Data collection uses non-participants and interviews on subjects and significant people as data triangulation. The results showed the definition of children who had an ambivalent anxiety attachment pattern to parents and became victims of sexual violence made the children have a closed characteristic, less adaptable and took a long time in expressing or telling about the violence they experienced, as well as the feeling that the triggered compilation takes place.*

**Keywords---***ambivalent anxiety attachment patterns, children, sexual violence victims, P2TP2A.*

## I. Introduction

Sexual violence is increasingly prevalent in the news by the media. Every year the cases number of sexual violence increases, the victims are not only from adults but it now has reached teenagers, children, and even toddlers. In Indonesia, there are every day 35 women who experience sexual harassment and violence in the realm of personal life (Fuadi, 2011). There were 105,103 cases of sexual violence, especially against women, which were handled by 384 service provider institutions throughout 2010 (Komnas Perempuan, 2010). In Karawang Regency itself, December 2016, the Karawang Police and Women's Protection Unit (PPA) recorded 116 cases of sexual violence that had occurred and were reported to be followed up legally. This number increased quite sharply from 2015 (Dimala, 2016).

It must be realized that cases of sexual violence against children are identical to the increasing cases of pornography, especially through the internet and social media. Freedom and ease of accessing the internet support the increase in cases of sexual violence against children. The Kita and Buah Hati Foundation surveyed in 2012 and found 76% of children in grades four through six elementary schools in Jabodetabek have seen pornographic content. Most children download pornographic content from their own homes by accident, while others download pornographic content from internet cafes, mobile phones, or friends (Anwar, 2014).

---

<sup>1</sup> Psychology Study Program, Universitas Buana Perjuangan Karawang, Karawang, Indonesia.

<sup>2</sup> Psychology Study Program, Universitas Buana Perjuangan Karawang, Karawang, Indonesia.

In general, what is meant by sexual harassment is all forms of behavior that connotes or leads to things that are targeted to cause negative reactions such as shame, anger, hatred, offense, and the individuals who are harassment victims. The range of sexual harassment is very broad such as flirting, cheating whistles, sex or gender connotation comments, porn humor, pinchings, pokes, pats or touches on certain body parts, certain movements or cues that are sexual, solicitation of dating with the lure or threat, invitation to have sexual relations until rape (Zakaria, 2014). Collier (Zakaria, 2014) stated that sexual abuse is an obstacle to children's physical and psychological development. Sexual harassment can threaten the victim's identity, making it difficult to concentrate and lack confidence.

In Karawang, the phenomenon of sexual violence against children often occurs. This can be seen from the quite frequent similar cases reported at the Center for Integrated Services for Empowering Women and Children (henceforth will be called P2TP2A) Karawang. Researchers chose two cases of child sexual abuse reported in P2TP2A. Victims in the first case are men aged eight years who experienced cases of sexual abuse by adults (pedophilia). While the victims in the second case were nine-year-old women who experienced sexual harassment by their peers. The attachment to the parents of both victims is at the same level which causes the personality characteristics of both of them to be almost the same. Both victims in the two cases were provided with the same psychological assistance together with P2TP2A, namely by providing psychoeducation that can provide an understanding of the victim about things. It can interfere with his psychological so that the victim and the victim's family can anticipate the possibility of a repeat of the same event in both.

Based on the above background, researchers are interested in researching children who are victims of sexual violence who have a similar level of attachment to parents, namely ambivalent anxiety and personality backgrounds are almost the same. The purpose of this study is to analyze how the effects occur after they experience sexual violence. Sexual violence is an act that leads to sexual invitations or pressures such as touching, kissing, and or doing other acts that are unwanted by the victim, forcing the victim to watch pornographic products of sexual jokes, words that are condescending and harassing by leading on the sex aspect of the victim, forcing sex without the consent of the victim with physical or unrelated violence, forcing sexual activities that are unwelcome, demeaning, hurting or injuring the victim (Poerwandari, 2008 in Zakaria, 2014). Sisca & Moningga (Dimala, 2016) stated sexual violence that occurred in childhood was a crucial event because it harmed the lives of victims in their adult years. Violence against children can be done those closest to them or those who should be responsible for their lives.

Paramastri (2012) stated the level of sexual violence on children has the highest impact when compared to physical and psychological violence and Indonesia is considered a weak country in protecting children. The impact of sexual violence is usually no different in terms of the sex of the child. The impact will look different when viewed from the personality characteristics or temperament of the child. Children who tend to be open, adaptable, and positively charged with energy will tend to recover more from their trauma. Whereas children who tend to be closed, difficult to adapt, charged with negative and sensitive energy will need more time and more effort to recover from their trauma. According to Kurniawati (in Paramastri, 2013) sexual violence against children will have an adverse effect on children as victims. Most rape victims experience a psychological disorder called post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) whose symptoms are intense fear, high anxiety, and rigid emotions after the event. Victims who experience violence need one to three years to be open to others.

Approaching is a strong emotional bond that children develop through their interactions with people who have special meaning in their lives, usually parents (Mc Cartney & Dearing, 2002, in Eliasa, 2011). Most children have

formed an attachment to primary caregivers around eight months of age with 50% proportion for mothers, 33% for fathers, and the rest in others (Sutcliffe, 2002 in Ervika, 2005). Stickiness is not a bond that occurs naturally. There are a series of processes that must be passed to form the attachment. According to Jacobson and Hoffman (Papalia, Olds & Feldman, 2009), if children get a secure basis and can trust parent's responses, they will feel confident enough to involve themselves from their world actively. Children with insecure attachment tend to show negative emotions (fear, distress, and anger), while children with secure attachment look more cheerful (Koshanska, 2002; Papalia, Olds & Feldman, 2009). Between three to five years, children with a secure attachment will grow more curious, competent, empathetic, resilient and confident, getting along better with other children, and establishing close friendships than children with insecure attachment. They interact more positively with parents, teachers, and peers, and are better able to resolve conflicts (Papalia *et al.*, 2009).

Bowlby (Eliasa, 2011) stated attachment will last long enough in the span of human life that begins with the attachment of the child to the mother or other maternal successor figures. Not all relationships that are emotional or affective can be called attachment. The effective features that show attachment are the relationship last long enough, the bond persists even though the sticky figure does not appear within the reach of the child's views, even if the figure is replaced by someone else and the stickiness with the sticky figure will create a sense of security (Ainsworth, 1978; Ervika, 2005).

Bowlby (Eliasa, 2009) there are three patterns of attachment, namely the pattern of secure attachment (safe), the pattern that is formed from the interaction of parents with children. Children feel trust in parents as figures who are always accompanying, sensitive, and responsive, full of love and affection when they seek protection and comfort, and always helpful in dealing with situations that are frightening and threatening. Children who have this pattern believe in the responsiveness and willingness of parents for themselves. The second attachment pattern is anxious resistant attachment (anxious ambivalent). Children feel unsure that their parents are always there and are quick to help when children need them. As a result, children easily experience anxiety to separate, tend to depend, demand attention, and anxiety when exploring in the environment. In this pattern, children experience uncertainty as a result of parents who do not always help at every opportunity and also the separation. The third attachment pattern is anxious-avoidant attachment, which is a pattern formed from parents to children. Children do not have confidence because when looking for love, children are not responded to or even rejected. In this pattern, conflict is more hidden as a result of the behavior of parents who constantly reject it when the child approaches to seek comfort or protection.

## II. Research Methods

This research uses a qualitative method with a case study approach. The sampling technique used in this study is to use a purposive sampling technique, with the criteria of research subjects: children under 12 years old experienced sexual violence, domiciled in the Karawang area, having an ambivalent anxious attachment pattern with parents. The measurement of ambivalent anxious attachment patterns is done by interviewing both parents of all subjects and analyzing parenting as well as the social and emotional development of both. This research was conducted by taking P2TP2A data in 2016-2017, with two subjects.

Data collection methods used are interviews and observation techniques. Interviews were conducted covering questions about relationships with parents who were awakened by ambivalent anxious attachment patterns, psychological conditions after getting sexual violence. While the observations used are non-participant observation, the

researcher is not actively involved and is only an independent observer, and the observations themselves are carried out in the residential setting, the school environment, and where the subject carries out their daily activities. The researcher uses data analysis techniques with the constant comparative method comparing the main data with other data and in other ways comparing one with another category.

### III. Results and Discussion

Sisca & Moningka (in Dimala, 2016) stated sexual violence that occurred in childhood was a crucial event because it had a negative impact on the lives of victims in their adult years. According to Kurniawati (in Paramastri, 2013), sexual violence against children will have an adverse effect on children as victims. Most rape victims experience a psychological disorder called *post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)* whose symptoms are intense fear, high anxiety, and rigid emotions after the event. Victims who experience violence need one to three years to be exposed. Therefore, quick action is needed in handling and preventing it. Several factors that allow children to become victims of sexual violence in addition to factors that come from the perpetrators, factors that originate from the victims themselves also need to be considered. Like a family background that is lacking in building attachments between children and parents, causing an ambivalent anxiety pattern (anxious resistant attachment), a pattern that is formed from the lack of interaction between parents and children. Children feel unsure that their parents are always there and are quick to help when children need them. As a result, children easily experience anxiety to separate, tend to depend, demand attention, and anxiety when exploring in the environment. Neglected feelings felt by children will form personality characteristics that tend to be closed, difficult to adapt, or anxious in dealing with the environment, and always want attention from anyone they meet. So, it is easy to believe and feel comfortable with the attention given by others, even from people who are not so close to him. According to Bowbly (Eliasa, 2009) the pattern of ambivalent anxious attachment makes children experience uncertainty as a result of parents who do not always help at every opportunity and also the separation.

Having viewed from both cases, attachment and parenting that is built by parents are very influential on the child's personality. Furthermore, the ambivalent pattern of attachment received by both subjects makes their personality characteristics tend to be closed and less able to adapt well to the environment. This makes both more closed when telling about the sexual violence they experienced and acting as a sexual violence incident is not something wrong because it makes them feel comfortable and find the attention they do not receive in their family especially attachment to their parents. As Paramastri (2012) stated the impact of sexual violence on children who tend to be closed, difficult to adapt, charged with negative and sensitive energy will require more time and greater effort to recover from their trauma. The events of sexual violence against the two subjects in this study made them more quiet and introverted to others so that they disrupted their activities at school, such as interactions with friends when playing or with teachers when learning.

### IV. Conclusions and Recommendations

A family background that is lacking in building attachments or attachments between children and parents influences the way the child adapts and influences the effects that occur after the child experiences sexual violence. The impact of sexual violence on children will look different when viewed from the personality characteristics or temperament of the child. Children who tend to be closed, difficult to adapt, charged with negative and sensitive energy

will need more time and greater effort to recover from their trauma. A suggestion for those who are interested in researching the same thing is that it is necessary to consider a large number of respondents studied. Therefore, it can uncover well how they impact on children who are victims of sexual violence who have an anxious attachment pattern is ambivalent to their parents. Furthermore, advice for parents should pay more attention to parenting and attachment patterns to children because it will affect many aspects of children's lives now and when they are adults. For parents of both subjects, it is necessary to learn more to understand the characteristics of children and apply appropriate parenting for them so that the attachment between parents and subjects can be formed better. The subject can quickly recover from feelings of depression over the events of sexual violence they experienced. Teachers and friends as the environment of the two subjects also need to play a role to help the subject in the process of healing from the experienced trauma.

## References

- [1] Anwar, S. D. (2014). *Pentingnya Membangun Komitmen Bersama Untuk Mencegah Maraknya Kekerasan Seksual Dan Pornografi*. Jakarta: Dirjen Informasi dan Komunikasi Publik, Kemenkominfo.
- [2] Chika, Annisa. (2015). *Hubungan Antara Kelekatan Orang Tua-Anak Terhadap Kecerdasan Moral Anak*. Skripsi. Jakarta: Bina Nusantara
- [3] Dimala, C. P. (2016). Dinamika Psikologis Korban Kekerasan Seksual Pada Anak Laki-Laki (Studi Kasus Di Karawang). *Psychopedia: Jurnal Psikologi Universitas Buana Perjuangan Karawang*, 1(2).
- [4] Eliasa, E. I. (2011). *Pentingnya Kelekatan Orang Tua Dalam Internal Working Model Untuk Pembentukan Karakter Anak*. Skripsi. Fakultas Ilmu Pendidikan, Universitas Negeri Yogyakarta.
- [5] Ervika, E. (2005). *Kelekatan (Attachment) Pada Anak*. Skripsi. Program Studi Psikologi Fakultas Kedokteran Universitas Sumatera Utara.
- [6] Estevez, A. G., Roche, J. R. F., Saborit, A. R., Espinosa, A. H. R., & Rodriguez, D. L. (2019). Relationship between social skills and alcohol consumption. *International Journal of Health Sciences*, 3(1), 1-8. <https://doi.org/10.29332/ijhs.v3n1.244>
- [7] Fuadi, M. Anwar. (2011). Dinamika Psikologis Kekerasan Seksual; Sebuah Studi Fenomenologi. *Jurnal Psikologi Islam (JPI)*. Vol.8 No. 2. Januari 2011, 191-208. Malang: Lembaga Penelitian Pengembangan Psikologi dan Keislaman (LP3K).
- [8] Hafifah, Duwi Nur., Kristanti, Silvia., Fauzia, Rahmi. (2015). Efektivitas Pendampingan Psikologi Dengan Metode Appreciative Inquiry Untuk Meningkatkan Kepercayaan Diri. *Jurnal Psikologi*. Banjar Baru: Universitas Lambung Mangkurat
- [9] Huraerah. (2006). *Child Abuse*. Bandung: Penerbit Nuansa.
- [10] Jain, P. (2017). Effect of online education trend on quality management. *International Journal of Health Sciences*, 1(1), 1-5. <https://doi.org/10.21744/ijhs.v1i1.16>
- [11] Komnas Perempuan. *Bentuk-bentuk kekerasan seksual*. (2015). Komisi Nasional Anti Kekerasan Terhadap Perempuan.
- [12] Kurniawan, L. S. (2019). Emotional intelligence and marital decision. *International Journal of Health Sciences*, 3(2), 11-20. <https://doi.org/10.29332/ijhs.v3n2.287>

- [13] Kusumayanti, G. D., & Dewantari, N. M. (2017). The influence of low purine diet and physical activity on changing of uric acid levels in hyperuricemia. *International Journal of Health Sciences*, 1(3), 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.21744/ijhs.v1i3.45>
- [14] Lesmana, J.M, (2005). *Dasar-Dasar Konseling*. Jakarta:UIN.
- [15] Leyva, T. F., Mendoza, Y. R. M., Alcivar, B. M. P., & Caballero, A. M. A. (2018). Obesity: problem to consider in public health. *International Journal of Health Sciences*, 2(3), 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.29332/ijhs.v2n3.198>
- [16] Papalia, D.E, Olds. S.W & Feldman, R.D. (2009). *Human Development (10<sup>th</sup> Ed) B. Marswendy (Trans)*. Jakarta: Salemba Humanika.
- [17] Paramastri, Ira. (2010). Dampak Psikologis Pada Korban Kekerasan Seksual. *Jurnal Psikologi UGM*. Volume 37, No.1
- [18] Praharsini, I., Suryawati, N., Indira, I. E., & Sanjiwani, S. P. (2018). High level of tumor necrosis alpha and serum interferon gamma as risk factors for progression of vitiligo disease. *International Journal of Health Sciences*, 2(2), 1-8. <https://doi.org/10.29332/ijhs.v2n2.109>
- [19] Probosiwi, R., Bahransyaf, D. (2015). Pedofilia Dan Kekerasan Seksual: Masalah Dan Perlindungan Terhadap Anak. *Artikel jurnal. Sosio Informa*
- [20] Puryana, I. G. P. S., & Antarini, A. A. N. (2018). Nutritional content and amino acid profile of juleh. *International Journal of Health Sciences*, 2(1), 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.29332/ijhs.v2n1.77>
- [21] Rahman, Fathur dan Nurhayati, Siti Rohmah. (2006). *Model Pendampingan Psikologis Berbasis Gender Dalam Kasus Kekerasan Terhadap Perempuan*. Yogyakarta: UNY
- [22] Ratini, N. N., Yuliara, I. M., & Trisnawati, N. L. P. (2019). Radiation dosage distribution in area room CT scan multi slice 64 to dose limit value. *International Journal of Health Sciences*, 3(3), 25-32. <https://doi.org/10.29332/ijhs.v3n3.348>
- [23] Sisca, Hyu., Moningka, Clara. (2008). Resiliensi Perempuan Dewasa Muda Yang Pernah Mengalami Kekerasan Seksual Di Masa Kanak – Kanak. *Jurnal Psikologi*. Vol.2 No.1. Jakarta: Universitas Kristen Krida Wacana: Jakarta
- [24] Suarjana, N., Karmaya, I. N. M., Satriyasa, B. K., Pangkahila, J. A., & Astuti, N. P. W. (2017). The influence of granting ngor eggplant (solanum indicum) extract inhibiting of spermatogenesis in mice (mus musculus). *International Journal of Health Sciences*, 1(2), 12-19. <https://doi.org/10.21744/ijhs.v1i2.35>
- [25] Zakaria, M. Yazid. (2014). *Resiliensi Remaja Korban Pelecehan Seksual*. Skripsi. Surabaya: Universitas Islam Negeri Sunan Ampel