



Delinquency behavior from Adverse Childhood Experience

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Abstract

Delinquent behavior includes breaking the rules to committing criminal acts. There are many factors behind delinquency behavior, both internally and externally. Externally, this behavior cannot be separated from events that occurred in childhood, especially events experienced in the family environment or as an Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE). Of the 6 delinquency groups in the Child Correctional Institution, this study intends to see what ACEs are experienced by juvenile delinquency perpetrators. The research subjects were 72 teenagers. Data collection using the Adverse Childhood Experience scale. Data analysis using ANOVA. The results show that there is no difference in Adverse Childhood Experience in the 6 delinquency groups. From the average obtained, the group for drug crimes, sexual crimes, murder, theft, and child protection experienced 5 types of Adverse Childhood Experience, and the brawling group experienced 4 types of Adverse Childhood Experience. The types of Adverse Childhood experiences that are often experienced by juvenile delinquents are emotional neglect and physical neglect. 68% of teenagers who carry out delinquent behavior come from families whose parents work as laborer and traders.

Keywords: *adolescent; adverse; childhood; experience; delinquency*

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Introduction

Adolescence is a period of development between children and adults. Many changes occurred in this period, especially in terms of social relations which required teenagers to play roles appropriately in the environment and be able to adapt well. This is not easy to allow teenagers to experience conflict, and frustration from social pressures. Responses to this are quite diverse, ranging from positive to negative responses, one of which is a response in the form of behavior that violates the rules, acts of crime, or *delinquency*. Literally, delinquency means being neglected, and ignoring, which is then expanded to becoming evil, anti-social, criminal, lawbreaker, noisy maker, troublemaker, terrorizer, sinner, ungodly, and others (Kartono, nd). *Delinquency* always has the connotation of attacks, offenses, crimes, and annoyance committed by young people under the age of 22 years.

Based on data obtained from the Indonesian Child Protection Commission from 2011 to 2016, cases of crimes committed by minors have increased from year to year, it was noted that as many as 9243 children were faced with legal cases. Meanwhile, in the city of Bandung itself, it was recorded that as many as 192 children faced legal cases (KPAI, 2016).

The involvement of teenagers in criminal cases indirectly makes them face the law. This is explained by Law no. 11 of 2012 concerning the Juvenile Criminal Justice System regarding children in conflict with the law. Children in conflict with the law consist of children who are victims of criminal acts, children who are witnesses to criminal acts, and children who conflict with the law. Children who conflict with the law are hereinafter referred to as children, which are children who are 12 years old but not yet 18 years old and who are determined by the court to have committed a crime (Law No. 11 of 2012 concerning the Juvenile Criminal Justice System). The term child in law has the same meaning as the term teenager in psychology because the age of the child is between eleven (11) to twenty or twenty-one (20 or 21) years old. In subsequent writings, the term child in law will be replaced by the use the term juvenile.

The family environment is the first and closest social environment to a child's life. The family acts as a source for children to learn various types of behavior. How the conditions and situations in the family, as well as the interactions that occur largely, influence the formation of the child's personality. Functionally adequate families encourage the growth and development of children in a positive direction. Conversely, children who grow up with hostility or aggressive parenting allow children to be close to aggressive actions and even criminal acts. Most of the perpetrators of criminal acts are known to come from functionally inadequate housing conditions. Some problem behaviors in adolescents are thought to be the result of events that occurred in childhood.

Delinquency behavior begins with delinquency that occurs in adolescence, then develops into behavior that violates the law. Adolescents who are involved in legal cases are more likely to experience various forms of trauma. Among the lawbreakers, mentioned having experienced physical abuse as a child (Teague, Mazerolle, Legosz & Sanderson, 2008). Adolescents who experienced physical abuse had more violent offenses than adolescents who did not experience abuse (Lasford et al., 2007). Herrera and McCloskey (2001) stated that witnessing domestic violence in childhood can contribute to behavioral problems and delinquency in later life and is predicted to be involved in juvenile court proceedings. Parental divorce shows a strong relationship with delinquency (Amato, 2001).

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) are traumatic experiences or causes of stress that affect health and well-being throughout the life span (Felitti et al., 2019). ACE includes domestic abuse and dysfunction in childhood, family mental health, domestic violence, and family criminal behavior (Felitti et al., 2019). Research has also shown that high ACE exposure in childhood is associated with "health risk behaviors," including drug use, alcoholism, violence, and crime (Baglivio et al., 2017). ACE refers to 10 childhood experiences, which include emotional abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional neglect, physical neglect, domestic violence, domestic

substance abuse, mental illness in the household, parental separation/divorce, and member households with a history of imprisonment.

A high ACE score is associated with sexual behavior, such as having a sexual partner or having sex before the age of 15 (Felitti et al., 2019), as well as experiencing pregnancy in adolescence. ACE research has shown that childhood types of abuse and neglect exert a strong cumulative effect on human development.

Method

This study is a quantitative research. With this type of comparative research, where the researcher compares *adverse childhood experiences* based on the *delinquency* carried out, namely the category of drugs, sexual harassment, murder, theft, child protection, and brawls. Participants in this study were 72 juvenile *delinquency* who lived in LPKA in Bandung City. The sampling technique used is total sampling. Measurements were made using the *Adverse childhood experience* compiled by the researcher based on the type of *adverse childhood* (Corcoran, 2018), which includes *abuse, household challenges, and neglect*, which in total are 16 items. The ACE score was obtained from the number of types of ACE experienced, which was measured dichotomously (yes/no), with a maximum value obtained of 16 and a minimum value of 0. The measurement did not see how often or the intensity of the type of ACE was experienced. Some examples of the sound of the item “do you think your parents were rude to you”; “Do you often get insults or hurtful words from your parents/other family?” Reliability testing is carried out using a single test method (*single test-single trial*), this method only performs one test on a group of subjects (Yudhisthira, 2018). The validity of the measuring instrument used is *construct validity* with the analytical technique using Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA), with the standards used based on the criteria of (Joseph F. Hair, William C. Black, Barry J. Babin, 2010). Analysis of differences in each *delinquency* measured by *the one-way ANOVA test*.

Result and Discussion

Result

The results of the research that will be presented include the results of obtaining demographic data from *delinquency test adverse childhood experience* group.

Table 1. Demographic Data Based on Delinquency

	Category of Delinquency					
	Drugs	Sexual Harassment	Murder	Theft	Child Protection	Brawl
Valid	10	13	6	6	12	25
Missing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mode	^a 17.000	16.000	17.000	17.000	17.000	18.000

^a More than one mode exists, only the first is reported

Table 1. The data above describes the number of respondents from this study, namely 10 children with drug cases, 13 children with sexual harassment cases, 6 children involved in murder cases, 6 children in theft cases, 12 children with child protection cases, and 25 children brawl.

Table 2. Demographic Data Based on Age Category

Cause of enrollment in LPKA	Age						Total
	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Drugs	0	0	6	4	0	0	10
Sexual Harrasment	0	5	5	2	1	0	13
Murder	0	0	3	3	0	0	6
Theft	0	1	3	2	0	0	6
Child Protection	1	1	7	2	1	0	12
Brawl	2	1	9	11	1	1	25

Table 2. This explains the age of LPKA students in each case group. In general, teenagers who are involved in legal cases from each category are at the age of 17 and 18 years. The most cases are brawl cases, sexual harassment, murder, and drug cases.

Table 3. Occupational Background

Type of Work	Total	Frequency
Parents		
No Permanent Job	2	2,8%
Labor, Self	49	68%
PNS	14	19,4%
TKW	3	4,2%
TNI AD	4	5,6%
Total	72	

Table 3. This table describes demographic data based on parents' occupational background. Most or as many as 68% of juvenile delinquency perpetrators come from families whose parents work as laborers and entrepreneurs. Workers such as household assistants, construction workers, grave diggers, drivers. While the entrepreneur in question is as a food seller, such as noodle, sellers, hawkers.

Table 4. ANOVA Test on Adverse Childhood Experience

Cases	F	p
Cause of enrollment in LPKA	0.640	0.670
Residuals		

Note. Type III Sum of Squares

Table 4. The results of the ANOVA test in 6 groups of cases/categories of law violations in LPKA students obtained P value = 0.670, this indicates that there is no significant difference in Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) between groups of cases/categories of violations law on LPKA students.

Table 5. *Adverse Childhood Experience*

	Drugs	Sexual Harrasment	Murder	Theft	Child Protection	Brawl
Valid	10	13	6	6	12	25
Missing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mean	5.300	5.308	5.833	5.000	5.667	4.840
Mode	^a 4.000	5.000	6.000	4.000	4.000	4.000
Std. Deviation	1.767	1.548	1.169	1.673	2.387	1.281
Minimum	4.000	3.000	4.000	4.000	4.000	3.000
Maximum	9.000	8.000	7.000	8.000	12.000	8.000

^a More than one mode exists, only the first is reported

Table 5. This table shows that the mean value generally has the highest value of 5. ACE namely the homicide and child protection delinquency group. Meanwhile, the category of drug delinquency and sexual harassment has the same mean value, and the last category is the brawl delinquency category. Thus, it can be concluded that in general, all categories have 5 ACEs and 4 ACEs for the brawl group.

Table 6. *Emotional Neglect*

	Drugs	Sexual Harrasment	Murder	Theft	Child Protection	Braw l
Valid	10	13	6	6	12	25
Missing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mean	2.300	2.154	2.167	2.333	2.083	2.040
Mode	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000
Std. Deviation	0.675	0.555	0.408	0.516	0.289	0.351
Minimum	2.000	1.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	1.000
Maximum	4.000	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000

Table 6. This table shows that all delinquency categories have experienced emotional neglect from their parents. Emotional neglect is where the child feels unimportant, feels unloved by family members, doesn't get attention and doesn't feel close, and doesn't feel love and support from family.

Table 7. Physical Neglect

	Drugs	Sexual Harrasment	Murder	Theft	Child Protection	Braw l
Valid	10	13	6	6	12	25
Missing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mean	1.700	1.923	2.000	2.000	1.917	1.960
Mode	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000
Std. Deviation	0.675	0.277	0.000	0.000	0.289	0.200
Minimum	0.000	1.000	2.000	2.000	1.000	1.000
Maximum	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000

Table 7. This table shows that all categories of delinquency experience *physical neglect* from their parents. Physical neglect is where children feel they are not being cared for properly, for example when they are sick, feel they are not being facilitated for their main needs, such as in terms of food, clothing.

Table 8. Separation/Divorce

	Drugs	Sexual Harrasment	Murder	Theft	Child Protection	Brawl
Valid	10	13	6	6	12	25
Missing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mean	0.400	0.538	0.500	0.333	0.750	0.280
Mode	^a 0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Std. Deviation	0.699	0.660	0.548	0.816	0.866	0.614
Minimum	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Maximum	2.000	2.000	1.000	2.000	2.000	2.000

^a More than one mode exists, only the first is reported

Table 8. This table shows that all *delinquency* does come from families whose parent's experiencing separation or divorce. While table 9 shows that juvenile *delinquency* generally does not come from families who consume drugs. However, there are teenagers in the category of drugs, sexual harassment, legal protection, and brawls that come from families or one of the families who consume drugs.

Table 9. Substance Abuse

	Drugs	Sexual Harrasment	Murder	Theft	Child Protection	Brawl
Valid	10	13	6	6	12	25
Missing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mean	0.300	0.077	0.000	0.000	0.167	0.080
Mode	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Std. Deviation	0.483	0.277	0.000	0.000	0.389	0.277
Minimum	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Maximum	1.000	1.000	0.000	0.000	1.000	1.000

Table 10. Violence

	Drugs	Sexual Harrasment	Murder	Theft	Child Protection	Brawl
Valid	10	13	6	6	12	25
Missing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mean	0.300	0.231	0.500	0.167	0.333	0.160
Mode ^a	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Std. Deviation	0.675	0.439	0.548	0.408	0.778	0.374
Minimum	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Maximum	2.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	2.000	1.000

^a More than one mode exists, only the first is reported

Table 10. This table shows that juvenile *delinquency* generally did not receive harsh treatment such as being pushed, slapped, kicked, or beaten by their father or mother. However, from each delinquency there are many who experience it.

Tabel 11. Mental Illness

	Drugs	Sexual Harrasment	Murder	Theft	Child Protection	Brawl
Valid	10	13	6	6	12	25
Missing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mean	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.083	0.000
Mode	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Std. Deviation	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.289	0.000
Minimum	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Maximum	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.000	0.000

Tabel 12. Criminal Household

	Drugs	Sexual Harrasment	Murder	Theft	Child Protection	Brawl
Valid	10	13	6	6	12	25
Missing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mean	0.100	0.154	0.333	0.000	0.083	0.240
Mode	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Std. Deviation	0.316	0.376	0.516	0.000	0.289	0.436
Minimum	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Maximum	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.000	1.000	1.000

Table 11. This table shows that juvenile offenders *do* not come from families experiencing depression or mental problems.

Table 12. This table shows that in general the perpetrators of *delinquency* not from family members who commit crimes or live in prison. However, there are among the perpetrators of drug delinquency, sexual harassment, murder, child protection, and brawls whose family members are involved in criminal acts or are imprisoned.

Table 13. Emotional abuse

	Drugs	Sexual Harrasment	Murder	Theft	Child Protection	Brawl
Valid	10	13	6	6	12	25
Missing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mean	0.000	0.077	0.000	0.167	0.083	0.080
Mode	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Std. Deviation	0.000	0.277	0.000	0.408	0.289	0.277
Minimum	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Maximum	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.000	1.000	1.000

Table 13. This table shows that in general, *delinquency* do not experience emotional abuse, namely actions such as being insulted or intimidated. However, some of the perpetrators of sexual harassment, child protection, and brawls have experienced this.

Discussion

Adverse childhood experience is a potentially traumatic event that can have a negative impact on an individual's health and psychological well-being. These events or experiences are related to stress experienced early in life, usually before the age of 18. Stress can be interpreted from two perspectives because it is a subjective experience. Perception of stress varies from one individual to another. Stress on the one hand can trigger a person to be more motivated, but on the other hand stress can be a dangerous thing. This allows for a serious threat because it can cause trauma.

The impact of exposure to *adverse childhood experiences* in early life can be long lasting, where psychological stress in childhood results in physiological disturbances and increased susceptibility to disease throughout the life course, this process is referred to as biological implantation (Danese

et al., 2015). Thus, *adverse childhood experience* is not a problem that must be dealt with temporarily, because it becomes a part of life so that an approach is needed to better understand and improve the health and well-being of individuals (Kimple & Kansagra, 2018).

One of the maladaptive behaviours caused by *adverse childhood experiences* in childhood is the emergence of antisocial behaviour. Difficulties or experiences experienced as children are related to the application of boundaries in relationships in adulthood (Friedman, 2018). In recent years, criminologists have examined the impact of *adverse childhood experiences*, looking at how they relate to delinquency, crime, and violence. This shows that *adverse childhood experience* has a relationship with individuals with clinical cases and individuals in the prison environment when compared to the general population (Baglivio et al., 2017). From the results of research conducted on 60,000 adolescents in the United States, it was found that children with the "bad" category experienced *adverse effects childhood experience*. This is in line with the results in this study, where juvenile offenders from each category were exposed to *adverse childhood experiences* in childhood. Where this is shown by the experience of *emotional neglect*, *physical neglect*, and *violently* in childhood. 5 categories of *delinquency* or involvement of adolescents in LPKA include *delinquent*, sexual harassment, murder, theft, and child protection experiencing 5 types of *adverse childhood experience* on average *adverse childhood experience*. The categories experienced consist of *emotional neglect* which includes the experience of not being loved by parents, the experience of no one in the family who cares or gets special treatment, the experience that parents do not provide protection, and the experience of not being close to parents or family members. another. The category of experience related to *physical neglect* includes experiences where parents do not always meet basic needs (such as food, drink, clothing, money, and proper housing), as well as experiences where the family does not show full care when he or she is sick.

Adolescents who experience *adverse childhood experiences* are generally less likely to commit murder or serious offenses against people/property but more likely to commit sexual misconduct (Delisi et al., 2017). Score *adverse childhood experience* significantly affects aggression than self-esteem or depression. This suggests that abuse and inadequate parenting encourage aggressive behaviour in children (Matsuura et al., 2009). Based on the results of research (Fox et al., 2015) a history of childhood trauma, such as abuse, neglect, criminal behaviour, and other criminological risk factors shows that any additional *adverse childhood experience* experienced by a child can increase the risk of becoming a criminal. These findings suggest that the *adverse childhood experience* can be used by practitioners as the first screening tool to identify children at risk of becoming criminals.

According to (Felitti et al., 2019), children who experience stress or difficulties that are so strong, with high intensity, or prolonged, such as experiencing physical or emotional neglect, substance abuse or families experiencing mental disorders, experiencing violence Physically, or their families experience economic burdens/difficulties that can interfere with cognitive development and other organ systems so that they are at risk of developing diseases and disorders in adulthood. Children who experience *adverse childhood experiences* are often unable to think rationally and act appropriately when interacting with others (Collingwood et al., 2018).

With regard to the economic status obtained from the results of this study, where as much as 70.8% came from middle to lower economic status with the type of work of parents as laborers, entrepreneurs, as well as with parents who do not have permanent jobs, it shows that the condition of economic status is quite good. chance of *adverse childhood experience*. This is in line with the explanation from (Stith et al., 2009) where the presence of unemployed family members is associated with a higher *adverse childhood experience* ratio. Unemployed parents allow for neglect of children, resulting in the lack of protection provided and the occurrence of child abuse (Sidebotham & Golding, 2001). The impact of work or parental stress has a direct effect on the mother-child relationship (Sidebotham & Golding, 2001).

Adverse childhood experience is related to behaviour that interferes with health conditions, mostly related to the respondent's age, gender, and parental education level (Di Lemma et al., 2019). Family is a protective factor as well as a risk factor, depending on the context. Having a well-

functioning family helps children develop resilience as adults. However, having a family filled with violence, abuse, and neglect is a major risk factor for developing mental health problems. Persecution or violence in the family environment has a more harmful effect on the development of self-defence than low socioeconomic status (Cicchetti, 2010).

Delinquency in adolescents in LPKA is certainly not the only one because of the *adverse childhood experience* they experienced. Because after all, these teenagers do not only establish relationships or focus on life in their families. Social environmental factors or how one's personality is owned, such as how he interprets an event that occurs, how to manage his feelings, or his ability to survive in difficult situations, may be one of the factors that triggers the emergence of criminal acts or *delinquency*. Described in his research (Arruda & Arruda, 2014) that *adverse childhood experience* is the basis that triggers poor cognitive and social abilities so that eventually adopting something wrong that leads to risky behaviour. Thus, *adverse childhood experience* needs special attention so that it does not have an impact on a longer risk. Especially for teenagers who are currently living in LPKA.

From the results obtained from this study, attention to *adverse childhood experience* does not only touch on the context of the family itself. From the findings where most of the backgrounds of *delinquency* come from families with middle to lower status, of course it can be a concern for the government to determine a policy and provide special actions to prevent or minimize harmful actions or the impact of *adverse childhood*.

Conclusion

The results of this study indicate that there is no difference between each category of the delinquency group. This means that in general, *delinquency* experience *adverse childhood experiences* with an average of 4 to 5 adverse childhood experiences. The dominant category experienced by the perpetrators of *delinquency* is the experience of neglect in terms of emotion (*emotional neglect*) and neglect in terms of physical (*physical neglect*). The results of demographic data related to the work of parents showing economic status are also an important part of this study, where more than half of *delinquency* are part of families with middle to lower economic status, with parents working as laborers and self-employed.

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