Student Perceptions of Bullying

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\section*{ABSTRACT}
Students have faced or done unusual things one of which is the act of bullying. As individuals who are in the early adult group, students should already have a correct and precise understanding of bullying. However, there are still many bullying incidents that occur among students. This research is quantitative research with descriptive approach. The respondents were new students in the academic year 2020/2021 at one of the universities in Jakarta which has 513 students. The collection method uses Likert scale model which is distributed through google form. Data analysis was carried out using percentiles to describe the categories of perceptions that new students have of bullying. Based on hypothetical data (89.3\%) and empirical (50.49\%) indicates that the majority of new students have a neutral perceptions of bullying. That means the majority of new students give inconsistent assessments of aggressive behaviors repeated by individuals or groups against weak individuals. The next conclusion based on hypothetical data (0\%) and empirical (28.65\%) shows that there are still new students who have a bad perception of bullying or it can be interpreted that there are still students who are wrong in making judgment against bullying.

\section*{Keywords}
Perception; Bullying; Student

\section*{Introduction}
Topic of bullying remains a topic that many people pay attention to. Bullying is inappropriate act performed verbally, physically and socially in the real world or cyberspace. Bullying has a bad effect for individuals where the individual feels uncomfortable, depressed and distress by a person or group (Kementerian Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan Republik Indonesia, 2018). According to Sejiwa in Zakiyah, Humaedi, and Santoso (2017) bullying is a behavior with the use of power that aims to harm an individual or group in verbal, physical, or psychological which gives a negative impact for the survivors.

During the Covid-19 Pandemic, bullying problems can occur in the educational environment, one of them is at the university level. Examples of bullying cases that occurred in the campus environment included in August 2019 in Ternate. At the PKKMB (Pengenalan Kehidupan Kampus Bagi Mahasiswa Baru) new students get inappropriate treatment. New students are required to follow senior orders to do activities such as climbing the stairs by squatting and drinking water mixed with saliva in relays (Arnani, 2020). Another case in PKKMB activities in September 2020, new student was shouted at by his senior for not using complete attributes. The case went viral because there was footage of the incident uploaded on social media (Faizal, 2020). A similar case occurred during orientation at one of the universities in Bengkulu in September 2020 (Ihsan, 2020).

Bullying brings a lot of negative impact to the survivors where the loss is not only physical but also psychological. In some cases of extreme bullying, it can cause or lead to loss of life. According to Hilda in Anesty (2009) bullying is not only affect the survivors but also the perpetrators, someone who sees directly and the social environment that affects the quality of a group. The impact on survivors can cause feelings of anxiety and fear that will affect the concentration of learning process on campus. If bullying continues it can result in low self-esteem, feelings of worthlessness, and withdrawal from the social environment (Rigby, 2005). While the impact for someone who commits bullying according to Sanders in Anesty (2009) is that the perpetrator has a high confidence and self-esteem, tends to show an aggressive attitude that approves of violence, stubborn, emotional, unable to control or manage low stress. These bullying individuals basically have a need to master the environment and lack empathy for the survivors. Through bullying, perpetrators realize that they have power over others and the environment. Bullying without the help of other parties will lead to the emergence of other violent and criminal acts. Another impact of bullying on bystanders suggests that bullying behaviour is generally justified. In such situation,
some bystanders participated with the perpetrators of bullying because they feel afraid of becoming the next victim. Meanwhile other bystanders remain silent, do nothing and believe that it is not important to stop the bullying. Bullying is an act that is not reasonable for anyone, including students. Bullying when is not handled properly will lead to negative behavior in the future. Negative behavior that might appear is violence. Violent behavior carried out against family, children, spouses or co-workers. Other negative behavior that might appear is being involved in a criminal group.

Based on the results of the initial study to 551 new students in the academic year 2020/2021 at one of the University in Jakarta, it is known that 90% of students understand about the meaning of bullying. However, cases of bullying are still common among the students, as previously described. Therefore, researchers consider that it is very important to know how new student perceptions of bullying. An individual’s view of something in the concept of psychology is referred to as perception. Slameto (2010) states that perception as a related process to the receipt of messages or information into a person’s brain. Through the exposure above, researchers are interested describing in depth how new students perceive bullying.

**Literature Review**

**Perception**

1. **Perception Meaning**

   In the dictionary of Psychology, perception is interpreted as a way of working, products and actions resulting from energy patterns that hit sensory organs, where the process, product, or action raises awareness of objects with different reaction capacities to the object (Matsumoto, 2009). According Walgito (2010) perception is the act of organizing, interpreting, a stimulus received by the senses that results something meaningful, and is a complete response in the individual.

   A similar opinion was conveyed by McMahon in Sumanto (2014) which defines perception as a method of interpretation of incoming stimuli with an information receiving tool or called sensory information. While James in Slameto (2014) conveys perception as the absorption of data received from the environment by our senses, and the rest is received from memory processing that has been attached and then re-managed based on the life experiences. Sumanto (2014) concluded that perception is a way of understanding information from stimulus. Stimulus is obtained from a sense related to a symptom, event and object which is then processed by the brain.

2. **Perceptual Aspects**

   There are 3 (three) aspects that affect perception according to Walgito (2010):

   a. **Cognitive**

      This section related with knowledge of events and objects. Both were found because of the receipt of the stimulus. The cognitive aspect relates to how to gain insights and experiences in the past. The point is that a person in judging something is influenced by his view of something based on the expectations, the insight gained from hearing or vision in daily life or based on events that has experienced in the past.

   b. **Affective**

      This affect related to a person’s emotions and relates to a management of excitatory. It means the acceptance of stimuli will be selected and grouped into individual emotions. An individual can rate something based on positive emotions and negative emotions. The affective aspect works based on the evaluation of cultural values or personal values that individuals have as well as moral and ethical education. These values were obtained from an early age which later became the basis of the individual’s view of life.

   c. **Conative**

      The third aspect is related of how to manage and interpret stimuli that causes someone to behave and act based on interpreted stimuli. Its form is someone’s action against an acceptable excitatory object.
Based on the aspects of perception that have been described can be synthesized that the entire realm of psychology that is cognitive, affective and conative becomes a benchmark in the individual to perceive something.

3. Factors Affecting Perception
   According to Huffman (2010) there are 3 (three) factors that affect the selection of perception:
   a. Selective Attention
      Selective attention means filtering and paying attention to important sensory messages. In almost every situation, there is excessive sensory information, but the brain manages to sort out the important messages and discard the rest. For example, when someone is seriously reading a book in room they might ignore the sounds around them.
   b. Feature Detectors
      The second factor in the selection is the presence of special neurons in the brain called feature detectors that only respond to certain sensory information.
   c. Habituation
      Another physiological factor that is important in selecting only certain sensory data is habituation. The brain seems to be "prepared" to pay more attention to environmental changes than constant constant stimuli. A person tends to quickly get used (or underrespond) to predictable and unchanging stimuli.

Walgito (2010) argues that there are three factors that affect an individual's view or perception:
   a. Interpreted Objects
      Objects are stimuli received by human sensing. Objects as stimulus are present from outside as well as within the individual concerned regarding receptors.
   b. Senses and Nerve Centers
      The senses are a means of receiving stimulus, while the sensory nerve as a means of conveying the stimulus that the nerve center then receives or it called the brain.
   c. Attention
      Perception requires the presence of someone's attention, which is the first step to forming a perception. When an individual is able to focus his attention on objects or stimuli, it will be easier for someone to compile a complete perception.

Based on these explanations can be synthesized that the factors that influence perception are the environment, physiology and psychological.

Definition of Bullying
1. Bullying Impact
   Prasetyo in Sufriani & Sari (2017) defines bullying as repeated aggressive actions committed by a person or group with the aim of physically or psychologically attacking individuals or groups.
   Stuart in Pragholapati (2020) describes the concept of bullying as a type of conduct disorder and anti-social behavior that makes the group of children with largest mental disorders. Behavioral disorders can be in the form of affective aggression behavior (impulsive, uncontrollable, unplanned or denial) or predatory aggression (goal-oriented, planned, or hidden) can be seen in children with behavioral disorders.
   Ken Rigby in Zakiyah (2018) says that bullying is a desire to hurt others. Such desire is shown in acts of behavior that make others miserable. Such actions are carried out by individuals who have power but are not responsible. Actions are generally performed repeatedly without involving empathy. Bullying is a behavior based on consciousness and deliberate aims to torment others and raise fear (Coloroso in Fitri, 2018).
   Muvariz in Andini (2019) explained that bullying is a violent act and aims to hurt and cause distress to the victim. These actions are carried out deliberately and repeatedly by perpetrators who have power over a weaker person or group. and intentionally by a stronger individual or group to a weaker individual or group.
   From these various definitions, it can be synthesized that bullying is repeated aggressive action by a person or group with the aim of hurting weaker individuals.

2. Bullying Impact
   Hilda in Purnama (2013) stated that bullying has an impact on the victims, perpetrators,
someone who witnesses it, which then affects the reputation of a community. Anesty in Purnama (2013) explains the impact of bullying on victims causes fear, anxiety, reduces the focus of learning process at school, and makes survivors avoid school. Meanwhile, the impact for perpetrators according to Colorosa in Purnama (2013) said that the perpetrator will be trapped as a bullying actor, less ability to build relationships, subjective, non-empathetic and see himself as a strong and likable figure who impacts on the pattern of relationships in the future.

Purnama (2013) revealed that when bullying is ignored without positive intervention, then the negative impact will be about the bystanders or the individual who witnessed. Bystanders may assume that bullying is acceptable to the environment.

3. Bullying Factors

Verlinden in Sufriani & Purnamasari (2017) states that there are four factors that influence a person to commit bullying, individual factors related to the biological and temperament of a person, family, peers, schools and media. A similar explanation was given by Gerald in Fitri (2018) who stated the factors that influence bullying are biological, personal, family, peer groups, schools and communities. Family is the first educational environment for children. When parents are too strict educating their children or taking care with excessive punishment, or family conflict condition that have the potential to shape the child into a perpetrator of bullying.

Based on the two explanations above, it can be synthesized that various aspects that exist in the child’s life environment can influence the emergence of bullying behavior.

Students and Bullying

Wardani and Fajriansyah (2017) stated that bullying is a familiar behavior for students, because this behavior is still common in the educational environment including at the college level. Hulukati and Djibran (2018) in their research described that the age of students in general is in the age range of 18-25 years. Based on that range, students are grouped into early age groups which means they are able to think, act and also have a responsible for their behavior which if they break the rule, they will have certain criminal consequences (Simbolon, 2012). However, in reality there are still students involved as perpetrators of bullying. It is because the transition of adolescence to adults, students often try a variety of new things that are positive or negative (Wardani and Fajriansyah, 2017). Meanwhile, Putri and Silalahi (2017) in their research stated that students become perpetrators of bullying because they have difficulty to build friendships, difficult to control emotions, having a behavior problems and lack of academic performance.

Bullying behavior in universities based on Simbolon research (2012) generally occurs during the orientation period of campus introduction or (PKKMB). In fact, bullying does not only occur during the PKKMB period, but also common on campus dormitories or in the locations with minimal supervision from campus parties. However, in the pandemic situation bullying still occurs even though PKKMB activities are carried out online, like bullying cases that has been described in introduction chapter.

According to Wardani and Fajriansyah (2017) students who become perpetrators of bullying consist of two characteristics, students who commit acts of bullying consciously and students who do not realize that their behavior is an act of bullying.

Student Perception of Bullying

Students in general can be grouped into early age group. At that age, students are considered mature and responsible for their behavior and there are consequences if the student commits negative behavior.

In daily life, students are faced with many common good things such as group work, socializing, and so on. On the other hand, students have also faced uncommon things, which is bullying.

As individuals in the early group of age, students should already have a correct and proper understanding of bullying. However, there are still many bullying cases that occur among the students. Therefore, researchers is interested to study further how students perception of bullying. Student views categorized as perceptions in psychological constructs.
Based on the definition of perception and bullying, researchers concluded that students' perception of bullying is an assessment process as a result of sensory sensing of repeated aggressive behavior by students as individuals or groups towards weaker individuals.

Methods

This research uses quantitative descriptive design. According to Arikunto in Putra (2015:73) descriptive quantitative is a research method that aims to see and describe with numbers about the object being studied. This is in line with the purpose of this study which is to find out how new students perceive bullying. This study uses data in the form of numbers which are then processed using statistics, after that the results will be explained through a description of the conclusions compiled based on statistical analysis.

Methodology

The research began in August 2020 and was completed in December 2020, while the research site is one of the universities in Jakarta. The respondents were 513 new students in the academic year 2020/2021. The respondents of this study came from 7 faculties, there are the Faculty of Education, Faculty of Literature, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Engineering, Faculty of Economics and Business, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Faculty of Vocational.

Research instruments in the form of questionnaires containing open questions are used to capture the initial data of research. Meanwhile, questionnaires with closed statements were compiled based on the Likert Scale model to obtain data on new students' perceptions of bullying. Questionnaire consists of 18 statements that refer to aspects of perception, cognitive, affective, and conative.

The research instrument used a Student’s Perception of Bullying. The number of items in this scale is 18 statements. The choice of answers consists of 4, Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree, and Strongly Disagree. From the 18 statement items there are 9 favorable items and 9 unfavorable items. The score moves from 1 to 4. On favorable items if respondents choose the Strongly Agree answer then the score obtained is 4 while if the respondents choose Strongly Disagree then the score obtained is 1. In unfavorable items, if the respondent selects the Strongly Agree answer then the score obtained is 1 while if selecting the Strongly Disagree option then the score obtained is 4. Research scale in the form of questionnaires shared with all respondents through Google Form. This data collection method uses Google Form to simplify the data collection in the Covid-19 pandemic situation.

The research began with a literature study on bullying, perception, and students. Furthermore, an initial survey was conducted in the form of open questions to find out the understanding of new students about the definition of bullying. The next process is structured by a new student perception of bullying consisting of 18 items. This scale was given to 513 new students at one of the Universities in Jakarta through Google Form. After the data was collected, researchers analyzed the research data.

Data Analysis

The analytical method used in this study is percentile. According to Pratikno, Prastiwi, dan Rahmawati (2020) percentile is a number of data divider that has been sorted from the smallest to the largest number, into 100 equal sub-groups. Meanwhile, according to Periantalo (2017) percentile is the relative position of the score along with the score below it in a frequency distribution. The use of percentile methods is useful to describe the categories of perceptions that new students have towards bullying. The process of creating categories in the analysis of research data is hypothetical and empirical.

Results

Hypothetical categorization use percentile 25 and percentile 75. Percentile 25 and percentile 75 hypothetically referred to the percentage results obtained based on the total score obtained from the scale that has been compiled. Categorization is done by multiplying the highest score of 4 and the lowest score of 1 with the number of items on the instrument, with the following details:

Highest Score: 18 item x 4 = 72
Lowest Score: 18 item x 1 = 18

After finding the highest and lowest scores, then next is to determine the 25 percentile and the 75 percentile for categorization. The following are
the results of percentile 25 and percentile 75 that have been processed through SPSS version 26.0.

Table 1.
Hypothetically 25 percentile and 75 percentile results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistics</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students’ Perception of Bullying</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>32,25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentiles</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>58,50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In table 1 can be formed categorization as follows:

- If the total answers of respondents are ≤32.25, then it belongs into bad category.
- If the total answers of respondents is between 32.26-58.49 then it is neutral.
- If the total answers of respondents are ≥58.50 then it is in a good category.

After the formation of category has been determined then it can be seen in table 2.

Table 2.
Results of Categorization Based on Hypothetical

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0,0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>458</td>
<td>89,3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>10,7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More details of these results can be graphically presented in the following bar chart:

Figure 1. Results Chart of Categorization Based on Hypothetical

In table 2 and figure 1 can be seen the results of hypothetical categorization that respondents' perception of bullying belongs to the neutral category of 458 respondents with a percentage of 89.3%, while in the good category there are 55 respondents with a percentage of 10.7% and 0 respondents who have a bad category with a percentage of 0%.

Table 3.
The Result of Percentile 25 and Percentile 75 Empirically

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students’ Perception of Bullying</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>513</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valid</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentiles</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>56</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In table 3 can be formed categorization as follows:

- If the total answers of respondents are ≤49, then it is in the bad category.
- If the total answers of respondents between percentile 25 and percentile 75 then it is neutral.
- If the total answers of respondents are ≥56, then it is in the good category.

After finding the highest and lowest values, then next is to determine the 25 percentile and the 75 percentile for categorization. Here are the results of percentile 25 and percentile 75 that have been processed through SPSS version 24.0.

Table 4.
The Results of Categorization Based on Empirical

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>28,65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>50,49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>20,86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More details of these results can be graphically presented in the following bar chart:

Figure 1. Results Chart of Categorization Based on Hypothetical
In Table 4 and Figure 2, it can be seen that the majority of respondents have a perception of bullying that belongs to the neutral category. This can be seen from the highest frequency in the neutral category of 259 respondents, with a percentage of 50.49%. Then, respondents who have a bad perception as many as 147 respondents, with a percentage of 28.65%, and 107 respondents who have a good category, with a percentage of 20.86%.

Discussing this research, it was conducted to find out and describe how the perceptions of new students in the academic year 2020/2021 at a university in Jakarta against bullying. After conducting hypothetical analysis, the results were obtained that as many as 458 respondents had a neutral perception of bullying, with a percentage of 89.3%, while as many as 55 respondents, with a percentage of 10.7%, had a good perception of bullying, and no student had a bad perception of bullying. It can be concluded based on hypothetical data that the majority of new students have a neutral perception of bullying.

In addition to analysis using hypothetical categories, analysis is also carried out using empirical data. From the results of the analysis based on empirical data, it was obtained that as many as 259 respondents, with a percentage of 50.49%, have a neutral perception of bullying, while as many as 147 respondents, with a percentage of 28.65%, have a bad perception of bullying, and as many as 107 respondents, with a percentage of 20.86%, have a good perception of bullying. Based on the empirical data, it can be concluded that the majority of new students have a neutral perception of bullying. There are also new students who already have a good perception of bullying, although there are still new students who have a bad perception of bullying.

When compared between hypothetical and empirical data, it can be concluded that the majority of new students have a neutral perception of bullying. The data means that new students have a neutral assessment of aggressive behaviors repeated by individuals or groups against weak individuals. Neutral assessment indicates that students are unable to give a consistent assessment of bullying.

Other comparison results show that, based on empirical data, there are new students who have a bad perception of bullying. This indicates that in fact there are still new students giving inappropriate assessments of aggressive behavior repeated by individuals or groups against weak individuals. Poor judgment indicates that students are misjudging bullying.

On the other hand, there are new students who have a good perception of bullying. Good perception means that new students are able to give a proper assessment of bullying. Factors that affect new students have not yet determined the right attitude towards bullying indicates new students have not been able to think and act in mature. This shows that there is a discrepancy between the behavior of new students and what was conveyed by Hulukati and Djibran (2018) in their research that students in general age between 18-25 years old, and according to Simbolon (2012), students are able to take responsibility for their behavior, which if they violate the rule of law, they will get certain criminal consequences. It is because students consider bullying behavior to be common and students are also still in the period of searching for identity so that they are often unable to determine their attitude correctly (Wardani & Fajriansyah, 2017).

The next factor influencing new students to give a neutral assessment of bullying caused by the students' unconsciousness towards their behavior which turns out to be a category of bullying behavior. It is because bullying is considered as a common behavior in the student environment. When bullying behavior is repeated and becomes a habit will be considered as normal thing to do, so that if it is allowed, it will create a generation
that justifies the wrong thing (Wardani & Fajriansyah, 2017). Based on empirical analysis results found that there are students who have a bad perception of bullying means that the new student gives an incorrect assessment of aggressive behavior carried out repeatedly by individuals or groups against weak individuals. Bad judgment indicates that students are misassessing bullying. This is due to several influencing factors such as those presented by Verlinden in Sufriani & Purnamasari (2017); and Gerald in Fitri (2018) that the factors that influence a person to commit bullying, individual or personal, biological, family, peer, school and environment and media factors. However, this argument needs to be proven through further research.

Limitations and Future Studies

Based on the results of the research can be given advice for several parties. For students it is necessary to expand the perspective of bullying to build a proper perception of bullying. This can be done through bullying-related literacy and following briefings related to bullying. The next suggestion for stakeholders at the university is to develop a program that aims to educate many parties about bullying. Programs can take the form of policies, seminars, workshops, or discussions of bullying in lectures. Next suggestion for the Ministry of Education and Culture is that as a government institution that houses universities, the Ministry of Education and Culture needs to make a policy that requires each university to incorporate bullying material into the curriculum.

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References


