



IMPLICATIONS OF MADRASA GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING SERVICES TO PREVENT CHILD MARRIAGE IN CENTRAL LOMBOK REGENCY

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Abstract

This study aims to detail the implementation of counseling services in Madrasas, examine the obstacles hindering these services, and propose measures to overcome these challenges to prevent child marriages in Central Lombok Regency. Adopting a qualitative research design with a descriptive approach, the research was carried out at MAN 1 Lombok Tengah and MTsN 1 Lombok Tengah. Primary data were obtained through observations and interviews with students, counseling teachers, and Madrasa leaders, while secondary data were sourced from documentation. The data analysis involved reduction, presentation, verification, and conclusion drawing. The results reveal that counseling services in Madrasas, which include essential services, specialized and individual planning services, responsive services, and systemic support, play a significant role in preventing child marriages. Internal barriers to effective counseling include the insufficient competency and experience of counseling teachers, health and age-related issues, lack of motivation and work discipline, and suboptimal planning and execution of counseling services. External barriers include inadequate facilities and infrastructure, poor coordination between Madrasa leadership and local authorities and related institutions, a shortage of counseling teachers, economic instability, and low awareness and participation from students and parents. To address these challenges, counseling teachers and Madrasa leaders have undertaken various initiatives. Successfully preventing and reducing child marriages requires the concerted effort of all school personnel and external stakeholders, including parents and relevant institutions.

Keywords: Guidance and Counseling, Child Marriage, Guidance and Counseling Teachers, Students.

Abstrak:

Penelitian ini bertujuan mendeskripsikan gambaran umum pelaksanaan layanan BK di Madrasa, menganalisis apa saja faktor penghambat pelaksanaan layanan BK, dan mendeskripsikan upaya apa saja yang dilakukan untuk mengatasi kendala pelaksanaan layanan BK di Madrasah untuk mencegah pernikahan usia anak di Kabupaten Lombok Tengah. Pendekatan penelitian ini adalah kualitatif dengan jenis penelitian deskriptif. Lokasi penelitian ini adalah MAN 1 Lombok Tengah dan MTsN 1 Lombok Tengah. Sumber data primer penelitian ini melalui observasi dan wawancara dengan siswa, Guru BK, dan pimpinan Madrasa serta sumber data sekunder melalui dokumentasi. Selanjutnya teknik analisis data pada penelitian ini dilakukan melalui mereduksi data, melakukan penyajian data, verifikasi data dan menarik kesimpulan. Hasil penelitian ini menemukan implikasi layanan BK di Madrasa untuk mencegah pernikahan usia anak yakni melalui layanan dasar, layanan peminatan dan perencanaan individual, layanan responsif, dan dukungan sistem. Faktor internal penghambat pelaksanaan layanan BK di Madrasa antara lain kompetensi Guru BK yang masih kurang dan perlu *upgrade* lagi, pengalaman kerja Guru BK yang kurang, keadaan kesehatan dan usia, motivasi dan kedisiplinan kerja Guru BK, dan perencanaan serta pelaksanaan layanan BK yang kurang maksimal. Selanjutnya faktor eksternal yang menghambat antara lain sarana dan prasarana yang kurang, kurangnya koordinasi antara pimpinan Madrasa dengan pemerintah daerah dan lembaga terkait, masih kurangnya jumlah guru BK, ketidaksejahteraan ekonomi guru BK, dan masih kurangnya kesadaran dan partisipasi siswa dan orang tua. Terakhir Guru BK dan pimpinan Madrasa sudah melakukan upaya untuk mengatasi kendala pelaksanaan program layanan BK di Madrasa untuk mencegah pernikahan usia anak. Untuk mencegah dan menurunkan angka kasus pernikahan usia anak perlu adanya kerjasama dari semua personil sekolah dan pihak eksternal seperti orang tua dan lembaga terkait untuk sama-sama mencegah praktik pernikahan usia anak yang melibatkan siswa.

Kata Kunci: Bimbingan dan Konseling, Pernikahan Usia Anak, Guru BK, Siswa.

A. Introduction

Child marriage, also known as early marriage, remains common across various regions of Indonesia, with the number of occurrences rising each year. In 2014, Nusa Tenggara Barat led efforts to address this issue by introducing Circular Letter Number 150/1138/Kum, which proposed a minimum legal age for marriage of 21 for both men and women.¹ This circular

¹ Surat Edaran Gubernur Provinsi Nusa Tenggara Barat Nomor 150/1138/Kum tahun 2014 Tentang Pendewasaan Usia Perkawinan.

aimed to engage local government units, schools, and madrasas in its implementation according to their specific roles and responsibilities.

The government's push for a Minimum Legal Age of Marriage is consistent with the advocacy of the National Population and Family Planning Board, which promotes an ideal marriage age of 21 for women and 25 for men. This alignment seeks to decrease divorce rates and reduce potential risks for women and children.² This approach aims to reduce the rate of divorces and mitigate potential risks for women and children by implementing comprehensive support systems.

The legislative framework of the Republic of Indonesia encompasses pertinent statutes governing marital unions and child protection. Law Number 16 of 2019, which amends Law Number 1 of 1974 concerning Marriage, mandates that the minimum permissible age for matrimonial consent is 19 years for both genders.³ Additionally, Law Number 35 of 2014, amending Law Number 23 of 2002 about Child Protection, delineates a child as an individual below 18, encompassing prenatal stages.⁴ Article 26 underscores the parental duty to avert premature marital alliances involving minors. Hence, the construct of child marriage is elucidated as a matrimonial contract consummated before the attainment of the age of 19. This statutory boundary corresponds to a presumed physical and psychological maturity threshold conducive to propagating robust progeny and mitigating marital dissolution instances.

According to data provided by the Central Statistics Agency (Badan Pusat Statistik or BPS), Indonesia, as of 2022, occupies the 8th position globally and the 2nd position within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in terms of prevalence of child marriage. Furthermore, within the province of West Nusa Tenggara (NTB), data sourced from the Department of Women's Empowerment, Child Protection, Population Control, and Family Planning (Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan, Perlindungan Anak, Pengendalian Penduduk dan Keluarga Berencana or DP3AP2KB) of West Nusa Tenggara Province indicates that child marriage instances rank 2nd nationally. DP3AP2KB data further illustrates a concerning trend, revealing a consistent increase in child marriage occurrences over the preceding quadrennial period from 2019 to 2022, with approximately 2,530 cases documented.

² Sanisah, S. dkk. Menekan Angka Pernikahan Dini Melalui Awiq-awiq Dise. *JCES : Journal of Character Education Society*, (2022). h.81-95.

³ Undang-undang Republik Indonesia Nomor 16 tahun 2019 tentang Perubahan Atas Undang-undang Nomor 1 tahun 1974 tentang Perkawinan.

⁴ Undang-undang Republik Indonesia Nomor 35 tahun 2014 tentang Perubahan Atas Undang-undang Nomor 23 tahun 2002 tentang Perlindungan Anak.

This escalation denotes a near tripling, amounting to nearly a 300 percent surge, in reported child marriage incidents over the timeframe above.⁵

According to data sourced from the Department of Women's Empowerment, Child Protection, Population Control, and Family Planning (DP2AP2KB) of NTB Province, the incidence of child marriage, or early marriage, within West Nusa Tenggara Province exhibits a consistent upward trend over the observed period. Specifically, the documented cases have escalated annually: in 2015, there were 86 cases reported, followed by 134 cases in 2016, 162 cases in 2017, 212 cases in 2018, 370 cases in 2019, 875 cases in 2020, and 1,132 cases in 2021. This data presentation unequivocally illustrates a persistent rise in instances of child marriage year after year.⁶

Data extracted from the High Religious Court of NTB Province delineates a persistent surge in requests for marriage dispensation about underage couples annually. The documented tally of such dispensation petitions stands at 1,870 underage individuals spanning 2021 to 2022, encompassing all administrative regions within NTB Province. This pronounced prevalence of juvenile matrimony instances is corroborated by empirical investigations conducted by Save The Children Indonesia (STCI). STCI's research discerned a notable escalation in marriage dispensation petitions from 311 applications in 2019 to 803 in 2020. Consequently, it elucidates that within the timeline of 2019-2020, a daily occurrence of one to two child marriages was observed within NTB Province. Moreover, the repercussions of premature unions, notably evidenced by educational disengagement among minors, are underscored by findings delineated by the Department of Education and Culture of NTB Province. As per their compilation, the incidence of high school dropouts tallied 2,313 cases up to November 2021, with child marriage emerging as the predominant causative factor.⁷

The outcomes of investigations conducted by Save The Children Indonesia (STCI) about child marriage, early marriage, and forced marriage elucidate that the data-gathering endeavors were conducted across four distinct districts, namely Central Lombok, West Lombok, East Lombok, and North Lombok. These findings underscore that within the period spanning from 2019 to 2020, 38% of the total 492 instances of child marriage documented in Central Lombok Regency accounted for the highest concentration of such occurrences within NTB Province. Moreover, these research findings find additional validation in the statistics furnished by the Regional Office of the Ministry of Religious Affairs of NTB Province, which delineate a consistent escalation in child marriage occurrences in Central Lombok District.

⁵ Data kasus pernikahan usia anak dari Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan, Perlindungan Anak, Pengendalian Penduduk dan Keluarga Berencana (DP3AP2KB) Provinsi NTB. www.dp3ap2kb.ntbprov.go.id.

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ Data hasil penelitian Save The Children Indonesia tentang perkawinan anak, pernikahan dini, dan kawin paksa di Provinsi Nusa Tenggara Barat tahun 2022-2023. www.savethechildren.or.id.

Specifically, the data reveals a rise from 33 cases in 2019 to 148 in 2020 within this administrative region.⁸

The empirical findings are bolstered by complementary data sourced from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) of the Nusa Tenggara Barat (NTB) Province, delineating Central Lombok Regency as the preeminent locus within the province, manifesting the highest incidence rate of child marriages, constituting 48.64 percent. Consecutively, East Lombok Regency and West Lombok Regency trail with 45.91 percent and 40.74 percent, respectively. Augmenting this, data sourced from the Regional Office of the Ministry of Religious Affairs of NTB Province unveils a persistent escalation in child marriage occurrences within Central Lombok Regency, surging from 33 cases in 2019 to 148 cases in 2020. Additionally, records from the Religious Court of Praya, Central Lombok Regency, from January to November 2021, illustrate 297 petitions for marriage dispensation from underage individuals. Among these, 260 applications were sanctioned, while 37 applications were withheld due to the prospective bride and groom being below the age threshold of 16 years.⁹

The prevalence of child marriage within Central Lombok Regency has prompted scholarly inquiry into this phenomenon, particularly with a focus on Islamic educational institutions, notably Madrasas. Madrasas, recognized for their amalgamation of secular and religious pedagogical principles, transcend mere educational entities, assuming roles as proactive bastions for upholding Islamic doctrinal tenets, including the proscription of underage matrimony. This investigation centered on MAN 1 Central Lombok and MTsN 1 Central Lombok, esteemed Madrasas within the region, selected for their status as exemplars within Central Lombok Regency, poised to set precedents for analogous institutions in combating the issue of child marriage. By exploring the efficacy of Guidance and Counseling services facilitated by the respective Madrasas' Guidance and Counseling (BK) faculty, this study scrutinized their capacity to deliver preventative interventions aimed at ameliorating instances of and deterring underage unions within Central Lombok Regency. Such endeavors were consonant with the overarching objectives of buttressing the Legal Age of Marriage (PUP) initiative, presently championed by the Local Government.

The pivotal role of Guidance and Counseling (BK) educators within Madrasas is integral in addressing and mitigating adolescent or student-related challenges. Given their mandate to deliver curative, preventative, and developmental interventions concerning student welfare, Guidance and Counseling (BK) instructors assume paramount importance in stemming the escalating tide of child marriage incidences. Consequently, this inquiry directs its focus toward examining the comprehensive services proffered by Guidance and Counseling (BK) personnel within Madrasas, underscoring their potential efficacy in curbing the prevalence of underage unions. This study posits that the preventive measures enacted by

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ Data kasus pernikahan usia anak dari Badan Pusat Statistik Provinsi Nusa Tenggara Barat. www.ntb.bps.go.id.

Guidance and Counseling (BK) practitioners hold promise as viable strategies for attenuating the surge in child marriage occurrences, thereby safeguarding students from such deleterious outcomes. Of particular novelty in this research is the meticulous delineation of the fundamental constituents comprising the spectrum of Guidance and Counseling services within Madrasas, encompassing core services, specialized and individualized planning provisions, responsive interventions, and systemic support mechanisms. Additionally, this investigation endeavors to elucidate the inhibitory factors impeding the seamless delivery of Guidance and Counseling services while scrutinizing the concerted endeavors undertaken by Guidance Counselors to surmount these obstacles, thereby fortifying the preventive infrastructure against child marriage within Central Lombok Regency.

Data gleaned from interviews conducted with Guidance and Counseling (BK) instructors and Madrasa administrators at MTs Negeri 1 Central Lombok reveals an absence of reported instances of child marriage within the institution over the preceding five-year period. Conversely, insights garnered from interviews with BK educators and Madrasa leadership at MA Negeri 1 Central Lombok suggest a downward trend in the occurrence of child marriage cases within the Madrasa annually. However, occasional occurrences persist, with one or two students entering matrimony before completing their education at the Madrasa each year. The pivotal role of Guidance and Counseling (BK) instructors within the Madrasa milieu in forestalling child marriage is underscored by the comprehensive provision of counseling services targeting various facets of student development encompassing personal, social, academic, and career domains. This service framework, orchestrated by BK practitioners within the Madrasa, is delineated into four distinct components of Guidance and Counseling (BK) services: essential services, specialized and personalized planning provisions, responsive interventions, and systemic support mechanisms. The orchestration of these BK service components not only addresses emergent student behavioral issues but also holds promise as a mitigative measure against the incidence of child marriage, given the pivotal role played by Guidance and Counseling (BK) instructors in executing both remedial and preventive interventions within the Madrasa context.

B. Method

Type and Research Approach

The study employed a qualitative research paradigm characterized by a descriptive-analytical approach, facilitating an in-depth exploration of the phenomenon under investigation. Through meticulous documentation and interpretation of empirical data, the researcher aimed to present a comprehensive portrayal of insights grounded in the lived experiences of research respondents, ensuring the study's integrity. Embracing a naturalistic orientation, researchers immersed themselves in the study's context to capture its complexity and richness, fostering a holistic understanding of its dimensions. Researchers who recognized themselves as integral to the research process actively participated in data collection and

analysis, enriching the inquiry by acknowledging their subjectivities and interpretive lenses. This methodological approach prioritized rigor, authenticity, and contextual sensitivity, aiming to elucidate a comprehensive understanding of the subject matter while acknowledging the dynamic interplay between researchers, participants, and the research context.¹⁰

Research Location

This research endeavor was situated within the confines of Central Lombok Regency, focusing specifically on two distinct educational establishments: MAN 1 Central Lombok and MTsN 1 Central Lombok. The selection of these locales was methodologically deliberate, aimed at acquiring a nuanced comprehension of the service programs administered by BK (Bimbingan Konseling or counseling guidance) educators across varied educational tiers. Such methodological precision was driven by the necessity to infuse the resultant dataset with robustness and intricacy, thereby fostering objectivity and epistemic rigor in the subsequent analytical deductions. Furthermore, the discerning choice to center the inquiry within these esteemed Madrasas assumes paramount significance, given their status as epitomes of educational excellence within the regional landscape of Central Lombok Regency. Consequently, these institutional strongholds embody quintessential exemplars, symbolizing best practices in combatting the pervasive menace of child marriage. Consequently, the insights gleaned from this investigative venture carry profound pedagogical implications with far-reaching ramifications for preventive endeavors across the broader geographical expanse of the region.

Data Sources

This research primarily relied on observational and interview-based methodologies to gather data. Observations were conducted among students and Guidance and Counseling (BK) teachers within the Madrasa setting. Student observations took place within the premises of the Madrasa, while observations of BK teachers aimed to capture their professional activities within the institution. Interviews were conducted with key personnel, including the Head or Vice Head of the Madrasa, who acted as the administrative leaders of the respective research sites. Additionally, interviews were conducted with four BK teachers from each location responsible for overseeing the guidance and counseling program and with ten students from each Madrasa who were recipients of such services. Supplementary data were obtained through documentation involving systematically retrieving relevant records from the Guidance and Counseling (BK) room in each Madrasa. These documents encompassed various facets of the guidance and counseling program, including student incident logs, case registers, and reports detailing providing guidance and counseling services.

¹⁰ Sugiyono. *Research Methods – Quantitative, Qualitative and R&D*. (Bandung: Alfabeta, 2016). h.64.

<https://journal.uinmataram.ac.id/index.php/altazkiah>

Data Collection Techniques

The methodological framework employed in this study entailed a triangulation approach, incorporating observation, semi-structured interviews, and documentary analysis to capture data comprehensively. The observational component adopted a non-participant stance, enabling the researcher to maintain objectivity while closely scrutinizing the interactions and behaviors of students and Guidance and Counseling (BK) teachers within the Madrasa environment. Despite this observer role, the researcher actively engaged in the analytical process, systematically analyzing, interpreting, and documenting observed phenomena to ensure rigor and fidelity to the research aims.

Semi-structured interviews were conducted to facilitate a nuanced exploration of pertinent themes, granting participants the latitude to articulate their perspectives and experiences openly. Before the interview sessions, meticulous arrangements were made, including establishing clear communication channels with participants to confirm their availability and readiness. Additionally, the researcher diligently crafted interview protocols in advance, designed to elicit rich, contextually relevant insights while maintaining methodological coherence.

In tandem with observational and interview data, documentary analysis served as a complementary means of data collection, yielding invaluable insights into institutional policies, guidelines governing the implementation of guidance and counseling services, and archival records housed within the guidance and counseling facilities. These documents encompassed diverse artifacts such as student incident logs, cash registers, and reports delineating the provision of guidance and counseling interventions. Furthermore, including photographic documentation further enriched the data corpus, providing visual evidence of salient activities germane to the research inquiry. This multi-faceted data collection strategy was instrumental in furnishing a holistic understanding of the dynamics underpinning the provision and reception of guidance and counseling services within the Madrasa context.¹¹

Data Analysis Techniques

The research methodology entailed a rigorous data analytical framework incorporating distinct procedural phases such as data reduction, presentation, and confirmatory inference. These methodological stages were systematically executed, encompassing iterative editing, classification, and coding processes, followed by meticulous interpretative scrutiny to derive empirically grounded conclusions. Employing deductive and inductive qualitative methodologies, the data underwent deductive classification into predefined conceptual constructs and thematic categories aligned with the theoretical framework. Subsequently, an inductive inquiry was undertaken to evaluate the necessity for supplementary data acquisition,

to discern and discard conceptual constructs lacking empirical corroboration, or to formulate novel conceptual constructs predicated upon emergent data patterns.¹²

Data Validity Testing Techniques

The validation of data integrity is imperative to ascertain its objectivity and reliability. In this study, a comprehensive array of techniques was employed for this purpose, notably prolonged engagement, triangulation, and peer validation. Extended periods of observation and interview sessions were essential due to logistical constraints preventing immediate access to all participants. Triangulation ensued through meticulously cross-referencing data from diverse sources and employing multiple data collection methodologies. Peer validation was also conducted, involving critical scrutiny of the data by the principal investigator and the research team.¹³

C. Results and Discussion

The research occurred within Central Lombok Regency, focusing on two educational institutions, specifically madrasas. The selected sites for investigation were MTsN 1 Central Lombok and MAN 1 Central Lombok. Insights gleaned from interviews conducted with guidance counselors and administrative heads at MTsN 1 Central Lombok revealed an absence of reported cases of child marriage within the past five years. Conversely, discussions with counterparts at State Islamic Senior High School (MAN) 1 Central Lombok indicated a declining trend in such occurrences annually, albeit with sporadic instances of 1 or 2 students entering into marriage before completing their education. The forthcoming elaboration will expound upon the researcher's findings concerning the efficacy of guidance and counseling services in mitigating child marriage risks, addressing critical inquiries outlined within the research framework. Subsequent sections will meticulously present the amassed data and research outcomes.

1. Overview of Guidance and Counseling Programs in Madrasas to Prevent Child Marriage

Basic Services

The MTsN 1 Central Lombok research findings and MAN 1 Central Lombok delineate the overarching framework of guidance and counseling (BK) services within the primary service domain deployed by BK educators to mitigate the prevalence of child marriage. These encompass a spectrum of interventions such as needs assessment, orientation, information dissemination, individual counseling, group counseling, inter-professional collaboration,

¹² Matthew B. Milles, A. Michael Huberman, and Johnny Saldana, *Qualitative Data Analysis* (United States of America: SAGE Publications, Inc, 2014), h. 12-14.

¹³ Sanjaya, Wina, *Educational Research, Types, Methods and Procedures*, (Jakarta: Kencana Prenada Media Group 2013), h.47.

parental involvement, and the administration of guidance and counseling informational resources.

The fundamental tenets of Guidance and Counseling services serve as pivotal mechanisms in thwarting instances of child marriage within the madrasa milieu. Several pivotal elements embedded within the core fabric of essential guidance and counseling services exhibit distinctive efficacy in combatting the scourge of child marriage, as ascertained through interviews conducted with BK educators and madrasa administrators. These elements encompass needs assessment, orientation, information dissemination, individual counseling, group counseling, inter-professional collaboration, parental involvement, and the management of guidance and counseling informational resources. This discourse expounds upon these elements, buttressed by empirical evidence gleaned from pertinent antecedent scholarly inquiries.¹⁴

The delivery of fundamental services within the realm of guidance and counseling, encompassing needs assessment, orientation, information dissemination, traditional counseling, group counseling, collaboration with educators, engagement with parents, and management of guidance and counseling resources, assumes a pivotal significance in mitigating the prevalence of child marriage within madrasas. Previous empirical investigations corroborate the indispensability of these constituent elements in fostering student enlightenment, cultivating interpersonal adeptness, and furnishing requisite assistance to deter instances of child marriage. Hence, the productive execution of these foundational guidance and counseling provisions emerges as imperative in realizing the objective of curtailing child marriage within the madrasa milieu.¹⁵

The fundamental services encompassed within guidance and counseling provision within madrasas constitute pivotal elements in mitigating the prevalence of child marriage. Empirical evidence derived from pertinent research corroborates that the proficient execution of these services yields a favorable impact, manifesting in heightened student consciousness, bolstered social adeptness, and requisite assistance to avert instances of child marriage. Hence, accentuating these facets within the framework of guidance and counseling initiatives emerges as imperative for the attainment of the overarching objective of curtailing child marriage within the madrasa milieu.¹⁶

Specialization and Individual Planning Services

¹⁴ Fazny, B. Y. Upaya Konselor Sekolah Terhadap Pernikahan Anak Persepektif Tugas Perkembangan Remaja. *Jurnal Counseling As Syamil*, (2021). h.1-10.

¹⁵ Geldard, K & Geldard, D. *Konseling Keluarga*. (Yogyakarta : Pustaka Pelajar, 2011). h.102.

¹⁶ Nurihsan, A. J. *Starategi Layanan Bimbingan dan Konseling*. (Bandung : Refika Aditama, 2017). h.78.

The research undertaken at MTsN 1 Central Lombok and MAN 1 Central Lombok delves into the landscape of guidance and counseling services concerning specialization and individual planning components orchestrated by BK educators to mitigate instances of child marriage. Within the purview of specialization services, the inquiry is oriented towards elucidating specialization program particulars, executing student specialization assessments, facilitating cross-disciplinary interest exploration, conducting comprehensive interest analyses, and orchestrating interest realignment initiatives. Furthermore, the research on individual planning services underscores the provision of placement strategies, initiatives for enhancing content mastery, and methodologies for data compilation.

Specialization and individual planning services constitute integral components of the educational apparatus aimed at aiding students in discerning their proclivities, competencies, and career trajectories. These service facets, as discerned through interviews with BK instructors and academic administrators, encompass a spectrum of activities, including dissemination of specialization program insights, implementation of specialized assessment frameworks, facilitation of interdisciplinary interest exploration, provision of comprehensive interest analysis, facilitation of interest realignment, deployment of placement strategies, initiatives for content mastery enhancement, and methodologies for data compilation. Each component is expounded herein, drawing upon supportive insights from antecedent scholarly endeavors.¹⁷

Specialized and individualized planning services constitute foundational pillars within the educational landscape, serving as indispensable conduits for nurturing students' self-awareness, exploring their academic proclivities, and delineating their vocational trajectories. The empirical inquiry has consistently underscored the pivotal role of these services in fostering students' cognitive, affective, and psychosocial development, thereby equipping them with the requisite tools to navigate the intricate terrain of educational decision-making. Students can make informed choices regarding their educational pathways by cultivating a nuanced understanding of their innate talents, interests, and aspirations, enhancing the likelihood of meaningful academic and vocational engagement. Moreover, the effective implementation of specialized planning services engenders a proactive approach to career development, enabling students to discern and capitalize upon emerging opportunities while mitigating potential obstacles along their professional journey. This proactive stance augments students' employability prospects and fosters a sense of agency and self-efficacy, which are pivotal factors in their overall well-being and life satisfaction. Furthermore, by tailoring educational trajectories to individualized needs and aspirations, these services serve as a bulwark against societal challenges, such as early marriage, by engendering a robust educational foundation that

¹⁷ Nurihsan, A. J. *Bimbingan dan Konseling dalam Berbagai Latar Kehidupan*. (Bandung : Refika Aditama, 2018). h.112.

nurtures critical thinking skills, social empowerment, and resilience against adverse circumstances. Hence, the convergence of specialized planning services within the educational milieu represents a transformative force, propelling students toward self-actualization and societal contribution while safeguarding against deleterious societal phenomena through proactive educational engagement.¹⁸

Responsive Services

The study undertaken at MTsN 1 Central Lombok and MAN 1 Central Lombok systematically explored the landscape of counseling services administered by BK (Bimbingan dan Konseling) teachers to mitigate the incidence of juvenile matrimony. These services comprise a diverse spectrum of interventions encompassing consultation, individualized therapeutic modalities, group therapy sessions, crisis intervention protocols, referral mechanisms, peer counseling initiatives, collaborative case conferences, home visitation procedures, and mediation protocols. Given the difficulties inherent in responsive interventions, prompt and adept engagement from BK teachers is imperative to address the urgent nature of circumstances and ensure expeditious resolution.

Responsive interventions within guidance and counseling are integral to a comprehensive framework that facilitates students' personal, academic, and socio-emotional challenges. Insights gleaned from interviews conducted with BK teachers and administrative leaders of the madrasas underscore the critical features of these responsive services, which encompass consultative endeavors, tailored counseling interventions, group therapy sessions, crisis management strategies, referral pathways, peer support initiatives, collaborative case consultations, home-based interventions, and mediation process facilitation.¹⁹

Responsive services within the domain of guidance and counseling are inherently pivotal in facilitating students' adept navigation through a spectrum of personal, academic, career, and social intricacies. Existing scholarship underscores the multifaceted nature of these services, with particular emphasis on their role in the prevention of underage marriages. Such services are meticulously tailored to address the diverse needs of students, encompassing not only academic pursuits but also their holistic development. Educators specializing in guidance and counseling are given a central role in this endeavor, serving as linchpins in providing personalized support, counseling, and advice. Their interventions extend beyond mere academic advisement, encompassing a nuanced understanding of students' socio-emotional landscapes, enabling them to foster resilience and well-being amidst the complexities of adolescence. In essence, the efficacy of responsive services lies in their ability to cultivate a nurturing environment wherein students feel empowered to confront and surmount

¹⁸ Prayitno. *Konseling Profesional yang Berhasil*. (Jakarta : Rajawali Pers, 2017). h.54.

¹⁹ Ramayulis & Mulyadi. *Bimbingan dan Konseling Islam di Madrasah dan Sekolah*. (Jakarta : Kalam Mulia, 2016). h.34.

challenges, thereby realizing their full potential and charting a trajectory toward holistic success.²⁰

Responsive services in guidance and counseling represent an indispensable facet within a comprehensive framework aimed at aiding students in surmounting diverse challenges and life difficulties. Scholarly literature underscores the pivotal role of multifaceted elements encapsulated within these responsive services. Educational personnel specializing in guidance and counseling, often referred to as BK (Bimbingan dan Konseling) teachers, assume roles as facilitators, counselors, and mediators, adeptly aiding students in negotiating multifarious circumstances and formulating strategic pathways conducive to their academic attainment and personal development. Additionally, they play a crucial role in safeguarding students against perils such as the precarious phenomenon of child marriage.²¹

System Support

The research conducted at MTsN 1 Central Lombok and MAN 1 Central Lombok delineates the overarching framework of guidance and counseling (BK) services within the educational system, mainly focusing on their role in mitigating the incidence of child marriage. This framework encompasses various components within the system support domain, as orchestrated by BK educators. These components entail network development, involving consultations with relevant authorities such as superiors, local government entities, and pertinent institutions, alongside fostering professional alliances and collaborations with parents to bolster efforts in preventing child marriage.

Guidance and Counseling Management Activities involve a range of responsibilities, including the preparation of BK RPL (Rencana Pelaksanaan Pembelajaran), devising annual program plans, executing BK evaluations, and providing supervisory oversight, which is integral to the effective management and delivery of BK services within educational settings. Continuous Professional Development underscores the ongoing commitment to enhancing professional competencies among BK educators, encompassing participation in training sessions and seminars, formulation of plans for further academic pursuits, and engagement in research endeavors pertinent to guidance and counseling. Insights from interviews with BK educators and Madrasa leaders underscore the pivotal role played by network development initiatives, BK management activities, and continuous professional development endeavors in ensuring the efficacy of guidance and counseling services within educational institutions.²²

System support services in guidance and counseling assume a paramount role in bolstering student development and optimizing the efficacy of counseling initiatives within

²⁰ Ridwan. *Penanganan Efektif Bimbingan dan Konseling di Sekolah*. (Yogyakarta : Pustaka Pelajar, 2008). h. 29.

²¹ Walgito, B. *Bimbingan dan Konseling Perkawinan*. (Yogyakarta : Andi Offset, 2017). h. 67.

²² Wardati & Jauhar, M. *Implementasi Bimbingan dan Konseling di Sekolah*. (Jakarta : Prestasi Pustakarya, 2011). h. 49.

educational institutions. Critical components of these services encompass network development, adept management practices, and sustained professional growth. BK educators are central to orchestrating these endeavors and assume pivotal roles in implementing and coordinating diverse activities underpinning system support services. Such concerted efforts serve to enhance the caliber of counseling provisions, thereby adeptly addressing student concerns and proactively safeguarding them against prevalent challenges, including the perils associated with child marriage.²³

System support services within the domain of guidance and counseling emerge as indispensable facets in ensuring the provision of requisite support to students and the productive operation of counseling programs within educational settings. BK educators are central to this framework, and their adeptness and continual professional development profoundly influence student development trajectories and the overall educational milieu. Their expertise enables the delivery of counseling services that transcend mere remediation, embracing a proactive stance geared towards preempting potential challenges, including the prevention of phenomena such as instances of child marriage. By cultivating robust network connections, adept management practices, and a commitment to ongoing professional growth, these educators orchestrate a comprehensive support infrastructure that addresses students' immediate needs and fosters long-term resilience and well-being. Consequently, the educational landscape is imbued with a culture of holistic care and proactive intervention, ensuring that students have the tools to navigate challenges and shield them from foreseeable risks.²⁴

2. Inhibiting Factors in the Implementation of Guidance and Counseling Services Programs in Madrasas to Prevent Child Marriage

Internal Factors

The research undertaken at MTsN 1 Central Lombok and MAN 1 Central Lombok has discerned many intrinsic challenges impeding the effective execution of guidance and counseling (BK) services within Madrasas aimed explicitly at mitigating incidences of child marriages. These internal factors comprise deficiencies in the competency levels of BK educators, necessitating enhancement to align with contemporary exigencies and advancements; the limited experiential tenure among BK instructors, particularly recent graduates; the constrictions posed by the health and age parameters of BK practitioners, potentially undermining the efficacy of their interventions; the deficits in motivation, discipline, and commitment among BK educators; and the suboptimal planning and execution of BK services.

²³ Willis, S. *Konseling Keluarga*. (Bandung : Alfabeta, 2015). h. 157.

²⁴ Zahri, T. N. dkk. Counseling Services in Preventing Early Marriage. *Jurnal Neo Konseling*, (2022). h.12-15.

The implementation of guidance and counseling services within Madrasas assumes critical significance in preempting occurrences of child marriages. Nevertheless, the efficacy of these endeavors is hindered by various internal factors pertinent to BK instructors within the Madrasa context. Each of the factors above directly impacts the capacity of BK educators to provide pragmatic guidance and counseling services to students. Instances where BK instructors exhibit deficiencies in competence, possess limited experiential acumen, or face motivational and disciplinary challenges pose significant hurdles to the prevention of child marriages. Thus, enhancements in these domains hold the potential to positively influence efforts aimed at thwarting child marriages within Madrasas.²⁵

External Factors

The findings derived from the research conducted at MTsN 1 Central Lombok and MAN 1 Central Lombok have illuminated several extrinsic factors that impede the implementation of guidance and counseling services within Madrasas, executed by BK instructors, with the specific aim of mitigating instances of child marriages. These encompass deficiencies in facilities and infrastructure, such as the constrained availability of financial resources for BK programs within Madrasas, coupled with counseling rooms necessitating improvement; the absence of harmonized efforts between Madrasa authorities, local governance entities, and pertinent institutions concerning the dissemination of anti-child marriage initiatives; an inadequate quantity of BK instructors vis-à-vis the student population, alongside an inequitable BK teacher-to-student ratio; financial hardships encountered by BK instructors, notably those engaged on a contractual basis, thereby potentially compromising their performance due to disparities between workload and remuneration; and a lack of awareness and engagement among students and parents in contributing to the prevention of child marriages, thus ensuring the safeguarding of students both within the educational milieu and within their familial environment.

In the pursuit of averting child marriages through the provision of guidance and counseling services within Madrasas, several external factors emerge as significant impediments to the implementation process. These encompass the ambient conditions and external backing that influence the caliber and efficacy of guidance and counseling services dispensed by BK instructors within Madrasas. The aforementioned external factors directly impinge upon the capacity of BK instructors to furnish practical guidance and counseling services to students, especially within the purview of preventing child marriages. In instances where facilities and infrastructure prove inadequate, coordination efforts falter, there exists an insufficiency of BK instructors, economic conditions are precarious for BK instructors, and

²⁵ Khaerani, S. N. Faktor Ekonomi dalam Pernikahan Dini pada Masyarakat Sasak Lombok. *Jurnal Qarwam*, (2019). h.1-13.

student and parental awareness and participation are lacking, endeavors geared towards preventing child marriages may encounter hindrances. Thus, to bolster the effectiveness of initiatives aimed at preventing child marriages through guidance and counseling services within Madrasas, strategic interventions are imperative to redress these external factors.²⁶

3. Efforts by BK Teachers to Overcome Challenges in Implementing Guidance and Counseling Programs in Madrasa to Prevent Child Marriage

The MTsN 1 Central Lombok research outcomes and MAN 1 Central Lombok elucidate several initiatives BK educators undertake to surmount hindrances encountered in implementing guidance and counseling services within Madrasas, focusing on preventing child marriages. These endeavors encompass endeavors to enhance their proficiency through engagement in various seminars and online webinars aimed at augmenting counseling competencies and problem-solving skills, active involvement in BK group activities to accrue experiential insights and benefit from the mentorship of seasoned BK instructors, maintaining intrinsic motivation and adherence to discipline within the Madrasa milieu, optimizing the utilization of extant facilities and infrastructure, executing assessments, and devising more efficacious plans for BK service provision, and fostering regular dialogues with parents to deliberate upon student concerns and collaboratively devise preventative measures, including initiatives to forestall child marriages.

When confronted with impediments or challenges in executing guidance and counseling services within Madrasas, BK educators assume a pivotal role in sustaining and enhancing service quality. BK instructors must proactively address these obstacles, ensuring students receive support, including preventive measures against child marriages. The initiatives undertaken by BK educators to surmount challenges inherent in implementing guidance and counseling services wield a direct influence on endeavors to prevent child marriages within Madrasas. Through the augmentation of their competencies, experiential insights, motivation, and available support networks, BK instructors can enhance their efficacy in catering to student needs and comprehending and redressing issues conducive to child marriages. Hence, BK educators emerge as central figures in the crusade against child marriages within Madrasas, and their concerted efforts are instrumental in advancing the overarching objective of diminishing the incidence of child marriages within the Central Lombok Regency annually.²⁷

In conjunction with the endeavors delineated above about BK instructors, this study also outlines several initiatives undertaken by Madrasa leaders at MTsN 1 Central Lombok and MAN 1 Central Lombok to surmount impediments encountered in the implementation of BK

²⁶ Akbar, A. M. S, & Halim. Strategi Pencegahan Pernikahan Usia Dini Melalui Penerapan Pusat Informasi dan Konseling Remaja (PIK-R) di SMK Negeri 1 Bulukumba. *Jurnal Administrasi Negara*, (2020). h.114-137.

²⁷ Nusuki & Pratiwi, T. A. Mencegah Pernikahan Dini dengan Layanan Bimbingan Kelompok Siswa Kelas XI SMK Maraqtita'limat (MT) Suela Lombok Timur. *Jurnal Konseling Pendidikan*, (2021). h.62-77.

services within the Madrasa milieu, aimed at preventing child marriages. These initiatives encompass initiatives aimed at enhancing the competencies of BK educators through targeted training and educational programs, thereby bolstering their capacity to cater to contemporary exigencies and advancements. Furthermore, proposals are made to augment budgetary allocations earmarked for BK programs and enhance facilities within BK rooms. Additionally, suggestions are made to increase the number of BK instructors, given the extant inadequacies in the BK teacher-to-student ratio. Further efforts entail the organization of regular engagements with parents to foster awareness and comprehension concerning the perils associated with child marriages. Moreover, endeavors are made to fortify mapping exercises and streamline coordination with pertinent institutions, alongside reinforcing the advocacy role and support rendered by local governance bodies in concerted campaigns against child marriages.²⁸

The proactive involvement of Madrasa leadership in facilitating the implementation of Guidance and Counseling Services, as observed both at MTsN 1 Central Lombok and MAN 1 Central Lombok, assumes paramount significance in fostering the delivery of such services, notably the BK programs. Endowed with authority and accountability, they are responsible for nurturing an enabling milieu for BK educators to discharge their duties effectively in preventing child marriages. The initiatives spearheaded by Madrasa leadership directly influence endeavors aimed at curbing the prevalence of child marriages within the educational institution. By augmenting the proficiency of BK instructors, ensuring adequate financial allocations, maintaining optimal staffing levels, engaging parents in dialogue, and fostering collaboration with pertinent institutions and local authorities, school principals can cultivate a supportive ecosystem conducive to preventing child marriages. Hence, the pivotal role assumed by Madrasa leaders in advocating for the prevention of child marriages underscores their proactive strides towards mitigating the incidence of such occurrences within both the Madrasa and the broader administrative jurisdiction of Lombok Tengah Regency.²⁹

D. Conclusion

In conclusion, examining guidance and counseling services within Madrasas to mitigate child marriages underscores the pivotal role of various service components, including essential, specialized, individual planning, responsive services, and system support. However, the effectiveness of these programs is impeded by a confluence of internal and external factors. Internally, deficiencies in the competency levels of Guidance and Counseling (BK) educators necessitate enhancement, alongside challenges stemming from limited work experience, health concerns, age-related constraints, motivational factors, and disciplinary issues. Externally, inadequate infrastructure, a shortage of coordination between educational leadership and local

²⁸ Priyanti, I. L. Efektifitas "Program GenRe" dalam Pencegahan Pernikahan Dini pada Siswa SMK 2 Gedangsari. *G-COUNS : Jurnal Bimbingan dan Konseling*, (2021). h.265-269.

²⁹ Rohman, F & Annajih, M. Z. H. Bimbingan dan Konseling Islam dalam Menangani Disharmoni Pernikahan Usia Dini. *D'A'WA : Jurnal Bimbingan Penyuluhan & Konseling Islam*, (2021). h.1-11.

governmental bodies, insufficient staffing of Guidance and Counseling (BK) professionals, economic burdens experienced by these professionals, and inadequate engagement and awareness among students and parents collectively impede program efficacy. Addressing these impediments necessitates concerted efforts from both educators and administrative stakeholders. Mitigating the prevalence of child marriages demands a collaborative approach, entailing active participation from all educational personnel and external stakeholders, including parents and pertinent institutions. By fostering a cohesive alliance encompassing shared responsibilities and proactive initiatives, the prospect of curbing the incidence of child marriages within the student demographic can be significantly enhanced.

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