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The Role of National Narcotics Regency in the Drug Abuse Prevention Program in Mempawah Regency

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Abstract

Drug abuse is a serious problem that threatens the younger generation, including teenagers, in Mempawah Regency. The District National Narcotics Agency (*Badan Narkotika Nasional Kabupaten/Kota* or BNNK) has an essential role in the prevention and eradication of drug abuse and illicit circulation (P4GN) program. This study aims to describe the role of BNNK in the P4GN program in Mempawah Regency. This study uses a qualitative method with descriptive analysis, a technique for determining purposive sampling informants according to the criteria; the informants in this study consist of representatives of adolescents, the government, schools and BNNK officers. Data collection techniques include observation, interviews, documentation, and data validation techniques using triangulation. The results of the research show that BNNK Mempawah has carried out and carried out its role as the implementing officer of the P4GN program, among its roles in conducting education and counseling about the dangers of drugs, early detection through random urine tests and rehabilitation as well as strict law enforcement. The researcher also gave several recommendations so that the role of BNNK is more optimal, and the recommendations are to increase Penta helix cooperation between agencies (government, private sector, academics, community and media), increase budget and human resource development, utilize technology and anti-stigma campaigns.

Keywords

National Narcotics Agency, Drug Abuse, Trafficking Prevention, Eradication Program

1. Introduction

The phenomenon of increasing drug abuse among adolescents has always been a concern (Nugraha & Antonio, 2022). Drug abuse in adolescents can lead to a variety of health problems, such as cognitive impairment, mental disorders, decreased academic performance, behavioral disorders, as well as the risk of life-threatening overdoses through death (Srivastava et al., 2024). Adolescents who fall into drug abuse often experience disturbances in social relationships, conflicts with family, and ISOLATION from society. This can negatively affect their emotional and social development (Nath et al., 2022a). Drug abuse among teens can increase crime rates, including street crime, theft, and prescription drug abuse (Singh, 2023). This can disrupt public order and cause a sense of insecurity, one of which is in Mempawah Regency (Muradi et al., 2020).

In 2022, the Narcotics Investigation Unit of the Mempawah Police of the West Kalimantan Police succeeded in uncovering 58 narcotics cases with 71 suspects arrested; most of these cases involved class 1 narcotics of the type of methamphetamine (Humas Polresta Pontianak, 2022). Despite preventive efforts, there are still residents involved in narcotics abuse and trafficking, which requires law enforcement through arrest. Drug use in adolescents can have adverse effects, both physically and psychologically. Some of the health impacts of adolescents who use drugs include disorders of the heart, blood vessels, skin, lungs, nervous system, and reproductive health. In addition, drug use can also cause the transmission of diseases such as hepatitis B, C, and HIV, especially for alternating syringe users (Srivastava et al., 2024).

Drug use in adolescents can also cause changes in attitudes, personalities, and temperaments, decreased discipline and learning values, and become emotionally irritable and irritable. Factors that cause adolescents to use drugs include individual and environmental factors, such as lack of parent-child communication, less harmonious family relationships, less disciplined school environment, and association with drug users (Afifi et al., 2022). The negative impact of drug use on adolescents can also harm the mental and physical health of the user, such as causing antisocial behaviour and potentially detrimental to reproductive health, especially in adolescent girls (Bunu et al., 2023; Nath et al., 2022b).

The urgency of this research is because drug abuse will interfere with the health of adolescents, as cognitive impairment, mental disorders, decreased academic performance, behavioural disorders, as well as the risk of life-threatening overdoses, in addition, social and emotional disorders such as vulnerability to conflict with family, and isolation from society are also easy to occur. Moreover, it can increase crime and community inconvenience. Drug abuse in adolescence can also have serious long-term effects, including chronic dependence, permanent mental disorders, and the risk of developing infectious diseases associated with drug use. Without practical efforts in preventing and eradicating drug abuse, adolescents become vulnerable to the harmful effects of drugs that can damage their physical, mental, and emotional health (Rosidah & Siswanto, 2023).

Several studies on BNKK have been carried out, including research that found that the community empowerment program implemented by the National Narcotics Agency of Denpasar City focuses on health education activities to support the prevention of drug abuse, such as socialization and urine tests, which are funded by the Denpasar Government and village funds (Cahyani & Lubis, 2020; Akmadi et al., 2022). Other research on the role of BNNK Surakarta plays an essential role in reducing drug circulation through collaboration with the Surakarta Police Narcotics Research Unit and anti-drug forums. BNNK Surakarta has successfully implemented comprehensive prevention methods, but challenges remain in enforcing the law and providing therapy for narcotics victims. Collective action among stakeholders is

emphasized to combat drug abuse effectively. BNNK's efforts aim to create a drug-free environment in Surakarta, increasing productivity, health, and competitiveness in the community (Hermoyo et al., 2024). Research by the National Narcotics Agency of Pekanbaru City research shows that the agency's strategy has not been fully effective due to factors such as limited human resources and supporting tools (Sidik & Meiwanda, 2022).

The Government of Indonesia is also very concerned about this condition, with various policies to prevent drug abuse and consumption, especially for adolescents. The task is assigned to the District National Narcotics Agency (*Badan Narkotika Nasional Kabupaten/Kota* or BNNK) in the Prevention and Eradication of Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (P4GN) Program, but there are still many cases of drug abuse and drug consumption in Mempawah Regency (Aep, 2019; Susanto, 2014), and BNNK has a very strategic role in eradicating drug abuse (Budiman, 2020). The purpose of this study is to describe the role of BNNK Mempawah in drug prevention and abuse, and no previous research has examined this topic.

2. Methods

This study employs a qualitative research method with descriptive analysis to explore the roles of District National Narcotics Agency (*Badan Narkotika Nasional Kabupaten/Kota* or BNNK) Mempawah in preventing drug abuse in the district. Informants were selected using purposive sampling and included representatives from the district government, school principals, students (teenagers), and BNNK officials. The data collection process involved multiple structured and semi-structured interviews as well as direct observations conducted at the research sites. Documentation from various sources was also examined. To ensure the validity of the data, the study used data triangulation, comparing information from interviews, observations, and documents to provide a comprehensive understanding of BNNK's preventive efforts against drug abuse. This method allows for an in-depth description of the issue within the district's context.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Tasks of BNNK Mempawah

National Narcotics Agency (*Badan Narkotika Nasional* or BNN) Mempawah Regency was formed in January 2012; the background of the establishment of BNNK Mempawah is a BNN RI program and is caused by the increasing number of drug addicts in Mempawah Regency, BNN Mempawah Regency in 2012 is located at Jalan Cempaka Mempawah. Then in 2013 it moved to Jalan Candramidi Mempawah. In 2015, it moved to Jalan Mane Pak Kasih Mempawah, and from 2018 until now, it is located at Gusti M. Saleh Aliudin Mempawah. BNN Mempawah Regency is led by AKBP Abdul Haris Daulay, SH, who served from 2012 to 2020 followed by AKBP Agus Sudiman, SE, who served from 2020 until now. There are 3 sections in the Mempawah Regency BNN, namely the General Sub-Division, the Prevention and Community Empowerment Section, and the Rehabilitation Section, while the Eradication Section still does not have personnel. A number of BNNK Mempawah Employees: 25 people, 1 National Police, eight civil servants and 16 Non-Civil Servant Government Employees (*Pegawai Pemerintah Non Pegawai Negeri* or PPNP).

District National Narcotics Agency (*Badan Narkotika Nasional Kabupaten/Kota* or BNNK) Mempawah is responsible for formulating and implementing national policies to prevent and eradicate the smuggling and illegal circulation of narcotics and precursors. They work closely with the National Police to coordinate these efforts, enhance medical and social rehabilitation for drug addicts, and empower

communities to combat drug abuse. The agency monitors and supports community activities, engages in regional and international cooperation, and operates a narcotics laboratory. Additionally, BNNK handles criminal investigations related to drug trafficking, prepares annual reports, and develops policies on preventing the spread of narcotics, psychotropics, and other addictive substances, excluding tobacco and alcohol. Their tasks aim to tackle drug abuse comprehensively through prevention, eradication, and rehabilitation efforts (Laila, 2021).

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3.2. The Role of BNNK in Preventing Drug Abuse (P4GN Program) Education and Counselling

The main strategies used by BNNK are education and counselling. BNNK conducts socialization in schools, universities, and community communities to increase awareness about the dangers of drugs. This program includes direct counselling, distribution of educational materials, and campaigns through social and electronic media. Socialization in schools and universities has succeeded in increasing students' knowledge about the dangers of drugs, but not all schools have received socialization. This activity provides information about the adverse effects of drugs on health and teaches essential life skills, such as the ability to say no to peer pressure. BNNK said that this counselling has helped reduce the rate of drug abuse among students and students because they already know the dangers of drugs. Campaigns through social media and electronics also play an essential role in disseminating information widely and quickly. Using social media platforms, BNNK can reach more people, especially the younger generation who are active on social media. The campaign includes educational videos, infographics, and inspirational stories from former drug users who have recovered.

Early detection and rehabilitation are essential components in efforts to prevent and handle drug abuse, BNNK has made early detection efforts through random urine tests in various educational institutions and workplaces. This effort aims to find cases of drug abuse at an early stage so that handling can be carried out more quickly and effectively. This early detection has succeeded in finding a number of cases of drug abuse that may not have been detected without a random urine test because the method has been carried out and proven to be effective (Barratt et al., 2018). BNNK also provides rehabilitation services for victims of drug abuse, and these services include counselling, therapy, and social support to help victims recover from drug dependence. The rehabilitation services provided by BNNK have helped many victims of drug abuse to recover and return to society. This rehabilitation program focuses not only on physical recovery but also on psychological and social recovery. Victims are taught essential life skills and given support to rebuild their lives (Efendi & Mashdurohatun, 2020).

Law enforcement is one of the key strategies in preventing drug abuse, BNNK collaborates with the police and other legal institutions in arresting, investigating, and prosecuting drug offenders. This law enforcement aims to reduce drug

circulation in the community and provide a deterrent effect for drug crime perpetrators. Law enforcement carried out by BNNK has increased the number of drug cases that have been successfully uncovered. The arrest operation and investigation carried out intensively succeeded in finding a drug trafficking network in the BNNK work area. In addition, strict prosecution of drug offenders also provides a significant deterrent effect. Strict law enforcement, regardless of status, position, etc., will provide a deterrent effect for drug abusers, both as dealers and buyers (Hughes et al., 2017). The role carried out by BNNK certainly has challenges and obstacles so that it has not been maximized and has not had a significant impact in dealing with drug abuse in Mempawah Regency. Therefore, the researcher has several recommendations to optimise the role of BNNK, and these recommendations are made based on the results of interviews in the field.

3.3. Increasing Cooperation with Related Agencies

Closer cooperation with related agencies such as the Education Office, the Health Office, and private institutions is crucial to expanding the reach of education and extension programs. Cooperation with the Education Office in character education programs that focus on the dangers of drug abuse has been shown to be effective in increasing adolescents' understanding of the dangers of drugs and reducing drug abuse rates (Susanti et al., 2024), by integrating drug prevention education into the school curriculum, providing knowledge about the dangers of drugs can be evenly distributed, in addition to being more effective and efficient in terms of budget and resources. In addition, collaboration with the health Office can provide data and information related to public health that can be used to design more effective prevention programs.

Cooperation with the private sector is also essential, and companies can be partners in providing additional funds and other resources needed to support the P4GN program. In addition, companies can also play a role in providing education and counselling to their employees, as well as supporting rehabilitation programs for employees involved in drug abuse. By strengthening cooperation with these various agencies, BNNK can expand the program's reach and increase its effectiveness in preventing drug abuse. Cooperation with academics in research and community service on preventing drug abuse can also send KKN students to the location. The media is an effective platform for socialization because teenagers are more dominant in using social media to find information.

The increase in budget and resources is a crucial factor for the success of the BNNK program, especially P4GN. Local governments are expected to increase the budget allocation for this program so that BNNK can have more resources to carry out various initiatives. In addition, professionals in the field of rehabilitation are urgently needed. Professionals such as counsellors, psychologists, and medical personnel are essential in providing quality rehabilitation services. With this increase in budget and resources, BNNK can run the P4GN program more effectively and reach more victims of drug abuse.

Information and communication technology (ICT) can increase the effectiveness of law enforcement and early detection in the P4GN program. Technology can be used to develop more sophisticated drug intelligence systems, which allow law enforcement officials to monitor and analyse drug trafficking patterns more effectively. One example of the application of technology in research that discusses the potential of machine learning algorithms in processing large data sets to identify patterns and predict trends in drug trafficking, which can help law enforcement in dealing with drug circulation problems preventively (Hachem et al., 2023). In addition, technologies such as data analysis software and surveillance equipment can also be used to uncover complex and sophisticated drug trafficking networks. On the other hand, ICT can also be used to disseminate information and education about the

dangers of drugs more widely and quickly. By utilizing social media, websites, and mobile applications, BNNK can reach a wider audience, especially the younger generation who are very familiar with technology; with the development of this technology, BNNK can increase the effectiveness of the P4GN program in law enforcement and education.

Negative stigma against victims of drug abuse is a significant obstacle to rehabilitation efforts, as stigma can lead to feelings of shame and isolation among drug users, which discourages them from seeking help and participating in rehabilitation programs (Hambali & Muniruddin, 2024). Some parents also view children who are addicted to drugs as a disgrace to the family, so they are hidden even though drug addicts must be treated. Therefore, anti-stigma campaigns must be carried out intensively to reduce this stigma. This campaign can include various activities such as counselling in the community, publication of inspirational stories from former drug users who have recovered, and cooperation with the media to spread anti-stigma messages.

By reducing social stigma, victims of drug abuse will be more courageous to seek help and undergo rehabilitation. In addition, the community will also be more supportive of rehabilitation and social reintegration efforts for victims. This anti-stigma campaign is crucial to create a supportive environment for victims of drug abuse to recover and return to society. The strategy implemented by BNNK in the P4GN program has yielded significant results in drug prevention and eradication efforts. However, the challenges faced require a more comprehensive approach and support from various parties. With increased cooperation, resources, technology, and anti-stigma campaigns, the P4GN program can be more effective in achieving its goal of creating a drug-free society. This comprehensive approach and multi-stakeholder support will ensure that the P4GN program can be better implemented and have a greater impact on drug prevention and eradication efforts in Indonesia.

4. Conclusion

Based on the research, it can be concluded that BNNK Mempawah has effectively fulfilled its role as a state-assigned institution to implement the P4GN (Prevention, Eradication, Abuse, and Illicit Trafficking of Narcotics) program. Key efforts include raising awareness about the dangers of drugs through education and counseling programs, conducting early detection measures such as random urine tests, and providing rehabilitation services alongside strict law enforcement against drug-related crimes. BNNK Mempawah's comprehensive approach targets both prevention and intervention. However, to further optimize their role, the researcher offers several recommendations. These include enhancing collaboration between government agencies, private sectors, and academic institutions to create a more unified and effective front against drug abuse. The researcher also suggests increasing budget allocations and focusing on human resource development to strengthen BNNK's operational capacity. Additionally, utilizing modern technology to streamline drug prevention efforts and launching anti-stigma campaigns, especially aimed at supporting drug victims, can help reduce social stigma and encourage more people to seek help. These improvements can enhance the impact of BNNK Mempawah's ongoing efforts in preventing and addressing drug abuse in the district.

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