

Bullying Victimization in Elementary School Students in Bandung City

Ihsana Sabriani Borualogo*, Hedi Wahyudi, Sulisworo Kusdiyati

Faculty of Psychology
Universitas Islam Bandung
Bandung, Indonesia

*ihsana.sabriani@yahoo.com, hediway@yahoo.co.id, sulisworo.kusdiyati@gmail.com

Abstract—Bullying is a severe problem in Indonesia. West Java has a higher rate of bullying cases, where Bandung City is the highest rating among other districts in West Java. This study aims to explore school bullying in Bandung City from the perspective of the bullied students. This study will help to get a better understanding of the reasons students being bullied, locations of bullying incidents in school, and to whom students reported being bullied at schools. This article hopefully will contribute to helping stop bullying at school. Samples of this study were elementary school students age 10-14 year-olds (N = 329; 46.2% boys; 53.8% girls). Samples were chosen randomly using a stratified cluster random sampling technique. Instruments used in this study were from Children's Worlds Survey, which have been adapted into Indonesian. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics. All calculations were done with SPSS version 23. Results showed that physical condition and appearance are the reasons for girls being bullied while being well-known at school and religion are the reasons for boys being bullied. Bullying incidents mostly happen in the classroom and the school corridor. Students were preferring to tell parents about being bullied at school rather than telling the teacher.

Keywords: *bullying, children, elementary school, Bandung City, victimisation*

I. INTRODUCTION

In 1972, Olweus defined bullying as an individual or a group of harassing, teasing, or pestering another person [1]. Olweus explained three criteria of bullying: first, it is an aggressive behavior; second, which is carried out repeatedly and over time; third, in the context of an interpersonal relationship characterized by an imbalance of power [2]. There are three types of bullying, which are physical bullying, verbal bullying, and psychological bullying [3].

Bullying is a severe problem that children worldwide have been facing on. The Global School-based Student Health Survey and Health Behaviour in School-aged Children, which involved 144 countries and territories, revealed that 16.1% of children have experienced being bullied physically [4].

Bullying has also been a serious problem for Indonesian children. Trends in Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) in 2011 which involved 46 countries showed that 55% of Indonesian children aged 11 to 15 years old were bullied at school [5]. The Global School-Based Health Survey in 2015

revealed that 32% of Indonesian students aged 13 to 17 had experienced physical violence, and 20% have been bullied in their school [6]. This result was considered as one of the highest numbers in Asia. Children's Worlds Survey in Indonesia revealed that 52.5% of elementary students had been bullied physically by other children at school at least once in the past month. 60.6% had been bullied verbally, and 49.6% had been bullied psychologically [3]. Bandung City is one of the districts in West Java that has the highest rate of bullying cases on elementary school students [3].

Several studies revealed that bullying harms children's mental health disorders [7-8]. Being victimization of bullying increased depression [9-10], increased suicidal ideation [11-16], lower academic achievement [17-18], and adverse impacts on children's physical health [19]. These studies showed how serious being victimization of bullying affected children's life. Being bullying victimization lower children's subjective well-being [20-22]. Some studies even revealed the effect of bullying on children's later life [7]. Bullying victims reported having psychosomatic and depression later in life [23], antisocial personality disorder, anxiety, panic disorder, and suicidality [7].

Since bullying affected children's mental health, it is important to stop bullying and help our children from being victimized. Therefore, this study aims to explore bullying victimization in elementary school students in Bandung City to get a better understanding of the incidents. This article will describe descriptive data of bullying incidents by age and gender. This article also will explain the reasons for students being bullied, locations of a bullying incident in school, and to whom students reported that they were bullied at schools. This article hopefully will increase awareness among parents, teachers, and researchers about bullying victimization, so that parents and teachers would be able to prevent bullying incidents in school.

II. METHOD

A. Sampling Technique

Sampling was designed to obtain a representative sample of elementary school students in Bandung City, West Java, Indonesia. The sampling procedure was clustered - schools being the sampling unit -, stratified by the rank of the public