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The Role of Orphanages In Empowering Abandoned Children Who Are Cared For at Orphanages

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Abstract: Every child definitely wants genuine affection and attention from their parents and a place to live that can protect them, because they have the right to get all of that. However, not all children can feel what they want. Sometimes they are placed in orphanages for economic reasons or other reasons. This is a complex social problem that researchers want to address as research and the city chosen is the Aisiyiah Orphanage which is located in the Ngampilan area, Yogyakarta. The issues that will be raised are why the orphanage wants to accept babies/children to be entrusted to their parents and how does the orphanage empower the babies/children being cared for/entrusted so that when they reach adulthood they can be independent? The research methodology used is a qualitative approach which is then outlined in a descriptive method. Data collection was carried out by interviews. The results of the research show that to empower babies/children cared for in the Aisiyiah Sleman Orphanage, Yogyakarta is to provide education in general and provide skills that can support their future.

Keyword: Abandoned Children, Orphanage, Child Empowerment

INTRODUCTION

Neglected children are actually children who are categorized as vulnerable children or children in need of special protection (Suyanto, 2010). Vulnerable children itself is basically a term to describe groups of children who because of situations, conditions, and cultural and structural pressures cause them to have not or not fulfilled their rights, and even often violated their rights (Ibda dkk., 2021). In terms of the rights of these children, they have rights that must be fulfilled by their parents, namely the right to obtain proper education, self and mental development, express opinions and think, obtain physical and spiritual needs, obtain means of play and recreation and the right to obtain adequate health services (Suyanto, 2010). When the child's rights are not fulfilled, there is no attention from his parents then this child can be said to be a neglected child. A child who does not have both parents or no guardian will be said to be a neglected child, but a child can also be said to be neglected when the child's rights are not fulfilled reasonably or in their entirety (Suyanto, 2010). Article 34 paragraph (1) of the 1945 Constitution mandates that it is the duty of the State to care for the poor and abandoned children.

Theoretically, neglect is an act either intentionally or unintentionally that leaves the child without basic needs such as clothing, food, shelter and affection, which can also be seen in Article 1 number 7 and Article 2 and Article 9 of Law Number 4 Year 1979 concerning Child Welfare. Neglect of children does not recognize the reason because the parents do not have enough time, a very poor life or lack of motivation / intention. Intentionally or not, if children are left without proper clothing, food and shelter to protect them from various diseases and dangers, then this incident can be said to be child neglect and can be sanctioned and even criminalized. This provision has been regulated in Article 10 paragraph (1) of Law Number 4 of 1979 concerning Child Welfare and Article 2, Article 3, Article 6 of Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection.

Regulation of the Minister of Social Affairs Number 184 of 2011, states that "Social Welfare Institution hereinafter referred to as LKS is a social organization or social association that carries out the implementation of social welfare formed by the community, both legal and non-legal entities". One of the functions of LKS is as a government partner in carrying out the handling of social welfare problems, including alternative care for abandoned children. One institution that is known to be able to shape the development of children who do not have a family or who do not live with a family is an orphanage.

Orphanage is a child social welfare business institution that has the responsibility to provide social welfare services to neglected children by carrying out the care and alleviation of neglected children (Sudarsana, 2018), providing replacement services for parents / guardians of children in meeting physical, mental and social needs to foster children so that they get broad, appropriate and adequate opportunities for the development of their personality as expected as part of the next generation of national ideals and as people who will actively participate in the field of national development (Abidin, 2019).

From this brief background on abandoned children, the author was interested in conducting research on the Aisiyah orphanage in Yogyakarta, which is known to receive abandoned babies and children. This research aims to answer several important questions: First, why are Aisiyah orphanages willing to accept babies and children who have been abandoned by their parents or guardians? Secondly, what is the process of education and empowerment undertaken by the orphanage to ensure that these children can grow into independent individuals when they become adults? This research will also explore the obstacles faced by the orphanage in carrying out its mission.

METHOD

The legal research conducted is normative research, which examines and analyzes legal norms and their application in society using systematic methods and structured thinking to solve certain legal problems (Ani Purwati dkk., 2020). In this research, I use a normative approach by exploring literature and secondary data which includes legal principles, legal structure, as well as comparative analysis and legal history. This research is descriptive analytical, where data obtained from observations, documents, and field notes are analyzed and explained in the form of detailed text regarding the legal issues being addressed (Amiruddin & Asikin, 2012).

In order to explore this, I used two main approaches: the statute approach and the conceptual approach. The statutory approach focuses on examining the regulations and laws relevant to the legal issue, while the conceptual approach examines the legal concepts underlying the issue under study. This approach provides an in-depth analysis of the legal values and theoretical aspects relevant to the legal issue at hand, enabling a broader understanding of how the law works in diverse social and historical contexts.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Conditions and Role of Orphanages in Handling Neglected Children

The definition of neglect is the condition of a person whose basic needs are not met, not maintained, not cared for, and not taken care of (Setiawan dkk., 2019). Social Welfare is a condition of fulfilling the material, spiritual and social needs of citizens in order to live properly and be able to develop themselves, so that they can carry out their social functions (Akbar, 2019). The criteria for neglected children according to the Minister of Social Affairs Regulation Number 4 of 2020 concerning Basic Social Rehabilitation for Neglected Children are unmet basic needs in the form of clothing, food and shelter; There are no longer individuals, families, and / or communities who take care of them; Vulnerable to violence from their environment; and / or still have a family but have the potential to experience violence, mistreatment, exploitation and neglect.

Based on the Decree of the Minister of Social Affairs Number 27 of 1984, there are certain criteria that determine the classification of children as neglected children. Neglected children are those who are between 5 and 18 years old and experience one or more of the following conditions: have one or both parents who are seriously ill or have died, come from a family that is unable to meet their basic daily needs, come from a family environment that is not harmonious, or their basic needs, both physical and spiritual, are not met. These criteria are used to identify and provide appropriate assistance for children who require social protection and assistance from the government or relevant agencies.

The government in this case through various regulations and society has the same view of neglected children so that these children can have and form their own character and can provide the right to have a bright future so that they can compete in the future. This is stated in the Minister of Social Affairs Regulation Number 184 of 2011 concerning Social Welfare Institutions has regulated in Article 5: in the implementation of the Social Welfare Institution has the role of a. preventing social problems; b. providing social services to people with social welfare problems; and c. organizing family welfare consultations.

Article 34 of the Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia states that: The poor and abandoned children shall be cared for by the State. For this reason, the Ministry of Social Affairs and related agencies in various regions have organized various programs to alleviate neglected children, such as neglected children development programs, orphanages, and so on. This program is carried out to ensure that every abandoned child gets a proper basic education as required by the state, gets physical needs, and also gets protection so as to avoid all dangerous things.

An orphanage or child social welfare institution is a house, place, or residence used to care for orphans, orphans, orphans, and also includes neglected children (Disemadi & Wardhana, 2020). Orphanage is a social welfare business institution that has the responsibility to provide social welfare services, one of which is to neglected children by carrying out the care and alleviation of neglected children, providing replacement services for parents / guardians of children in meeting physical, mental and social needs to foster children so that they get broad, appropriate and adequate opportunities for the development of their personality as expected as part of the next generation of national ideals and as people who will actively participate in the field of national development (Sudarsana, 2018).

As parents, orphanages are responsible for fulfilling children's rights, which include the right to protection (related to children's dignity, protecting children from violence); the right to growth and development (supporting children's personality development, facilitating children's relationships with family and other parties in a positive way and sending children to school); the right to participation in the surrounding environment (listening to, considering and implementing children's voices and choices); and fulfilling children's right to survival (meeting children's basic needs for food, drink and safe facilities) (Qamarina, 2017). The

orphanage as a Child Social Welfare Institution also facilitates health checks by professionals such as ensuring each child receives vaccinations, immunizations, vitamins, deworming, and various other needs according to their age and developmental needs. First Aid in Accidents is also provided for emergency needs (Sungkono & Khotimah, 2021).

An orphanage as the last form of alternative care is a social place based on family principles and is tasked with providing care outside of the care of the nuclear family and close relatives. It should aim to fulfill and provide a place and environment that is able to provide love, knowledge and protection as a substitute family (Sungkono & Khotimah, 2021). Children who need care outside the family usually experience conditions that do not allow them to grow and develop healthily in their family environment. Some situations that often occur include families that are unable to provide care, love, protection, and basic rights to children, so that children feel alienated and neglected (Yuniarlin, 2022). There are also children who have no family or close relatives, or who have been abandoned by their families. Children who are victims of exploitation, abuse or neglect need protection and must be separated from these harmful environments for their safety and future. Other situations that require placement outside the family are children separated from their parents due to natural disasters or social problems, as well as families who are economically unable to ensure the welfare and fulfillment of the child's basic needs.

Orphanages play an important role in providing alternative care for children who require special protection (Rajagukguk dkk., 2022). The role encompasses various aspects of services, such as providing direct support to the family of origin or surrogate family, thus enabling a more stable environment for the child's development. In addition, orphanages also provide temporary care that focuses on the protection, safety and well-being of children, ensuring that their needs and rights are adequately met. Facilitation and support of alternative family-based care is also an important part of their work, and all of these activities are regulated in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, providing assurance that interventions are in line with legal child protection standards.

Empowerment Strategies and their Impact on the Development of Neglected Children

Aisyiyah Orphanage Yogyakarta, founded by the Muhammadiyah Central Leadership in 1921, originally aimed to care for and provide assistance to orphans, orphans, orphans, and poor children, regardless of gender. In the early years, care was decentralized, with Muhammadiyah administrators and members caring for and educating foster children in their own homes. However, as time went on and the need for more structured management grew, in 1928, the orphanage's operations were divided into two separate entities based on the gender of the care. Muhammadiyah Orphanage for Boys was established at Jl. Lowanu Mg III/1361, while Aisyiyah Orphanage for Girls was located at Jl. Munir 109 Serangan, Ngampilan Sub-district, Yogyakarta City. This change allows for improved quality of care and education tailored to the gender-specific needs of the children, as well as ensuring a safe and conducive environment for their growth and development.

This statement was supported by the issuance of Inaugural Letter Number 17/SK-PP/IV-A/1-c/1995, dated 11 Shawwal 1415 Hijriyah or March 13, 1995 AD. In the letter, the Muhammadiyah Central Leadership signed by the Chairman (Prof. Dr. H. M. Amien Rais., M.A) and Secretary (H.M. Muchlas Abror). The explanation in the letter states: "(a) Muhammadiyah Orphanage Yogyakarta located at Lowanu Mg III/1361 Yogyakarta; (b) Aisyiyah Orphanage Yogyakarta located at: Jl. Munir 109 Serangan Yogyakarta is really an Orphanage established by the Muhammadiyah Central Leadership (formerly Hoofbestuur in 1921) which cares for and supports male and female orphans and orphans. Then in 1928 it was separated into two parts: boys only and girls only. Thus we make this letter as a substitute for the Deed of Establishment, whose archives can no longer be found to be used properly and to be valid information for all interested parties."

The letter provides information that the Orphanage (PAY) was first established within Muhammadiyah in 1921, where the children cared for included both boys and girls. This indicates that PAY emerged during the leadership of K.H. Ahmad Dahlan (1921-1923) in Muhammadiyah. From the beginning, Muhammadiyah showed concern for orphans and poor children to implement the teachings of the Al-Quran letter Al-Ma'un. PAY is clear evidence of this charitable activity. Seven years later, in 1928, under the leadership of K.H. Ibrahim (1923-1932), PAY within Muhammadiyah was divided into two: PAY which cares for and empowers male orphans, and PAY which focuses on female orphans. The women's PAY was then handed over to Aisyiyah, while the men's PAY remained under the management of Muhammadiyah. Thus, their respective names became Aisyiyah Women's PAY and Muhammadiyah Men's PAY.

On September 17, 1965, the Muhammadiyah leadership of the DIY PKU Assembly fully handed over the management of the Aisyiyah Orphanage to the Muhammadiyah Ngampilan Branch of Yogyakarta. Subsequently, the Muhammadiyah Ngampilan Branch formed the board of the Aisyiyah Orphanage to manage the leadership, finances, accountability, and maintenance of property rights as well as the care of the children, with full autonomy. From 2006 until now, the social activities and management of the Yogyakarta Aisyiyah Orphanage are carried out by the Social Welfare Council of the Regional Leadership of Aisyiyah Yogyakarta Special Region.

There are currently 45 (forty-five) children at Aisyiyah Orphanage consisting of 6 (six) elementary school children, 13 (thirteen) junior high school children, 20 (twenty) high school children, and 6 (six) university students. They undergo formal and non-formal education programs provided by the orphanage. In accordance with the provisions of Article 31 paragraph (1) of the 1945 Constitution Chapter XIII which reads: "Every citizen has the right to receive instruction." The children at Aisyiyah Orphanage receive this right. They are sent to school to gain knowledge directly from professional teachers. They have their own schedule that has been set by the orphanage in terms of carrying out this education. For example, they are given the opportunity to learn English.

In addition to formal lessons, there is also non-formal education such as choreographed gymnastic exercises, making handicrafts, and so on. At Aisyiyah orphanage, children are educated with the aim of becoming independent and prosperous. Children in the orphanage also learn manners that should have been learned and acquired since they were young. Children are given the freedom to participate and involve themselves in events to increase their creativity and liveliness. Some examples of activities that were participated in were the gardenization of each room, launching the tahfidz program, participating in the Republic of Indonesia's birthday competition, and others.

Not only formal and non-formal education, they also have fun by singing and playing with the orphanage caretakers. They do prayers together and do other positive things that are supported by the orphanage. As for other activities carried out to educate orphanage children such as holding morning madrassa activities, prayer, and tahsin. They are taught to keep believing in God and to be a good person. Children in the orphanage also get health checks. In 2020 Aisyiyah Orphanage received an A accreditation certificate from the Minister of Social Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia. This proves that Aisyiyah Orphanage provides the best in taking care of the children in the orphanage.

However, the orphanage has experienced several obstacles along the way. One basic example is taking care of children who are made up of various characters. Usually this difficulty arises after encountering various children who try to show their reluctant side. Some are difficult to tell, some refuse to learn, and so on. However, these things can be overcome well after the children can process and adapt to the rules in the orphanage. The orphanage also patiently teaches the children to become better and more loving individuals. In accordance with the National Standards of Care for National Welfare Institutions,

Aisiyiah Orphanage services are maximized in protecting the children under their care. They do everything they can to make the children feel protected, happy and prosperous.

CONCLUSION

In essence, neglected children who are abandoned by their parents are entitled to their rights as citizens in accordance with the provisions of the 1945 Constitution. With orphanages as institutions to provide protection and rights as human beings, they can become good and independent individuals in the future. Buah Hati Orphanage is one example of an orphanage that provides the right aspects for abandoned children. They provide the right picture of how an orphanage should be a safe and comfortable shelter even though it is not under the care of biological parents. In addition, the government should be able to provide more assistance and proper implementation for abandoned children. For example, the government can provide Social Security Organizing Agency assistance to orphanage children free of charge without them having to apply for it first.

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