

The Influence of Social Identity on Adolescent Behaviour through Social Motivation in Female Motorcycle Gangs in Riau

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This study aims to investigate the effect of social identity on juvenile delinquency through social motivation in adolescents who are members of female motorcycle gangs in the Riau province. This study used a sample of 211 respondents who are aged 13-18 years. Respondents were teenage female motorcycle gang members in Riau Province. Data analysis in this study used structural equating statistical techniques and LISREL 8.80 software. The results showed that social identity is associated with juvenile delinquency through social motivation. This means that social identity is part of the concept of self, and an individual's being part of group has a significant influence on social motivation. Social identity contributed 14.29% to the occurrence of juvenile delinquency, especially in female motorcycle gang members in the Riau province.

Key words: *Social Identity, Adolescent Behaviour, Motorcycle gangs*

Introduction

According to the Pekanbaru Police Chief, in 2013, more than 500 teenagers across six groups joined motorcycle gangs in Pekanbaru Riau (infopku.com). The results of interviews conducted by researchers with police in 2017 showed that it is difficult to ascertain the exact total of motorcycle gang members, both male and female. In general, females who are members of a motorcycle gang will also form a special females-only motorcycle gang.



Interviews conducted by researchers suggest many deviant behaviours in adolescent girls who are members of a motorcycle gang. The subjects claimed to have used meth-type drugs. According to the subjects, this deviant behaviour is conducted in the school environment, the alley environment, and their living environments. This information is based on the results of an interview with one female motorcycle gang member (Atiet Abang). The forms of juvenile delinquency exhibited by young females are more directed towards violations of decency, such as promiscuity outside of marriage and persecution. Based on interviews that have been done with juvenile delinquents, it appears that smoking, promiscuity, brawling, and even drug use (crystal meth and cannabis) are common.

Furthermore, researchers have also conducted a preliminary survey to find out the classification of juvenile delinquency in female motorcycle gang members in Pekanbaru City. Preliminary survey results indicated that, in general, the delinquency of female motorcycle gang adolescents in Riau is in the "high" category. These young females are of a generation who are expected to contribute to the development of a nation, so the government needs to think about preventive efforts to reduce this delinquency.

According to a group of female gang members in 2013, motorcycle gangs are usually caused by lifestyle demands. The community/gang can be a means of searching for self and defining one's social identity, as well as a way to justify one's existence, satisfy affiliation needs, fill leisure time, find security, and improve self-esteem. In addition, women who join motorcycle gangs can strengthen their solidarity with other individuals. This solidarity is demonstrated through similar aesthetic attributes in clothes, helmets, or the motorcycles themselves.

The search for adolescent identity is an attempt to explain oneself and one's role in society. If a child gets positive support from parents, then the child will also develop a positive self-identity; if the opposite is true, then this will often result in an identity crisis. Besides looking for self-identity, adolescents are also in a stage of their self-esteem development where they need recognition from others.

When they fail to find their identity and fail to get recognition from their family, school, or surrounding community, adolescents will often try to find their identity and get recognition from outside their own environment. During this identity crisis, teenagers feel they can actualise themselves in a motorcycle gang because it gives them acceptance and recognition from the gang's members.

Recognition and acceptance from groups can increase cohesiveness, solidarity, and delinquency because members of a motorcycle gang believe their group can provide protection against the delinquency it does (Leve et al, 2005). Social identity formed from a group will have an influence on social motivation. Social motivation that tends to be negative

will form internal and external obstacles, without control over the individual himself so that this is strongly influenced and driven by social motivation (Purwandari, 2011).

McClelland (1987) says that social motivation is divided into 3 parts: motivation for achievement, motivation for power, and motivation for affiliation. In female teenage motorcycle gangs, teenagers are motivated by at least 2 of these social motivations, namely motivation for power and affiliation. Motivation for power comes from an adolescent's position in the gang, while motivation for affiliation comes from an adolescent's friendships with other gang members. In addition, adolescents with dysfunctional and/or functional (but in a negative environment) triggers the need for social motivation.

A tendency for adolescents to fulfil their motivations, such as a motivation for violence and crime, or seek recognition can occur due to the adolescent's poor cognitive functioning or low knowledge. The tendency to act naughty can make adolescents lose their moral code, which makes it difficult for them to distinguish between right and wrong (Marshall, 2011).

Methods

This research uses a mixed method approach, which is a research approach that combines quantitative and qualitative methods. This approach combines an exploration and understanding of the individual or group that is the source of the problem with tests that examine the theoretical relationships between variables (Creswell, 2017). This study uses three variables: the Independent Variable (X), Social Identity; the Dependent Variable (Y), Juvenile Delinquency; and the Mediator Variable (Z), Social Motivation.

The population in this study was female adolescent members, aged 13-18 years, of a motorcycle gang community in the city of Pekanbaru. The unit of analysis in this study is individuals, namely adolescents between the ages of 13-18 years with the following characteristics:

- 1) Young women.
- 2) Ages 13-18 years.
- 3) Motorcycle gang members in Riau Province.
- 4) Involved in various acts of juvenile delinquency.
- 5) Willing to be a research informant.

The sample in this study totalled 211 respondents who had an age range of 13-18 years. Respondents were teenage female motorcycle gang members in Riau Province. The subjects were categorised as follows: 61 respondents (28.9%) were female motorcycle gang members from Bengkalis Regency; 50 respondents (23.69%) were female motorcycle gang members from Dumai; 11 respondents (5.21%) were female motorcycle gang members from the

downstream Rokan Regency; and 89 respondents (42.18%) were female motorcycle gang members from the city of Pekanbaru.

Analysis of the data in this study uses structural equating statistical techniques and the LISREL 8.80 software. Structural equation modelling is a collection of statistical techniques that model the relationship between one or more independent variables (continuous or discrete) and one or more dependent variables. Independent and dependent variables can be measured as factors or variables. Structural equation modelling also refers to causal models, causal analysis, simultaneous model equations, analysis of covariance structures, path analysis, and confirmatory factor analysis (Ullman & Bentler 2003).

Result

Table 1 :Descriptive Analysis of Research Variable Scores

| Variable | <i>N</i> | <i>Minimum</i> | <i>Maximum</i> | <i>Mean</i> | <i>Std. Deviation</i> |
|----------|----------|----------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| KR | 211 | 32,72 | 74,59 | 50,0000 | 9,30083 |
| IDS | 211 | 20,72 | 70,26 | 50,0000 | 9,09738 |
| MS | 211 | 23,26 | 67,53 | 50,0000 | 9,07320 |

Note: KR = Juvenile Delinquency, IDS = Social Identity, MS = Social Motivation

The table above provides information on the 211 respondents in this study. The dependent variable in this study, juvenile delinquency, is shown to have a minimum value, or lowest score, of 32.72, a maximum value, or highest score, of 74.59, and a standard deviation of 9,30083.

The independent variable in this study, social identity, is shown to have a minimum value, or lowest score, of 20.72, a maximum value, or highest score, of 70.26, and a standard deviation of 9.09738. The next independent variable, parenting, is shown to have a minimum value, or lowest score, of 25.74, a maximum value, or highest score, of 68.21, and a standard deviation of 8.22995. The mediator variables in this study, social motivation, is shown to have a minimum value, or the lowest score, of 23.26, a maximum value, or highest score, of 67.53, and a standard deviation of 9.07320.

Table 2 :Results of Estimated Structural Regression of Free Variables Against Juvenile Delinquency

| <i>Path</i> | <i>Estimate</i> | <i>S.E.</i> | <i> z-hit > 1,96</i> | <i>Kesimpulan</i> |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| KR← IDS | 0.399 | 0.090 | 4,412 | Significant |

Note: KR = Juvenile Delinquency, IDS = Social Identity , MS = Social Motivation

From the results of structural model tests conducted, it was found that social identity has a significant influence on juvenile delinquency. Results from the processing show a statistical value of $4,412 > t\text{-table } 1,96$, which means that there is a significant influence of social identity on adolescent delinquency. The results of the estimated coefficient produced a value of 0.399 , which shows a positive influence, such that the higher the social identity, the higher the juvenile delinquency, and vice versa.

Structural Regression Estimation Results in the Dimensions of Social Identity Against Juvenile Delinquency

| Dimension | Estimate | S.E. | z-hit > 1,96 | Conclusions |
|----------------------|----------|-------|---------------|-----------------|
| Intergroup context | 0.985 | 0.011 | 6.091 | Significant |
| Attraction in groups | 0.005 | 0.014 | 3.321 | Significant |
| Mutual beliefs | 0.006 | 0.007 | 0.279 | Not Significant |
| Depersonalisation | 0.004 | 0.005 | 0.959 | Not Significant |

The above table shows the influence of each dimension of social identity on juvenile delinquency. The dimensions of intergroup context and the dimension of attractiveness in groups proved to significantly influence juvenile delinquency. This suggests that inter-group context and attractiveness have an important role in juvenile delinquency among female motorcycle gang members in Riau Province. These results are in line with the results of the frequency distribution of previous scores, which showed that the context between groups and attractiveness in groups can be predictive of juvenile delinquency.

Structural Regression Estimation Results with Mediator Variables

| Path | Estimate | S.E. | z-hit > 1,96 | Kesimpulan |
|---------------|----------|-------|---------------|------------|
| KR ← IDS + MS | 0,290 | 3,740 | 2,048 | Signifikan |

Note: KR = Juvenile Delinquency, IDS = Social Identity, MS = Social Motivation

Social motivation can mediate social identity against juvenile delinquency, as shown by the results of the processing, which produced a statistical value of $2,048 < t\text{-table } 1,96$. This means that social motivation is proven to be a significant mediator between social identity and juvenile delinquency among female motorcycle gang members in Riau province.



Discussion

Social Identity, Social Motivation and Juvenile Delinquency

The results show that social identity has a significant positive effect on juvenile delinquency. Social identity contributed 14.29% to the occurrence of juvenile delinquency, especially in female motorcycle gang members in Riau province. Social identity is part of one's self-conceptualisation. This social identity come from one's knowledge of one's membership in a social group. One's knowledge of one's membership in this group lends value and emotional significance to the membership (Tajfel, 1982).

According to William James in Walgito (2003), social identity is interpreted as a person's personal self-assessment in social interactions, where self is everything that people can say about themselves, not only about their own body and physical condition, but also about their children wife, home, job, ancestors, friends, and others. It was further concluded that “self” comprises all characteristics associated with one's self, including gender, experience, traits, cultural background, education, and all attributes attached to a person. It can be said that social identity is an attribute that is owned by an individual, where the individual is part of a social group. This attribute is then used to indicate the social group of the individual and distinguish the social group from other social groups. In general, fellow members in a social group will have closeness and some characteristics that distinguish them from other social group members. This closeness that is built in a group not only takes the form of physical closeness, for example the intensity of meetings, but also psychological closeness because fellow members in a social group have similar goals and thoughts.

According to Hogg, in social identity theory, social identity is one's knowledge that they belong to social groups. Social identity is also part of an individual's self-concept that is derived from the perception of their membership to a social group (Hogg & Vaughan, 2002). Social identity is also part of an individual's self-concept, which is defined through membership to a group, the values of the group's members, and the emotional ties that are formed with the group's members (Ellemers & Ouwerkerk, 1999). According to Jacobson (2003), social identity theory focuses on how individuals perceive and classify themselves based on their personal and social identities. Through the process of social comparison (social comparison process), people who have similarities will be categorised and labelled as being part of a group (ingroup), while different people are categorized as outgroups (Hogg & Abrams, 1988).

Most respondents in this study were early adolescents and middle adolescents, aged 12 to 18 years. Social development during adolescence involves peer groups more than parents (Papalia & Feldman, 2004). Compared to children, adolescents carry out more activities



outside the home, such as school activities, extracurricular activities, and activities with playmates. Thus, in adolescence, the role of a peer group, in this case a motorcycle gang, is significant. The role of a gang is to influence a teenager's judgment and decisions regarding their behaviour (Conger, 1991).

Hogg and Tindale (2001) explain that individuals who feel themselves members of a particular group will behave and do the same things as their group. All actions taken by group members will be in the interests of being considered part of the group. If an individual does not participate in the same actions as other group members, then he is not considered part of the group.

Acting in groups makes individuals more confident in performing certain behaviours, for example, in the case of this study, delinquent behaviours. Motorcycle gang members dare to act recklessly, for example by persecuting others, destroying public facilities, and creating riots, without feeling guilty and afraid because they do so as a group, even though they know that their actions violate the rule of law.

In this study on social identity variables, the dimensions of context between groups and attractiveness in groups proved to have a significant influence on juvenile delinquency. This means that joining and identifying with a group has been shown to significantly influence juvenile delinquency (Table 58). This means that if a teenager who joins a motorcycle gang and identifies himself as a part of the gang, then the status of the motorcycle gang will affect the teenager's perception. This means that if the activities carried out in a group, such as irresponsible driving, drinking alcohol, committing theft, fraud, vandalism, fighting, consuming drugs, misuse of social media, deviant sexual acts, and bullying, are considered as reasonable or 'good' behaviour, then the teenage members of the gang will tend to perceive these activities as natural and will imitate the delinquent actions of their fellow group members.

The behaviour of adolescent members of a motorcycle gang is included in juvenile delinquency (juvenile delinquency) because their behaviour violates norms, rules, or societal laws. As we know, juvenile delinquency is a symptom of social pathology in adolescents that is caused by social neglect and that ultimately leads to deviant behaviour.

Likewise, in this study, attractiveness in groups proved to significantly influence juvenile delinquency. A teenager who incorporates himself into a motorcycle gang must do so based on reasons that come from outside himself. In general, a group can attract individuals to join through some unique and interesting incentive. For example, the membership structure in the gang, the activities in the gang, the identity of members in the gang, and the clarity of the gang's position in the community. In this study, it was proven that if motorcycle gang



members were attracted to group's activities or perceived the consequences of the membership as interesting, then the attractiveness of the motorcycle gang would have a significant effect on delinquency. Members of the motorcycle gang feel they have a "common identity" with the motorcycle gang and/or the gang's members; in contrast, they will feel differently about or perceive a difference to other groups or things outside the group.

The feeling of "ingroup" often leads to "ingroup bias", which is a tendency to think well of the group itself and poorly of other groups. This will strengthen the delinquency of adolescents who are members of a women's motorcycle gang. As evidenced by women's motorcycle gangs in Riau province, fights, brawls, or riots often break out between female motorcycle gang members and members of outside groups.

In this study, the belief that mutual attraction and depersonalization are not proven to significantly affect juvenile delinquency. When an individual joins a social group (in this case a motorcycle gang) and has a social identity as a member of that group. Furthermore, the teenager will survive with his identity if he feels comfortable with the motorcycle gang he is following. This feeling of comfort will be formed from a sense of closeness and family that will naturally be created between group members. In social identity, the beliefs that are attracted to each other are manifested in the form of norms believed by group members, and these norms will result in the behaviour of group members. This mutual belief can also be seen as they try to achieve their goals and share the same beliefs.

In this study, it was proven that mutual attraction to beliefs does significantly influence juvenile delinquency. This means that the delinquency behaviour exhibited by female motorcycle gang members in Riau province is not caused by equality of purpose or equality of beliefs by motorcycle gang members. Likewise, when an individual joins a group and feels part of that group, then the individual will tend to reduce their individual values and traits (depersonalization). These individual values, traits, and characteristics will then be adjusted to suit the values of the group they joined. By matching the group's values, a member will be able to survive in the group and formulate a social identity. In this study, depersonalization was not proven to significantly affect juvenile delinquency; adolescents who are members of women's motorcycle gangs in Riau province actually still have distinctive characteristics, according to their personalities and values.

Emotional closeness between female teenage motorcycle gang members and their gang was not proven to significantly affect juvenile delinquency. This is thought to be related to the qualities of the female motorcycle gang in Riau province. Although each member often does activities together with the female motorcycle gang community, there is no emotional closeness between the female motorcycle gang members. This is indicated by the data



obtained, which showed that emotional closeness was not proven to significantly affect juvenile delinquency in female motorcycle gang members in Riau province.

The results also showed that social motivation had a significant positive effect on juvenile delinquency. According to Hamalik (2003), the function of motivation is to encourage the emergence of a behaviour or actions. Without motivation, there will be no actions, such as getting along, learning, etc. Motivation functions as a director, i.e., it directs the achievement of desired goals. Motivation functions as a mobilizer, as an engine in a car, and the size of motivation will determine the speed of work. According to Sardiman (2006), there is no function of motivation to encourage humans to act, i.e., an activator or motor that releases energy. Determine the direction of the action, namely towards the goal to be achieved. Selecting an action that is determining what actions must be done in harmony in order to achieve the goal by setting aside goals that are not useful for these goals.

The theory of social motivation was developed by McClelland (1987), which mentions that the emergence of behaviour is influenced by the needs that exist in humans. Psychologists argue that individuals perform certain activities or actions because they are driven by a need. The action is intended to achieve a goal, namely the fulfillment of needs, which will ultimately lead to satisfaction in the individual. Consequently, some call behavioural drivers “needs”.

Conclusion

The results showed that social identity influences juvenile delinquency through social motivational variables. This means that where an individual is part of a group, social identity, as part of the concept of self, has a significant influence on social motivation. Social identity is the cognitive conception of individuals as members of a group. Social identity shows one's self-awareness and relationship to his group members. Interaction between a person and their group gives rise to the joint emotional bonds of a particular community or group. The pattern of interaction by someone in a group raises their motivation to achieve goals that meet their needs. Motivation refers to the cause or “why” of a behaviour. Someone who is motivated more will engage in activities more wildly and efficiently. Motivation also tends to direct behaviour (Atkinson, 2008).

Motivation is an encouragement that results from the interaction of a person with a given situation. Differences in the strength of motivation are identified by comparing the reactions of multiple individuals who are faced with the same situation. Each individual will show a certain impetus in dealing with different situations at different times.



Humans are encouraged by their intention to satisfy their needs, which subsequently raises the human desire to obtain things that satisfy these needs. If the needs that exist within a person are not satisfied, then the motivation to satisfy these needs will create tension, which will stimulate the formulation of goals that can resolve this tension. The social phenomenon of adolescent participation in motorcycle gangs is inseparable from efforts to meet the needs of adolescents. The greatest need of adolescents is to be affiliated, which encourages youths to form or participate in motorcycle gangs. Participation in gangs is seen by adolescents as a form of mental formation and adolescent solidarity.

The emergence of various forms of motorcycle gangs in the community environment has an impact: competition between gangs. Where competition between gangs aims to show the existence of gangs recognized by other gangs. This encourages gang members to engage in various behaviours, such as brawling with or oppressing other gang members. These actions are to demonstrate the strength and power of a gang against another gang.



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