

Strengthening the Role of Christian Education in Families as an Effort to Address Human Trafficking in the City of Jayapura Papua Province

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Abstract

The article, titled "Strengthening the Role of Christian Education in Families as an Effort to Address Human Trafficking in the City of Jayapura, Papua Province," is a study on efforts to address human trafficking crimes through the role of Christian education within families. The intended strengthening of roles involves all elements within the family itself. The article highlights the expectation that, through this study, the community in the city of Jayapura, Papua Province, can gain a true understanding of human trafficking crimes and comprehend how the role of Christian education in the family can contribute to reducing the crime rate. The research approach employed in writing this article is qualitative, based on literature review.

Keywords: Christian Education, Family, Human Trafficking.

A. INTRODUCTION

The crime of human trafficking tends to increase over time. Monique and Puspamawarni report that among numerous transnational crimes, human trafficking is one of the most significant issues faced by countries and the international community. Human trafficking is categorized as a transnational crime because this activity can surpass national borders and involve one country with another, making it one of the major concerns for both individual nations and the international community (Monique & Puspamawarni, 2020). Several international conventions have recommended genuine efforts to address the crime of human trafficking, including the International Convention for the Suppression of White Slave Traffic (1921), the International Convention for the Suppression of Traffic in Women and Children (1921), the International Convention for the Suppression of Traffic in Women of Full Age (1933), and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) (1979). However, despite these efforts, as developments unfold, this criminal activity continues to persist and even increases day by day, accompanied by various forms of creativity. Law enforcement authorities must undoubtedly possess competence and adequate capabilities in their efforts to address this criminal activity.

Every year, it is estimated that 2 million people are trafficked, with a significant portion being women and children. In 2005, the International Labour Organization (ILO) estimated in the Global Report on Forced Labour that nearly 2.5 million people were exploited through human trafficking worldwide, with over half of them in the Asia-Pacific region, including Indonesia. In this region, 40% of the victims were

children (Syafaat, 2003). Human trafficking is considered a form of modern slavery and occurs at both national and international levels. With advancements in information technology, communication, and societal transformations, the methods of human trafficking have become increasingly sophisticated (Rahmanto, 2005). For the people of Jaya Pura City, Papua, human trafficking is a problem that must be handled seriously. In June 2023, the Papua Regional Police detained 6 suspects who were suspected of being involved in the Human Trafficking Crime (*Tindak Pidana Perdagangan Orang*, TPPO) case, with four TPPO cases being handled by the Papua Regional Police (Polda Papua), the suspects are charged under UUD No. 21/2007 concerning the eradication of TPPO and Article 506 KUHP (<https://papuabarat.antaranews.com>). Data on human trafficking crimes serve as a warning to everyone to pay attention to prevention efforts, ensuring that many individuals can be saved from the crimes in question.

Christian education within the family is highly necessary to support each individual in a family in navigating through life. Various challenges will be encountered by every person in their life journey, and each challenge should be carefully examined to avoid causing potentially fatal damage to an individual. In a Christian family, the implementation of education based on Christian faith is a crucial requirement that should not be overlooked. Through Christian education, it is hoped that learners will be enlightened and even come to the recognition of Christ (Jura, 2020). Although the Bible may not provide comprehensive factual knowledge on every subject taught in schools, the framework of Christian education is derived from this book (Graham, 2003). In relation to the crime of human trafficking, Christian education within the family is considered essential to mature every family member so that they can understand and address this criminal activity. That is why the urgency of Christian education within the family is expected to make a significant contribution to efforts in addressing the mentioned crime.

B. LITERATURE REVIEW

The criminal act of Trafficking in Persons or *Tindak Pidana Perdagangan Orang* (TPPO) is widely recognized as human trafficking. It is known that the term "trafficking" was first used in United Nations instruments. Initially, the term "traffic" was used to refer to the trade of white slave women around the year 1900. During that time, many impoverished white women voluntarily immigrated from Europe to the Arab world and the Eastern United States to work as concubines or commercial sex workers. This raised particular concern among the European middle-class society, both men and women, as well as the government. As a result, an international agreement was formed in 1904 to address the trafficking of white slave women (Saraswati, 2009). From this, it can be identified that the trafficking process involves recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring (including kidnapping), and receipt (Syafaat, 2003). According to Law No. 20/2007 (Article 1 paragraph 1) on the Eradication of Trafficking in Persons, the crime of human trafficking is defined as: "The act of recruiting, transporting, harboring, sending, transferring, or receiving a person

through the threat of violence, use of violence, kidnapping, abduction, forgery, fraud, abuse of power or a vulnerable position, debt bondage, or providing payment or benefits to obtain consent from a person who has control over another person, whether carried out within a country or across countries, for the purpose of exploitation or causing the person to be exploited". Crimes in this field need to be wary of because they continue to occur over time and tend to increase.

One of the efforts that can be undertaken to address human trafficking is by providing information and raising awareness among all parties about the language of this criminal activity. The most effective approach is to start within the family. That's why family education needs to be strengthened, and in the context of a Christian family, there is a need for proper and beneficial Christian education within the family. Eli Tanya emphasizes that Christian Religious Education is the process of guiding each individual into the decision to live as a Christian, and Darmawijaya adds that a Christian family is built on the foundation of God's salvation in Jesus Christ, accomplished by the Holy Spirit (Tanya, 1999). This divine salvation is what needs to be inherited to children taught in Christian Religious Education within the family (Darmawijaya, 2011). So, Christian education within the family needs to be done effectively to address the issue of human trafficking crime.

C. METHOD

The research used in writing this article is qualitative research, involving procedures that produce descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from individuals and observed behaviors (Moleong, 2000). The approach employed is literature review. The researcher utilized textual sources such as articles, online newspapers, research reports, and books. Data search was conducted through Google Scholar, ResearchGate, and other official websites. Data obtained from each source were then filtered based on relevance and subjected to content analysis to assess their alignment with the study's objectives. In the end, the researcher drew conclusions based on all the information and data gathered.

D. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Trading in human beings is an act of crime against humanity, and Nurhenny asserts that human trafficking can be considered a modern form of human rights violation, enslaving individuals for the benefit of a few. The numerous exploitations that occur, especially involving children and women, make human trafficking an illegal act that violates the law (Nurhenny, 2010).

It can be said that the entire world expresses a stance of rejection towards this crime and pays deep attention to it. Winarno (2014) is accurate in stating that "human trafficking has become a central issue in the current globalization because the existence of this crime has become an epidemic in various countries".

As mentioned in the introduction of this article, human trafficking is a transnational crime that has been a longstanding issue for every country. This is why various international conventions are working to address this problem. Data indicates

an increase in human trafficking, and according to Agustina, Indonesia is identified as a country with widespread cases of trafficking of women for domestic marketing and even serves as a source country (supplier) for international trafficking. Thousands of women from Indonesia are sent to various countries in Southeast Asia, the Middle East, Japan, North America, and several other countries for purposes such as domestic work, commercial sex work, adoption, and more (Agustina, 2006). With the increasing trend of this humanitarian crime from day to day, a genuine attitude and action are needed to anticipate it, and one of the things that can be done is through strengthening the role of Christian education within the family.

Human Trafficking Crimes in Jayapura

The city of Jayapura is the capital of Papua Province, and it is bordered by the Pacific Ocean to the north, and it shares borders with the Arso district (Keerom regency) to the south. To the east, the city borders the country of Papua New Guinea (PNG), and to the west, it borders the Sentani and Depapre districts (Jayapura regency). In 1979, based on Law No. 6/1993, Jayapura was designated as an administrative region and became a municipality in 1993 with the districts of North Jayapura, South Jayapura, Abepura, and Muara Tami. In its development, Jayapura continues to progress in various aspects, positioning the city as the center of all activities, including economic, political, social, cultural, and religious aspects in Papua.

On a national scale, it is reported that the Task Force for the Eradication of Trafficking in Persons (TPPO) has received 864 reports during the period from June to September 2023. From these reports, a total of 1,014 individuals have been identified as suspects. The most common modus operandi affecting victims includes being illegal Indonesian migrant workers (PMI) with 525 cases, commercial sex workers (PSK) with 283 cases, exploitation of children with 69 cases, and becoming a crew member with 7 cases (<https://databoks.katadata.co.id>). Regarding human trafficking crimes in Jayapura, as of October 2023, the number of cases handled by Subdit IV Renakta in 2023 for Trafficking in Persons (TPPO) is reported to be 3 cases. These cases have been transferred to the Prosecutor's Office and are scheduled for trial at the Jayapura District Court. This data suggests that Jayapura is not entirely free from human trafficking crimes (Direkskrimun Polda Papua, 2023). From the numerous cases on a national scale regarding the crime of Human Trafficking, and considering the cases within the jurisdiction of the Papua Regional Police, it at least provides an indication that the potential for this type of crime needs to be vigilant.

It must be acknowledged that the crime of human trafficking is a significant humanitarian issue and should be viewed as a threat to the safety of the nation, especially for the current and future generations. There are indeed several reasons behind the occurrence of this crime. Musdah Mulia states that there are at least two main causes of the practice of trafficking, especially the trafficking of women in Indonesia, namely poverty and unemployment (Mulia, 2015). The need to fulfill basic living requirements and the complex issue of unemployment drive some individuals

to seek ways to meet their needs. Unfortunately, this issue is observed and exploited by irresponsible individuals who involve them as victims of human trafficking.

Strengthening The Role of Christian Education in The Family

Family is a crucial institution among individuals and groups, serving as the primary social unit where children become members. It is undoubtedly the first place for the socialization of children, forming their initial environment (Rostiana, Wilodati & Alia A., 2019). In the family environment, children first receive various influences (values). Within the family environment, children primarily receive various influences and values. Therefore, the family is the oldest educational institution that is informal and natural in nature (Helmawati, 2014). In the family, the education system has been in place since parents actively engage in teaching their children. Teaching typically begins with simple tasks like toilet training and then progresses to more complex lessons. In family education, it is advisable to include teachings about self-harmful activities, such as the crime of human trafficking. Helmawati (2014), in Family Education, emphasizes that "Parents in the family are the educators, and children are the learners. If, for some reason, a child is forced to live in an unhappy family environment, their future will face difficulties in school, society, and eventually as a spouse within the family life environment". That's why it is crucial to carry out educational efforts and various mitigation measures through the family environment first. This includes efforts to prevent the occurrence of human trafficking crimes where family members become victims.

In the family, the role of Christian education becomes crucial in preventing family members from becoming victims of human trafficking. Every family member is susceptible to this crime, and guiding and directing them to understand and distance themselves from the influence of such crimes can have a significant impact. Due to the extensive and detrimental effects of human trafficking crimes on an individual's life, parents or those who have a good understanding of trafficking-related matters need to be actively involved. Demsy Jura, in Christian Religious Education in the Contemplative Jungle, states that "Christian education is based on the Bible as the Word of God, and Jesus Christ as the one who sets an example in it. Through Christian education, it is expected that learners will be enlightened and even come to know Christ" (Jura, 2020). With teachings based on the Bible as the Word of God, it is hoped that every family can have a thorough understanding of the various negative impacts of such crimes, enabling them to steer clear of the intended criminal activities.

The implementation of Christian education within the family should be carried out earnestly because it will have an impact based on its application. Werner C. Graendorf (1988), in Introduction to Biblical Christian Education, emphasizes that "Christian religious education is a teaching and learning process based on the Bible, centered on Christ, and dependent on the power of the Holy Spirit that guides each individual toward growth, through current teachings toward the understanding and experience of God's plan and will through Christ in every aspect of life, and equips

them for effective service, centered on Christ the Great Teacher and the command that matures disciples".

Growth in the understanding of Christian truths will assist each member in comprehending their duties effectively, enabling them to lead a purposeful life. It is said that ideally, the implementation of Christian religious education is not just about shaping intelligent individuals through the mastery of various sciences and technologies but also involves intelligent efforts to mold individuals who have faith in Christ and think and act based on Christian principles (Jura, 2020).

E. CONCLUSION

Tindak Pidana Perdagangan Orang (TPPO), widely known as human trafficking, is a criminal act that directly involves humans as victims. This crime must be combated through various efforts because it is increasing day by day, employing various methods and causing numerous human victims. Due to its expansive nature, this crime is considered a transnational crime that poses a problem for every country.

Family, through Christian education, is considered the appropriate place for guidance and counseling for each family member to prevent them from becoming victims of human trafficking. In the Jaya Pura community, efforts to improve each family through Christian education to prevent human trafficking crimes must be carried out effectively and purposefully. Ultimately, combating human trafficking crimes requires Christian education within the family scope to foster understanding and prevent the occurrence of such criminal acts.

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