



Legal Socialization about Juvenile Delinquency as a Form of Protecting the Young Generation

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ABSTRAK

Teenage delinquency is still a social issue influenced by various factors, such as emotional instability, weak family supervision, peer influence, and the impact of uncontrolled technological developments. This situation calls for preventive efforts through an educational approach to provide protection for young people. This community service activity aims to increase public understanding of the forms of teenage delinquency and their causes, as well as to strengthen understanding of the legal aspects related to such deviant behavior. The method used is a qualitative descriptive approach through legal socialization activities, with data collection techniques including observation, interactive discussions, documentation, and literature studies. The results of the activity showed that before the socialization, people's understanding of the legal consequences of juvenile delinquency was still limited, but after the activity took place, there was an increase in legal awareness and understanding of the importance of the role of family and environment in prevention. Thus, legal socialization can be an effective preventive step in protecting the younger generation and needs to be carried out continuously through cooperation between the community, family, and government

INTRODUCTION

Teenagers are the young generation who are in a transitional phase from childhood to adulthood, marked by significant physical, cognitive, and emotional changes. At this stage, teenagers are in the process of finding their identity, making them vulnerable to emotional instability and environmental influences. This condition makes teenagers an age group with great potential for growth, but at the same time, they are at high risk for various forms of deviant behavior if they do not receive proper guidance..

The phenomenon of teenage delinquency these days shows a worrying trend. Various forms of misbehavior like street fights, drug abuse, alcohol consumption, bullying, sexual violence, online gambling, and even crimes like theft and assault increasingly involve teenagers. Teenagers getting involved in these legal issues not only affects their own future but also causes social unrest in the community..

Teenage delinquency is influenced by various factors, both internal and external. Internal factors include identity crises and weak self-control, while external factors include less harmonious family conditions, lack of parental supervision, peer influence, and an unconducive social environment. Additionally, the development of technology and uncontrolled access to information also increases the chances of teenagers being exposed to negative behavior..

In the legal context, teenagers as the younger generation actually have the right to receive protection, guidance, and support. The legal approach to teenagers is not just about being punitive, but also preventive and educational. Therefore, understanding the law and the consequences of deviant behavior is very important to instill early on in teenagers, families, and the community..

Based on these conditions, community service activities in the form of legal socialization about juvenile delinquency become a strategic step as a preventive effort. This socialization aims to raise legal awareness, strengthen the role of the family, and encourage community participation in creating a safe and positive environment for youth development. In this way, protection for the younger generation can be realized through collaboration between legal aspects, family, and the social environment.

IMPLEMENTATION AND METHOD

This community service activity was carried out using a descriptive qualitative approach. This approach is used to identify and describe the community's understanding of juvenile delinquency and its legal implications, while also providing legal education as a preventive measure. Through this method, the activity not only serves to capture the social phenomenon that occurs but also directly contributes by increasing the community's legal awareness regarding the protection of young generations.

The data sources in this activity include primary and secondary data. Primary data is obtained from direct observations during the activity, interactions in discussion and Q&A sessions, as well as participants' responses to the socialization material. Meanwhile, secondary data comes from reviewing

laws and regulations, scientific literature, journals, and other written sources relevant to juvenile delinquency and legal protection.

Data collection was done through field observation, participatory discussions, activity documentation, and literature studies. All collected data were analyzed using qualitative analysis techniques with steps like data selection and grouping, systematically arranging descriptions, and drawing conclusions based on the connection between field findings and theoretical foundations. This analysis process aims to assess how effective legal socialization is in improving public understanding as a preventive effort against juvenile delinquency

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The community service team collaborated with partners to hold a socialization event about juvenile delinquency, which took place on Friday, December 12, 2025, at the Siwal Village Hall, Baki District, Sukoharjo Regency, Central Java. The event was attended by 37 residents of Siwal Village. The socialization activity was specifically held to discuss laws and juvenile delinquency, as well as the causes and ways to address it..

Teenage delinquency is a social phenomenon that can't be separated from the characteristics of adolescence as a transitional phase full of psychological dynamics. At this stage, teenagers are in the process of finding their identity, which is often accompanied by emotional instability and a strong urge to gain recognition from their surroundings. These conditions make teenagers vulnerable to negative influences if they are not balanced with proper guidance, supervision, and support from family and their social environment..

Forms of teenage delinquency in society show a lot of variation, ranging from breaking social norms to behaviors that could have legal consequences. Behaviors like fighting, substance abuse, smoking from a young age, and risky activities in the digital world indicate that teenage delinquency has evolved along with social and technological changes. This shows that the problem of teenage delinquency doesn't just happen in physical spaces, but also in digital spaces that are hard to monitor directly.

The factors causing teenage delinquency don't stand alone; they are actually the result of interactions between internal and external factors. On the internal side, teens often go through identity crises and have weak self-control. Meanwhile, external factors include a lack of attention and communication within the family, peer influence, and an uncondusive social environment. The development of information technology also increases these risks, as uncontrolled internet access can lead teens to engage in deviant behavior..

On the other hand, the results of the outreach activities show that people's understanding of the legal aspects of juvenile delinquency is still quite limited at first. Many deviant behaviors are seen as just ordinary mischief, even though they have clear legal implications. This situation highlights the importance of improving legal literacy so that people can understand the line between breaking social norms and breaking the law.

After legal socialization was carried out, there was a noticeable increase in public awareness about the role of law as a preventive tool. People began to realize the importance of supervising teenagers and the need for ongoing

guidance. This understanding has encouraged a shift in perspective, where teenagers who encounter the law are seen not only as offenders but also as individuals who need support and protection.

Thus, legal socialization functions as a preventive tool in protecting the younger generation. This effort not only raises legal awareness but also strengthens the role of families and communities in creating an environment that supports positive adolescent development. An educational and participatory approach is key to minimizing juvenile delinquency while also ensuring effective legal protection for the youth.



Figure 1. Presentation of Material about Juvenile Delinquency



Figure 2. Documentation of the Socialization Activity Atmosphere



Figure 3. Community Service Team and Socialization Participants

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Teenage delinquency is a social issue that arises from a mix of internal and external factors, such as emotional instability, weak self-control, lack of family supervision, peer influence, and the impact of uncontrolled technological development. The forms of delinquency that occur in society vary, ranging from violations of social norms to actions with legal consequences. This situation shows that teenagers are a vulnerable group and therefore need continuous guidance and support from their family, environment, and the community..

The legal socialization activities carried out show an increase in public understanding of the legal aspects of juvenile delinquency and the importance of working together in prevention. Legal socialization is an effective preventive step in providing protection for young people. Therefore, efforts to protect teenagers need to be done in a synergistic way between families, communities, and the government through a continuous educational approach to create a safe environment that supports positive teenage development.

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