

Analysis of the Complex Causes of Dropout of School in Nusa Tenggara Barat Indonesia

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Abstract

This study aims to explore, analyze, and describe the complexity of the causes of children dropping out of school in West Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia. The research was conducted in West Lombok Regency using qualitative methods based on the results of research and discussion using relevant theories, including theory; Pierre Bourdieu's class reproduction, John Broadus Watson's theory of behaviourism, and Raymond Boudon's rational choice theory, which can be concluded that the dropout phenomenon in West Lombok, West Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia is caused by many factors, namely; 1) early marriage, 2) poverty, 3) low motivation of children, 4) lack of parental support, 5) low IQ of children (not able to take lessons), and 6) social influence factors. Referring to the research findings, it is recommended to parties related to education policy that the problem of children dropping out of school cannot be solved alone by the government, so the government should involve universities to take part in dealing with the problems of school dropouts, for example with campus teaching programs, community service, and thematic Real Work Lectures. All players that can holistically benefit the Malaysian education ecosystem.

Keywords – Analysis, Complex Causes, School Dropout.

1. Introduction

Education, in general, is always associated with the school system, from the level of Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education level, Secondary Education level, and Higher Education level. However, while education can be interpreted broadly so that it can last a lifetime, it can be carried out in all places; at home, in the community, in the social environment, in places of training, and at school. This broad educational paradigm is supported by romantic humanists, one of whom is Carl Roger, who argues that the purpose of education is the same as the purpose of life itself. It is not limited. It is contained in every learning experience and the growth of human learners. [1]

Understanding education in a broad sense implies that every human being is obliged to get the education to prepare to face life in the present and the future. In economic development and even in the development of civilization, education is an investment (human capital investment). A nation that invests in education will not get results quickly. However, the government is obliged to invest in human capital through education because it is with an education that a nation will be able to build the progress of its civilization. The critical meaning of investment in human capital is that the process of knowledge and skills through education is not a mere form of consumption but an investment. [2]

Indonesia has paid good attention to the education of its citizens since the independence era, as proven normatively in the 1945 Constitution, article 31 Paragraph (1), which states that every citizen has the right to education. It is also continued in Paragraph (2), which states that every citizen is obliged to attend Basic Education, and the government is obliged to pay for it. [3]

At the practical level, we can always find the phenomenon of educational equality, which is paradoxical between facts and expectations. Although the various policies that the government has taken in implementing the mandate of the 1945 Constitution are related to education, in practice, there are always citizens who do not have access and opportunities to enjoy education, for example, the high dropout rate and other aspects. Of course, this phenomenon is not only an error in government policy, but it can occur due to various aspects (complexity) of the problems surrounding it.

Indonesia, nationally, still faces a relatively high dropout rate. Data for 2020 of all school-age children in Indonesia is 53 million, 6% of which is 4 336 503 children drop out of school. This was conveyed by the Director of Education and Religion of the Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas (Amich Alhumami) in a video conference Wednesday, 15 July 2020.

West Nusa Tenggara, as one of the provinces in Indonesia, is also experiencing various problems in developing its human resources through education. One of the problems this study will explore in depth is related to the dropout rate and the various problems that cause this phenomenon. Based on data from the Department of Education and Culture in NTB, one data stated that the elementary, junior high, and

high school / vocational school dropout rate for the 2019/2020 school year was still quite large. For example, at the elementary school level, the dropout rate reached 344 people. At the junior high level, it was 43 people. Furthermore, the SMK level was 249 people. Furthermore, the high school level was 47.

The dropping out of school in Indonesia, especially in the Province of West Nusa Tenggara, is undoubtedly caused by various factors and is also based on various community reasons according to the cultural values that apply to each community group. Therefore, the problem of children dropping out of school can be presumed not to be caused by a single factor such as poverty but is a complex problem. In order to understand the problem of children dropping out of school in depth, it is necessary to do serious research so that various factors can be found that cause this to happen and also understand the underlying background. Thus, this research is relevant given the theme "Analysis of the Complex Causes of Dropout of School in Nusa Tenggara Barat Indonesia."

2. Materials and Methods

This research uses qualitative methods. Data were collected by observation at the research site, interviews, and documentation. The determination of informants is done purposely. Primary data were obtained from the head of the hamlet, parents of children dropping out of school, brothers or sisters of children dropping out of school, principals, teachers, heads of education and culture offices. The determination of informants like this aims to obtain adequate information about the various factors that cause children to drop out of school. The main instrument was the researcher, assisted by a recording device used during interviews, a camera to take pictures, and field notes.

3. Results and Discussion

The research found empirical facts that social problems in education, especially in children dropping out of school, are indeed complex problems. To find the factors that cause the phenomenon of school dropouts, one must be able to find the root cause. The data obtained at the Batu Putih Village Office explicitly illustrates that the level of public education is still relatively low, and the dropout rate in the village is relatively high.

Based on the study of documents obtained in the Batu Putih Village population report for May 2021, it was found that the total population of Batu Putih Village was 7,013 people, of which there were data of 3,271 people who had never received formal education or had never attended school. Suppose the percentage becomes as many as (46, 64%) of the population who have never attended school. Meanwhile, the population who attended school until they finished Elementary/Equivalent were 1,507 people (21.48%) of the total population. Therefore, the number of people who can complete their education up to the level of Junior High School (SLTP) is 347 people (4.94%) of the total population of the village. Furthermore, the number of people who completed their education up to the Senior High School (SLTA) level was 280 people or (3.99%) of the total population. At the same time, the number of people who can complete their education in Higher Education at the Diploma 1 level is 12 people (0.17%). At the D2 level, as many as 45 people (0.64%), and at the D3 level, as many as 60 people (0.85%) of the total population. The number of villagers and those with education up to the undergraduate level is 15 (0.21%) of the total population. No data on the population that completed education at the master's level of master's and doctoral degrees.

The search for the data from the Batu Putih village office, which relates to children dropping out of school, is also quite concerning; the number of children who dropped out of school at the elementary school level and the equivalent was found to be 185 people, while those who did not complete their education to the junior high school level were 1160, this figure is based on the number of children who graduated from elementary school or equivalent as many as 1507 while those who graduated from junior high school equivalent were 347 people. A single factor does not cause the phenomenon of children dropping out of school in Indonesia. Likewise, what happened at the locus of this research, namely Labuan Poh Hamlet and Nusa Sari Hamlet, the occurrence of school dropouts in school-age children, especially at the basic education level,

was caused by various factors. Based on the interviews with informants at the research location, they provided various data and information about the causes of children dropping out of school. The informant's statement illustrates that many reasons cause children to drop out of school, not only because they are poor but also because of other things, such as their children not having the desire to continue their education, because their parents are not supportive, some because they do not have any school fees.

This informant's statement illustrates that the cause of children dropping out of school in addition to poverty, there are also other factors, such as internal motivation factors of the children themselves who have low interest in going to school, as well as external factors from the child concerned, such as parents who are less support the child to finish school both at the elementary school level and at the junior high school level, even though the child still wants to continue his schooling.

Another informant provided similar information that the factors causing children to drop out of school in Labuan Poh Hamlet were quite diverse. For example, some children drop out of school due to poverty, but there are also those whose parents are economically capable, and their children drop out of school. Furthermore, it is given that for economically capable children. Usually, the phenomenon of dropping out of school is caused by the lack of willingness of the child concerned to finish school. When interviews were conducted with resource persons at the research location, it was explained that the causes of children dropping out of school were quite diverse. Some were because their parents were not able to afford it, some children were unable to attend lessons at school, and there was also because young marriage (raised pocket) usually occurred around the age of 14 or 15 years while still in junior high school.

The opinions expressed by these informants can be used as a basis for identifying the factors that cause children to drop out of school. Among several reasons or causes of children dropping out of school, there is unique data, namely the occurrence of early marriage at 14 and 15 years. When asked further to the informants related to early marriage, information was obtained that this has often happened. The leading cause is usually the children concerned love each other, and parents do not dare to forbid for fear that their children will do reckless negative things, such as; eloping. Also, what parents fear the most is that if they are banned, they tend to be reckless, such as committing suicide, torturing themselves, or even leaving their parents' house.

The death of a parent is also a contributing factor, as the direct narrative of a child who has dropped out of school states that, the child likes going to school. However, since his father died, he has had difficulty paying school fees, finally stopping in grade 3 of junior high school. My mother also does not work, so the child is confused about how to get money for school needs.

The answer of a child forced to stop attending school in the third grade of Junior High School was not against his will. Nevertheless, the child was asked by his mother to stop going to school after his father died. The family's condition is economically supported by his father, who works odd jobs, sometimes being a construction worker. On other occasions, he is a farm laborer helping land-owning farmers grow crops. Even with odd jobs, the parents could still pay for their children's education up to the third grade of junior high school, although in the end, their child dropped out of school because God had called his father into the lap of the Creator. This simple answer clearly illustrates how complex our country's school dropout problem is.

Informants of parents of children who have dropped out of school provide different information from other informants. However, at the time of the interview, the person concerned gave obvious information that the informant, as the mother of the child who dropped out of school, admitted that she had indeed asked her child to quit school. This was done because her husband died, and as a widow, she could not afford to pay for her children to attend school. Not to mention having to pay for our children's schooling, it is also quite difficult for us to eat our daily meals. For that, he wants his son to work to earn income and meet daily life's needs. The following is a statement made by an FP.I.4. My children need money for school. I do not work and have nothing. Where do I get my children's school fees? Yes, I told them to stop going to school, so I could work to be able to eat every day.

Implicitly this statement can be interpreted that the cause of parents choosing their children to quit school tends to be poor economic conditions. If grouped into various causes of children

dropping out of school, it can be grouped as the cause is poverty. Although it was found empirical facts that the child still wanted to continue his education, his parents panicked to continue his life after his husband died. The ability of a mother to survive independently is not owned by the person concerned, so poverty becomes a link that is difficult for the next generation to break.

When a search was conducted on dropouts in other families, data corresponded with the information previously obtained. However, the complexity that causes children to drop out of school begins to be felt when the informant tells a long story relaxed and familiarly. In a long and relaxed chat process, data was obtained that it was not always the children who dropped out of school that came from economically low-income families. The informants interviewed by the writer said they have plantation land to support their family life. Even if you look at the house where this family lives, compared to the neighbors around it, it appears that the family is economically well off. The question is, of course, related to the problem of children dropping out of school. With good economic conditions in this family, two out of school children are brothers and sisters.

When asked why their children do not finish school, even though they are economically capable enough to pay for their schooling? Information was obtained that their children had stopped going to school in grade 5 and grade 4 of Elementary School. A complete explanation was given by the informant of FP.I.5 as follows; in terms of costs, we can handle it if they want to go to school, but they stopped going on their own in the 5th grade of elementary school. Their younger brother is in the 4th grade of elementary school, and they do not want to go to school anymore because they often do not attend school and are unable to attend.

In line with the information provided by the parents of the children who have dropped out of school, the explanations of the children who have experienced the phenomenon firsthand clarified that what the parents said was true. They said that they could not follow the lessons at their school because they felt stupid compared to their other friends. So often dizzy when given lessons, so many miss subjects from his classmates. In addition, they felt ashamed of their teachers, so they finally decided to stop going to school. The following is a statement submitted by an FP. I informant. 6 and FP.I.7 as follows; The lessons made me dizzy, I could not follow them, so my sister and I often did not go to class. My friends and teachers are also ashamed because they always miss lessons. That is why my sister and I stopped going to elementary school.

In contrast to the information obtained from Kliang Banjar in Nusa Sari Hamlet, when met at his home, it was conveyed that the cause of children dropping out of school in his village was primarily due to low-income families or due to poverty. It was further stated that during their time as residents of the village, it was never found that the residents had dropped out of school due to early marriage, but it tended to be due to low-income families. Their children did not want to go to school, there were also those whose children wanted to go to school, but their parents could not afford it. Because their parents' occupations were primarily farmers, and many did not own land but worked with other people. The following is the explanation given by the informant of FP.I.8 during an interview at his home. Most of the reasons why children drop out of school are because their parents cannot afford it. In this Banjar, almost all parents work as farmers, but some have land, and some do not. The average income is 5 to 10 million rupiahs per year. Sometimes in the dry season, we have no income because we cannot grow anything.

Various factors indeed cause the phenomenon of children dropping out of school, so it is difficult to find the right formula to overcome it completely. Therefore, this social problem will probably remain to be found throughout the age's other social problems. The diversity of causes can be obtained from the data submitted by the informants at the research site.

A community leader in Nusa Sari Hamlet conveyed his opinion regarding the dropout children in his neighborhood at length when the author interviewed in a relaxed chat atmosphere at the house concerned. Information is obtained that children who do not finish school, especially at the elementary level, are miserable. Because the government has declared compulsory education up to the level of primary education, namely the elementary and junior high school levels. However, due to various factors, some children drop out of school. The causative factors are very diverse; some are due to social factors; some are caused by economic

factors from underprivileged families and factors of their children who do not want to finish school because of their inability to follow the lessons required by the school. In total, the following is an explanation from the informant of FP.I.9.

Indeed, there are children in this hamlet who drop out of school, some drop out of elementary school, some drop out of junior high school, and there are also high school students. The causes are many and varied; some drop out of school because of association, eventually follow their friends who do not go to school or who drop out of school first, there are also because their children are unable to attend lessons at school, another cause is the cost factor because their parents are only farm laborers and cannot afford to pay for it. His son's school.

The explanation given by one of the community leaders of Nusa Sari Hamlet above is supported by the opinion of another informant, who said that the children dropping out of school in his village were caused by many things, not only poverty but also other factors. According to his observations, some out-of-school children come from economically well-off families because their parents have large enough plantation land to manage. However, their children have stopped going to school since Elementary School, Grade 5. This is certainly not because of poverty; there must be other causes. For example, the inability of children to absorb lessons and other factors such as socializing with friends who are both not in school. During the interview with the informant FP.I.10 at his home, the following is a complete explanation. First, the children who drop out of school, not only because they are poor, because there are parents who can afford it, but their children stop going to school. There seemed to be many causes, such as poverty, because the child is not intelligent in his studies. After all, the influence of his friends is also there.

Based on the explanations obtained from the informants through interviews, as well as observations made at the research site, and documents obtained from the Village Office, as well as from the Education and Culture Office of West Lombok Regency, it illustrates that the phenomenon of children dropping out of school in Indonesia, especially in the province of West Nusa Tenggara is caused by many factors. Moreover, if explored in depth, each of these causative factors can be found to be related to each other, and their nature influences each other from one cause to another.

Economic incapacity is not the only factor that causes children to drop out of school. However, these economic factors are always present as one of the causes of the phenomenon of children dropping out of school. Talking about economic factors as a factor that affects the phenomenon of dropping out of school, what we are talking about is the problem of poverty. Even though the phenomenon of dropping out of school does not always occur because of poverty. Apart from poverty, other factors that also contribute to dropping out of school are; traditional codec early marriage), social influence factors, lack of parental support, the inability of children to follow lessons, and low motivation to go to school.

The complexity of the phenomenon of school dropouts with various causative factors can be discussed using the class reproduction theory proposed by Bourdieu. Bourdieu's main idea is that a particular class in society will pass on its privileges to the next generation. For example, the phenomenon of dropping out of school for children in Labuan Poh Hamlet and Nusa Sari Hamlet tends to occur in families with low education, even if their parents have never attended school. Thus, the social class of society belonging to the lower class is reproduced and passed on to their children as a privileged inheritance.

Viewed from the perspective of behaviorism theory which explains that changes in a person's behavior occur because of the influence of their environment. Many of the children who have dropped out of school, it turns out, are also caused by the influence of their friends, as well as the influence of the environment, especially the closest environment, namely family. Closest families, especially parents, do not care about children who stop going to school before graduating, some even being advised by their parents because of economic factors.

4. Conclusion

The factors that cause the phenomenon of children dropping out of school are very complex, not caused by a single factor such as poverty, but are caused by many factors. This study found

the complexity of the factors that cause children to drop out of school, namely; poverty, low children's motivation to go to school, no parental support, factors of children who are unable to attend lessons, factors of marriage (*merarek codec*), and factors of social influence.

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