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RESEARCH ARTICLE

BUILDING CHARACTER CHILDREN OF COASTAL COMMUNITIES PADANG CITY THROUGH BIBLIOTERAPY.

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Abstract

Bibliotherapy is one method that can be used to help clients overcome their trauma or problems, is seen as a cost effective treatment and can be used for various social groups and age groups. As an information community, Tanah Ombak's reading room can be a place to implement bibliotherapy. Tanah Ombak is a reading room in the fishing village of Purus 3 in the coastal area of Padang. Officially established since the end of 2014 and later notarized in 2015 where Syuhendri was the founder and supported by Yusrizal KW. The Tanah Ombak reading room community is in a poor and apprehensive community environment, where children are very close to the world of crime and used to speaking harshly. This paper describes the role of Tanah Ombak for children and the surrounding community, what achievements have been achieved, and what programs will be formulated by Tanah Ombak in improving children's character development in the community.

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Introduction:-

Bibliotherapy as a counseling service:-

The term bibliotherapy initiated by Samuel Crothers in 1916, comes from two Greek words "biblio" (books) and "therapia" (healing), meaning referring to "The use of reading material for assistance in solving personal problems or for psychiatric therapy". Reading quality books will develop new knowledge and ideas in life, can produce healing processes that enrich the reader's personality [1].

The concept of bibliotherapy emerged from the roots of psychodynamics, and was recorded in professional publications in the early nineteenth century as a description of useful interventions for adult medical patients. Its application follows the development of adult patients who need emotional remediation and for the developmental needs of children [2]. While the first note to write bibliotherapy as a written therapeutic tool in the previous century [3]. Initially, bibliotherapy was associated as a treatment with the belief that messages conveyed in the form of stories can positively influence the processes of the human subconscious [4]. Children find it easier to express themselves indirectly through a medium or story metaphor, this approach is similar to therapy through art [5], [6].

Bibliotherapy in its development process is not only carried out by counselors or educators, but also includes librarians and health care workers [7]. Bibliotherapy can resolve a variety of conditions including drug abuse, behavioral

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problems, chemical dependence, chronic diseases, homelessness, self-destructive behavior, and other problems. Even the use of books was chosen based on the content of reading programs planned and designed to facilitate the recovery of patients suffering from mental illness or emotional disturbances [8], [9].

Stamp [10] states that bibliotherapy goals are specifically implemented for children for a variety of reasons, including: (a) helping to develop self-concept and self-esteem, (b) increasing the likelihood of understanding oneself and others as a whole, (c) helping self-assess honestly, (d) help find interest outside of yourself, (e) help relieve emotional distress, or (f) improve constructive methods to solve problems or face challenges.

Furthermore, interventions from bibliotherapy according to Cornett & Cornett [11] have affective and cognitive effects to readers. Affective change the involves positive attitudes, personal and social adjustment, realization of lie changes towards good for everyone, identification of socially acceptable behavior, examination of moral values, character development, desire to imitate models, tolerance, respect, and acceptance other people. For cognitive change related to critical thinking, problem perspective, insight into human behavior and motives, self-evaluation, high-level reasoning, and planning before taking action.

Tanah Ombak Reading Room Community:-

The reading room of Tanah Ombak is in a small alley that was once called the "alley of evil", in the village of Purus 3. The beginning of the reading room of Tanah Ombak is considered a threat to the local people. This community was formed in 2014 by Syuhendri with his close friend, Yusrizal KW. Both often received resistances from residents in the village, even some volunteers who joined took part in receiving verbal abuse.

The condition of education in this village is still far from expectations. The mediocre parents' economy makes it difficult for children there to have access to complete education. Children are used to growing up with violence, and speaking harshly, even many drop out of school. Most of the children in this area were issued by the school because they were involved in a fight (brawl) at school. This condition has changed drastically since the past three years. The presence of Tanah Ombak has begun to be accepted by local residents. Some of the bad habits of citizens are slowly becoming obsolete. These changes occur along with efforts to build character by introducing the world of reading or literacy to children from an early age. In Tanah Ombak, children learn to parse the creative process through reading, drawing, and theater [12].

Many achievements have been achieved by the Tanah Ombak community, including:

1. 2016 Minangkabau Literacy Award
2. The Best Community I West Sumatra
3. Best Appearance at the 2014 National Children's Theater Festival at Taman Ismail Marzuki, Jakarta.
4. 1st Place in the Sumatra Region in the 2016 Gramedia Reading Community Competition (GRCC).

The success of Tanah Ombak reading room was also seen in the article Tanah Ombak and Vespa Butut "I Meet You Until You Read" written by RamdhanTriyadiBempah [13]. The article tells about a mother named Desmorasi who lives in Purus Village, has three sons who grew up and were trapped in a harsh environment of coastal areas. Desmarosi's children are affected by the influence of the environment to get involved with drugs. As a mother, Desmarosi realized that what her children were doing was wrong. This condition continued until finally the influence of education planted by the Land of the Waves changed everything. Tanah Ombak is one of the solutions to keep children from various environmental issues that have been more negative. Tanah Ombak has changed the negative judgment of outsiders about the area. The environment and social civilization there developed much better. Children start to spend a lot of time studying and doing theater, while their parents start learning to love the environment by planting many kinds of vegetables in their yard. Tanah Ombak is able to be a place for children around to express and actualize themselves as they are. Tanah Ombak guides and educates children to channel their interests and talents to become stars in various fields [14].

The Role of Tanah Ombak Reading Room Communities in Building Children's Characters:-

Based on the interviews that have been conducted with the founder and manager of the Tanah Ombak reading room, it can be concluded that in this community there are several things that are taught, namely: learning knowledge, reading, developing potential and independence. The learning method that is applied is learning while playing with the aim to make children more comfortable. Some of the skills and programs implemented by this community to build children's character and improve literacy include:

Foreign language skills. Children are also given foreign language skills based on the condition that Purus Village is a tourist area which is currently developed by the local government of Padang City. This English language ability can be a provision for children for the future.

Increase reading interest and creativity. Children from kindergarten to high school age are involved in various activities, such as reading, writing, storytelling, dancing, playing music, and theater. Here, children are taught not to talk dirty, be prohibited from playing physically, must maintain the cleanliness of the studio and environment, and learn to listen to the material and recount it.

Vespa library movement. Tanah Ombak launches a mobile library activity called Vespa Library to reach children in Padang City who need access to education through reading books. By tracing the areas that are considered to have low reading interest, in addition to carrying reading books, volunteers also distributed free notebooks for children who had already set aside their playing time by reading on the roadside stalls. The aim of the movement is to introduce the world of education through reading.

People who regularly read will continue to read without hesitation to get information and enjoyment, even for students who are accustomed to reading will continue to do so after they graduate from school [15], [16]. Because of the basic concept of bibliotherapy is reading as a healing experience. Literary resources can help solve complex problems [17]. A positive attitude from reading will lead to positive things from the reading experience [18]. This is what drives Tanah Ombak to make books as a means of therapy and build children's character on the coast of Padang. Although it is not claimed to be a way of "healing" troubled characters, it can enlighten and develop knowledge, where bibliotherapy as a dynamic and interactive process becomes a technique for structuring and forming interactions between clients and therapists based on reciprocal sharing of literature in meeting client therapy needs [19], [20].

Children in the reading room of Tanah Ombak have the same opportunity to study with other common children. As the founder of Tanah Ombak, Syuhendri with a background in art in the field of theater began to invite children in the village to learn through art, by providing equal opportunities for anyone, especially children in the Purus region who want to study theater. While Yusrizal KW provided books, children are taught to read and retell stories that have been read. Starting with a small amount, then attracting the interest of other children to join, which finally at this time, the community is not only interested in becoming a theater practice room, but increasingly developing into a place of reading for children around. Syuhendri's hopes are very simple; through Tanah Ombak children living in the coastal areas of Padang are no longer involved in criminal acts, and have good character and attitude. Although these changes are not in a fast time but with ongoing habituation the results will have a positive impact on the surrounding environment.

Conclusion:-

Bibliotherapy can be a tool and problem solving skills, such as emotional disturbances and changing or building one's character. The effort to develop children's character towards the positive is not an easy job, but it is also not impossible. Must be seriously and sustainably intended and managed. Many programs are arranged by the Tanah Ombak reading room and act as an effort to develop the character of the children of the coastal city of Padang. In the future, the hope that the Tanah Ombak reading room will be a program implementation assistance supported by the government and the surrounding community, so that the program builds "good" character on children and the culture of literacy embodied in the reading room of Tanah Ombak is increasingly planned, organized and well managed.

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