


Psychological Characteristics of Child Sexual Violence Perpetrators : Systematic Literature Review

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<p>*Chusnul Munawaroh chusnulmunawaroh@yahoo.com</p> <p>Article History</p> <p>Submitted : January 2nd, 2025</p> <p>Final Revised : June 18th, 2025</p> <p>Accepted : June 20th, 2025</p>	<p>Background: Sexual violence with child perpetrators is a complex phenomenon with diverse backgrounds. Although children should be protected and guided in their growth and development, there are a number of factors that can trigger deviant behavior, such as sexual violence with child perpetrators. Objective: This study shows the importance of knowing the psychological characteristics of children as perpetrators of sexual violence from domestic and foreign journals so that it can be used as a learning process and to carry out prevention efforts and further assistance. Method: The Systematic Literature Review method was chosen to identify, assess, and synthesize the results of literature searches through the Garuda portals, Google Scholar and Scopus. Results: The characteristics of children as perpetrators of sexual violence when viewed from a psychological perspective are influenced by many interrelated and continuous factors. Conclusion: The characteristics of these children are slightly different from adult perpetrators, due to hormonal and psychological instability at their developmental stage, and the perpetrators are also in situations that do not support healthy emotional and moral development.</p> <p>Keywords: Child perpetrators; child sexual offenders; sexual offences; sexual violence</p>
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Abstrak

Latar belakang: Kekerasan seksual dengan pelaku anak merupakan fenomena kompleks yang memiliki latar belakang yang beragam. Meskipun anak-anak seharusnya dilindungi dan dibimbing dalam tumbuh kembangnya, namun ada sejumlah faktor yang dapat memicu terjadinya perilaku menyimpang, seperti kekerasan seksual dengan pelaku anak. **Tujuan:** Penelitian ini menunjukkan pentingnya mengetahui karakteristik psikologis anak sebagai pelaku kekerasan seksual agar dapat digunakan sebagai proses pembelajaran dan melakukan upaya pencegahan serta pendampingan lebih lanjut. **Metode:** Metode Systematic Literature Review dipilih untuk mengidentifikasi, menilai, dan mensintesis hasil penelusuran pustaka melalui portal Garuda, Google Scholar dan Scopus. **Hasil:** Karakteristik anak sebagai pelaku kekerasan seksual jika dilihat dari perspektif psikologis dipengaruhi oleh banyak faktor yang saling berkaitan dan berkesinambungan. **Simpulan:** Karakteristik anak-anak ini sedikit berbeda dengan pelaku dewasa, dikarenakan ketidakstabilan hormonal dan psikologis pada tahap perkembangan mereka, dan pelaku juga berada dalam situasi yang tidak mendukung perkembangan emosional dan moral yang sehat.

Kata Kunci: Anak sebagai pelaku kekerasan seksual; kekerasan seksual; pelaku anak; pelanggaran seksual

Introduction

Sexual violence is a social problem that is becoming increasingly concerning in various parts of the world, including Indonesia. Various incidents of sexual violence involving children have had a serious impact on their physical, psychological, and social development. Sexual violence can occur anywhere, anytime, and by anyone, and is often carried out in conjunction with other acts of violence that cause physical and psychological injury to the victim. The harm caused can have real and significant consequences for all those affected; therefore, a better understanding of sexual violence can help reduce this behavior, so that it is hoped that it can minimize harm (Norman & Stephenson, 2024). Previous research has shown that someone with a history of sexual violence has clinically significant levels of depression, anxiety, and sleep deprivation compared to people without a history of sexual violence (Jiang et al., 2024). The impact of sexual violence, even though it is carried out online, on adolescents can cause serious mental problems. Most online sexual victims experience mental health problems and, in extreme conditions, can harm themselves. The serious impact of sexual violence on victims can occur both physically and mentally. This sexual violence can cause physical damage to the victim in certain organs and does not rule out the possibility of serious injury or even death (Kamar et al., 2022).

Sexual violence and assault are very common in North American society and around the world (Bamford et al., 2016). Sexual violence in South Africa accounts for 50% of all cases in the region. In the United States, it accounts for approximately 26% of all cases. Teenagers are at a higher risk, with more than 50% of all victims of sexual violence in the United States between the ages of 12 and 20 years (Bryana, 2013). Sexual violence committed by groups of juvenile perpetrators accounts for 42% of all criminal cases in the UK (Woodhams, 2009). Therefore, this form of violation is a fairly large social problem (Bamford, 2016). In the United States, the Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to End the Exploitation of Children Today (PROTECT) Act of 2003 makes it a crime to possess, create, or distribute pornography containing visual depictions of sexual acts performed by children in real life or online, such as computer-generated or artificially generated images, indistinguishable from real children. In addition, each country has its own anti-pornography laws (Miller, 2013). According to data from the Haining Municipal Public Security Bureau, China, in 2020, sexual violence crimes often occurred at night, with 193 cases of sexual crimes recorded between 7 pm and 4 am the next day, accounting for 62% of all cases (Jiang et al., 2024). In Australia, in 2020 and 2021, adolescents aged 10 to 17 years were responsible for the majority of sexual abuse incidents, especially against younger children and siblings. Then, in 2022, these teenagers in Australia contributed around 16% of cases of sexual violence and crimes. Until the Australian Bureau of Statistics made a global estimate, around 20%-50% of sexual crimes were committed by children under the age of 18 in some countries (Fortunato et al., 2024).

The term sexual violence in international media mostly refers to rape and sexual harassment, especially when involving children as perpetrators or victims. Sexual violence committed by children based on Article 295 of the Criminal Code is defined as anyone who intentionally orders or facilitates the commission of indecent acts by his biological child, stepchild, adopted child, or child under his supervision who is not yet an adult; by a minor child whose care, education, or protection is entrusted to him; or by his servant or subordinate who is not yet an adult with another person. In other words, indecent acts committed by children are regulated in the Criminal Code, which is a concerning and complex phenomenon. This case study reflects the social, psychological, and environmental dynamics that involve children in acts that should not be performed at their age. Based on state regulations in Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 12 of 2017 concerning Child Protection, 2022 concerning Criminal Acts of Sexual Violence, the types of Criminal Acts of Sexual Violence include: a. non-physical sexual violence; b. physical sexual violence; c. forced contraception; d. forced sterilization; e. forced marriage; f. sexual torture; g. sexual exploitation; h. sexual slavery; and i. electronic-based sexual violence. In addition to the Crime of Sexual Violence as referred to in paragraph (1), the Crime of Sexual Violence also includes: a. rape; b. indecent acts; c. sexual intercourse with a Child, indecent acts against a Child, and/or sexual exploitation of a Child; d. acts that violate morality that are not desired by the Victim; e. pornography involving a Child or pornography that explicitly contains violence and sexual exploitation; f. forced prostitution; g. forced prostitution; h. forced sexual intercourse; i. forced sexual exploitation; j. the crime of human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation; k. sexual violence within the scope of the household; l. the crime of money laundering where the source of the crime is the Crime of Sexual Violence; and m. other crimes that are expressly stated as the Crime of Sexual Violence as regulated in the provisions of laws and regulations. The most sensational sexual violence in certain cases often becomes the main topic in news in various media (Serisier, 2019).

In September 2023, the Indonesian Commission for the Protection of Children and Women (KPAI) recorded 1,800 cases related to the Fulfillment of Children's Rights (PHA) and Special Protection for Children

(PKA). This is supported by data from the Indonesian Child Protection Commission, which also confirms that cases of sexual violence rank highest compared to other child cases. The highest record occurred during the Covid-19 pandemic, namely data from as many as 6, 519 cases in 2020. Then, data from the Ministry of Protection of Women and Children, as of January 1, 2024, to October 2024, stated that there were 20,193 cases of violence, with the percentage of male perpetrators being 88.8% and female perpetrators being 11.2%. Based on data from the Online Information System for the Protection of Women and Children (Simfoni PPA), the number of cases of sexual violence has continued to increase annually from 2020 to August 2024. In addition, the Ministry of the PPPA's hotline, Sahabat Perempuan dan Anak (SAPA) 129, also received 287 complaints of cases of sexual violence. Over time, the level of awareness and courage of the victims increased, accompanied by ease of reporting. Sexual violence committed by a group of perpetrators can cause widespread fear among the general public. Because it is often found, of the many cases of sexual violence, there are several cases involving children as perpetrators.

Children's growth and development can be involved in various cases of sexual violence. Although children should be protected and guided during their growth and development, a number of factors can trigger deviant behavior, such as sexual violence with child perpetrators. Based on Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection, Chapter I Article 1, a child is a fetus that is still in the womb until it is born into the world and reaches the age of 18 (eighteen) years. Then, what is meant by child protection is all things or activities carried out to guarantee and protect children and their rights, so that they can live well, grow well, develop well, and participate optimally. Children who perpetrate sexual violence are usually in situations that do not support healthy emotional and moral development. This gives rise to problematic sexual violence. The availability of mental health services is one of the main needs of children involved in sexual violence. The provision of these services aims to enable professionals to work with children or adolescents, identify their needs, and ensure that individuals with their needs are properly facilitated (Evans et al., 2024).

Sexual violence committed by children is an important topic to study, because in addition to the frequency of this type of violence, which is difficult to predict, the causal factors are also very diverse. On the other hand, the law also considers factors related to the perpetrator, ranging from background factors to the mental capacity of the perpetrator. As perpetrators, children often do not fully understand the consequences of their behavior; they only think briefly about how to achieve sexual satisfaction. If traced, the desire to have sexual intercourse or sexual arousal in every individual, including children, who have begun to function their reproductive organs at the stage of biological development, although some are not yet perfect, from each individual. Sexual arousal involves sensory organs, namely the skin, eyes, nose, ears, and mouth, followed by the endocrine system or reproductive hormones, brain, and genitals. This can be experienced by children so that it becomes a stimulus for sexual intercourse (Lankford, 2021). The perpetrators, in this case children, not only use a subtle or non-aggressive approach to prevent the victim from rejecting their sexual requests. However, perpetrators will also take other more extreme actions if the victim refuses, ranging from persuasion to verbal and non-verbal violence. The perpetrator's persuasion poses a threat that makes the victim comply with their sexual requests to the point of committing sexual violence. Children who commit sexual violence tend to have difficulty controlling their sexual arousal, supported by other aspects such as decreased self-esteem, intimacy problems with people around them, and other problematic behaviors (Turhan et al., 2024).

Based on a search on the *Garba Rujukan Digital* (GARUDA) portal, Google Scholar, and Scopus on October 30, 2024, on various studies on sexual violence with child perpetrators over the past 20 years, the author found a gap in the psychological characteristics of perpetrators of sexual violence between adults and children. Many journals discuss sexual violence, how it occurs, the factors behind it, how the victims are, who the perpetrators are, where, and when it occurs. Several studies have discussed children who act as perpetrators of sexual violence. Few have discussed the psychological characteristics of perpetrators, so a literature review from foreign and Indonesian journals is needed for further study. The literature review of the journals used as references came from nine countries, including China, Columbia, the United States, Canada, Melbourne, England, Victoria, Virginia, and Indonesia. From these journals, various aspects that cause sexual violence, as well as the psychological characteristics of children and how they can commit sexual violence, were obtained. Therefore, the purpose of this article is to understand the thought process of children and how their psychological characteristics lead to the point of becoming perpetrators of sexual violence, which are referred to from foreign and Indonesian journals, so that they can then be used as a learning process and to carry out prevention efforts and further assistance.

Method

This article is written using the Systematic Literature Review (SLR) method, where SLR refers to previous studies on sexual violence, identifies various journal references, and continues by reviewing and determining journals that are relevant to the topic of sexual violence involving children as perpetrators. Several related research results are relevant to the research question or topic, namely, by reviewing, analyzing, and interpreting the characteristics of child perpetrators from several cases of sexual violence. SLR is a type of literature review that emphasizes the "systematic" aspect, namely, requiring a study that follows a guideline. SLR is compiled more on the interests of evidence-based, meaning that this study is compiled not as a transfer of knowledge to readers, but as an effort by the author to determine the level of evidence-based knowledge of a particular issue or theme (Hadi et al., 2020). The object of this article is to explore various library information sources from 2004 to 2024 from national and international journals. The stages of conducting a systematic review of 210 journals on sexual violence were then filtered more specifically to meet the requirements, namely discussing sexual violence with child perpetrators, by conducting a search through the Garuda portal, Google Scholar, and Scopus, with the keywords "children as perpetrators of sexual violence" or "sexual violence committed by children." then specified again, which examines the psychological characteristics of the child why they can commit acts of sexual violence. Based on the collected journals, they were sorted again with the keyword "psychological characteristics of children as perpetrators of sexual violence," so that 12 journals were obtained on several cases that occurred in various countries, including England (Norman & Stephenson, 2024; Turhan et al., 2024; Bamford, 2016), the United States (Lawrence et al., 2024; Cardona et al., 2018), Colombia (French & Neville, 2012), the United Kingdom (Norman & Stephenson, 2024; Turhan et al., 2024; Bamford, 2016), China (Jiang et al., 2024), Canada (Sea & Beauregard, 2017), Melbourne (Henshaw et al., 2018), Victoria (Fortunato et al., 2024), Virginia (Waite et al., 2005), and Indonesia (Wijaya, 2021; Roch@@ Nuqul, 2015).

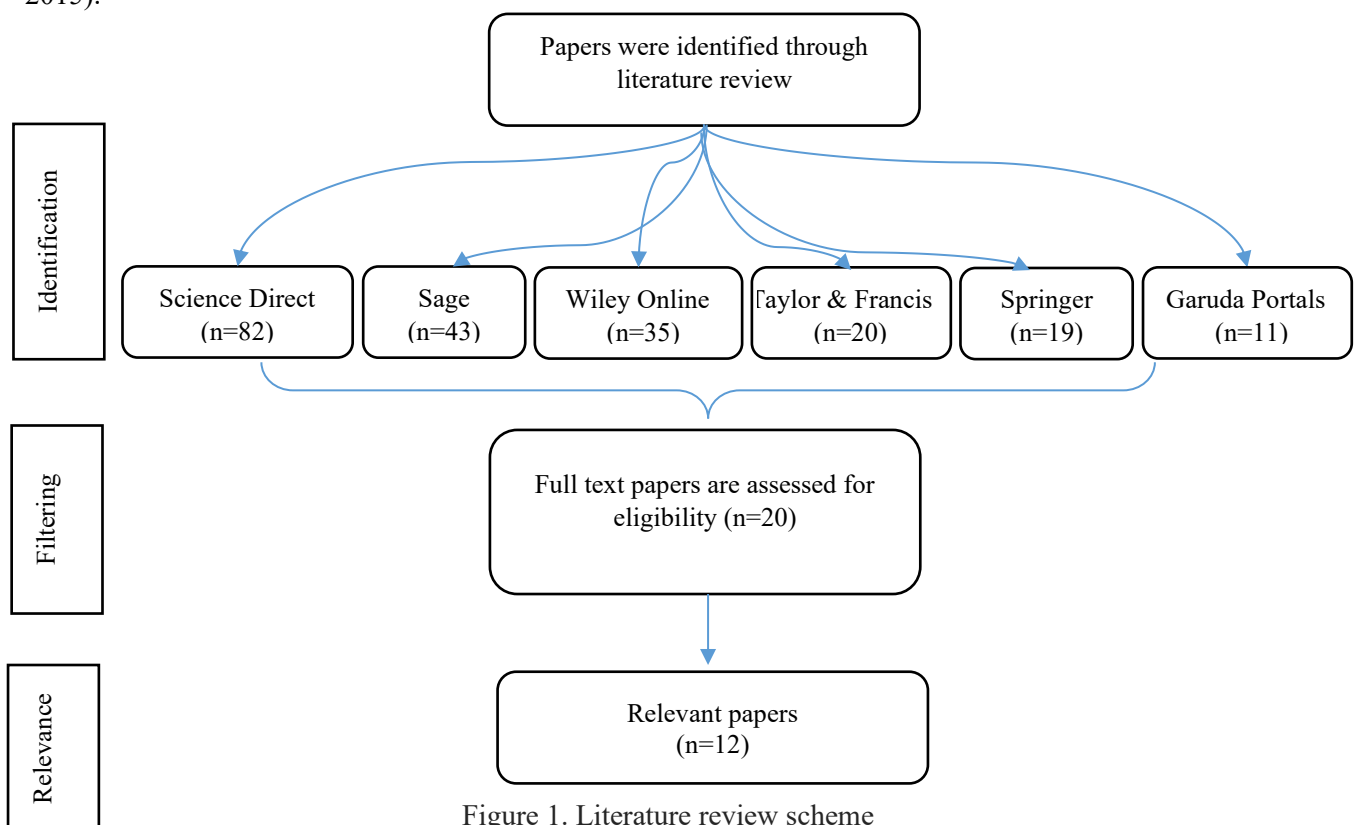


Figure 1. Literature review scheme

Discussion

Based on the results of the journal search, several relevant studies were found. After eliminating duplicates and applying the inclusion criteria, 12 journals were included in the literature review. Of the 12 journals included, one journal used a systematic review, two journals used a qualitative method with a case study approach, three journals used a qualitative method with an exploratory approach, and six journals used quantitative research. (Table 1).

Table 1. Demographics of child sexual offenders

No.	Researchers & Years	Title	Country	Age of the perpetrator	Research Methods & Instruments	Psychological Traits of Child Sexual Offenders
1.	Jiang et al. (2024)	<i>Spatio-temporal characteristics of sexual crime and influencing factors of commercial service facilities: A case study of Haining City, China</i>	China	Teenagers under 22 years old	Qualitative with case study approach	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children who have unusual sexual interests 2. Children exposed to pornography 3. Children who had a history of sexual abuse
2	Lawrence et al. (2024)	<i>Longitudinal examination of marijuana use and physical adolescence Dating violence: Antisocial peers and impulsivity as mediators</i>	USA	Average 16 years	Quantitative with CADRI measuring tool	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children who have antisocial traits 2. Children under the influence of narcotics
3	Norman & Stephenson (2024)	<i>Educators' perspectives on harmful sexual behaviour</i>	England	4-16 years old	Explorative Qualitative	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children who had a victim of sexual abuse 2. Children with pornography effect at the internet
4	Fortunato et al. (2024)	<i>Expanding treatment pathways for sexually abusive behaviour in young people: an examination of Therapeutic Treatment Orders</i>	Victoria	10-18 years old	Explorative Qualitative	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children who had a history of sexual abuse 2. Children who had an early exposure to pornography 3. Children with social isolation 4. Children with higher anxiety 5. Children with unusual sexual interests
5	Turhan et al. (2024)	<i>Early Maladaptive Schemas in Sex Offenders and Non-Sexual Violent Offenders: A Systematic Review</i>	England	Adolescence under 18 years old	Systematic Review	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children who have difficulties such as low self-esteem, intimacy problems, and insecure attachment 2. a child who has uncontrollable sexual urges

No.	Researchers & Years	Title	Country	Age of the perpetrator	Research Methods & Instruments	Psychological Traits of Child Sexual Offenders
						3. Children with the interaction between the individual's childhood environment and their attachment experiences and temperamen
						4. Children with cognitive distortions related to rape
6	Wijaya (2021)	<i>Review of Developmental Psychology in Providing Guidance to Perpetrators of Sexual Violence and Murder Cases (Case Study of Yuyun's Sexual Violence and Murder)</i>	Indonesia	13-23 years	Qualitative with case study approach	1. Children with strong sexual urges 2. Children with unstable emotional development 3. Children who follow negative group behavior 4. Children under the influence of alcohol 5. Children exposed to pornography 6. Children who drop out of school and are frustrated
7	Cardona et al. (2018)	<i>Covariates of the Severity of Aggression in Sexual Crimes: Psychopathy and Borderline Characteristics</i>	USA	16-40 years	Quantitative with NSAG, SAG, PCL-R, DSM-BPD criteria measuring instruments	1. Children with negative sexual drives, impulsivity, negative emotions 2. Children who have antisocial traits 3. Aggressive or psychopathic child 4. Children with borderline personality disorder (BPD) experience

No.	Researchers & Years	Title	Country	Age of the perpetrator	Research Methods & Instruments	Psychological Traits of Child Sexual Offenders
						instability in mood, self-image, and behavior or interpersonal instability.
8	Henshaw et al. (2018)	<i>Demographics, mental health, and offense characteristics of online child exploitation of material offenders: A comparison with contact-only and dual sexual offenders</i>	Melbourne	under 16 years	Quantitative with CEM measuring tools	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The child has antisocial traits 2. Children with sexual deviations
9	Sea & Beauregard (2017)	<i>The Hebephiliac: Pedophile or Teleiophiliac?</i>	Canada	11-14 years	Quantitative with PAI & PCL-R measuring tools	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The child has experienced neglect 2. The child has experienced physical abuse 3. The child has experienced sexual abuse before 4. Child has sexual deviation 5. Children exposed to pornography 6. Children who have a manipulative nature
10	Rochmah & Nuqul (2015)	<i>Psychological Dynamics of Child Sexual Offenders</i>	Indonesia	Under 18 years	Explorative Qualitative	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children with peer encouragement or support 2. Children with sexual urges 3. Children with broken family relationships
11	French & Neville (2012)	<i>Sexual Coercion Among Black and White Teenagers: Sexual Stereotypes and</i>	Columbia	14-19 years	Quantitative with SCI measuring tools	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children who are invited by adults to try sexual things or watch sexual things

No.	Researchers & Years	Title	Country	Age of the perpetrator	Research Methods & Instruments	Psychological Traits of Child Sexual Offenders
		<i>Psychobehavioral Correlates</i>				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Children who have major childhood trauma, experience various incidents of sexual coercion both verbally and physically. Children with alcohol or drugs
12	Waite et al. (2005)	<i>Juvenile Sex Offender Re-Arrest Rates for Sexual, Violent Nonsexual and Property Crimes:</i>	Virginia	Age 12-18 years	Quantitative with JSOs measuring tools	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Children with Aggression & Sexual Deviance Children who have antisocial and impulsive behavior Children with a history of previous sexual violence Children who have problems at school Children with a history of behavioral disorders

The results of the systematic literature review show that cases of sexual violence involving children as perpetrators have different characteristics from those involving adult perpetrators. Researchers from the journals reviewed conducted relevant research from the perspective of children as perpetrators of sexual violence. There are differences between children who commit sexual crimes and adult perpetrators. The psychological characteristics of children as perpetrators of sexual violence include unusual sexual attractions (Jiang et al., 2024; Fortunato et al. 2024; Henshaw et al., 2018; Sea & Beauregard, 2017; Rochmah & Nuqul, 2015; Waite, 2005), children with exposure to pornography from the internet (Jiang et al., 2024; Norman & Stephenson, 2024; Fortunato et al. 2024; Wijaya, 2021; Sea & Beauregard, 2017), the child has been a victim of sexual abuse or violence (Jiang et al., 2024; Fortunato et al. 2024; Norman & Stephenson, 2024; Sea & Beauregard, 2017; French & Neville, 2012; Waite, 2005), children invited by adults to try or watch sexual things (Turhan et al., 2024; French & Neville, 2012), children with sexual urges (Wijaya, 2021; Rochmah & Nuqul, 2015), children with alcohol/drug influence (Lawrence et al., 2024; Wijaya, 2021; French & Neville, 2012), children with negative affectivity/drive, impulsivity, and negative emotions (Fortunato et al. 2024; Turhan et al., 2024; Wijaya, 2021; Cardona et al., 2018), antisocial (Fortunato et al. 2024; Lawrence et al., 2024; Turhan et al., 2024; Cardona et al., 2018; Henshaw et al., 2018; Waite et al., 2005), children who have high aggression and psychopathic tendencies (Cardona et al., 2018; Waite et al., 2005), children with experiences of neglect and physical violence (Sea & Beauregard, 2017), children who have manipulative traits (Sea & Beauregard, 2017), children with cognitive distortions related to rape (Turhan et al., 2024), children with behavioral disorders (Turhan et al., 2024; Cardona et al., 2018; Waite et al., 2005), children who drop out of school and are frustrated (Wijaya, 2021), and children with broken families (Rochmah & Nuqul, 2015). The presentation of the results of this literature review can be seen more clearly in table.2 regarding the psychological characteristics of children as perpetrators of sexual violence.

Table 2. Psychological characteristics of child sexual offenders

No.	Psychological Characteristics of Child Sexual Offenders	References
1	Children who have unusual sexual interests	Jiang et al., 2024; Fortunato et al. 2024; Henshaw et al., 2018; Sea & Beauregard, 2017; Waite, 2005
2	Children with exposure to pornography from the internet	Jiang et al., 2024; Norman & Stephenson, 2024; Fortunato et al. 2024; Wijaya, 2021; Sea & Beauregard, 2017
3	Children who have been victims of sexual violence	Jiang et al., 2024; Fortunato et al. 2024; Norman & Stephenson, 2024; Sea & Beauregard, 2017; French & Neville, 2012; Waite, 2005
4	Children invited by adults to try sexual things or watch sexual things	Turhan et al., 2024; Wijaya, 2021; French & Neville, 2012
5	Children with alcohol/drug influence	Lawrence et al., 2024; Wijaya, 2021; French & Neville, 2012
6	Children with negative affectivity/drive, impulsivity, and negative emotions	Fortunato et al. 2024; Turhan et al., 2024; Wijaya, 2021; Cardona et al., 2018
7	Antisocial children	Fortunato et al. 2024; Lawrence et al., 2024; Turhan et al., 2024; Cardona et al., 2018; Henshaw et al., 2018; Waite et al., 2005
8	Children with high aggressiveness and psychopathic tendencies	Cardona et al., 2018; Waite et al., 2005
9	Children with experiences of neglect and physical abuse	Sea & Beauregard, 2017
10	Children who have manipulative traits	Sea & Beauregard, 2017
11	Children with cognitive distortions related to rape	Turhan et al., 2024
12	Children with behavioral disorders	Turhan et al., 2024; Cardona et al., 2018; Waite et al., 2005
13	Children with sexual urges	Wijaya, 2021; Rochmah & Nuqul, 2015
14	Children who drop out of school and are frustrated	Wijaya, 2021
15	Children who follow negative group behavior	Wijaya, 2021; Rochmah & Nuqul, 2015
16	Children with broken family	Rochmah & Nuqul, 2015

Based on the literature review of these journals, information was obtained that the psychological characteristics of perpetrators of sexual violence committed by children are slightly different from those of adult perpetrators. There are several characteristics that are typical of children, influenced by psychological immaturity and cognitive development, as well as problematic behavior experienced by children. Problematic behavior in children often appears with a combination of the three systems. The first is the trigger system, namely alcohol and drugs or exposure to pornography; the second is the environment, namely being perceived as socializing with antisocial peers, or bad experiences in the past about violence, sexual abuse, or being neglected; and the third is the personality system, such as impulsivity, aggressiveness, negative emotions, frustration caused by dropping out from school, or other personality disorders. This means that the emergence of problematic behavior in terms of sex can be caused or initiated by the use of alcohol and drugs by children, relationships with negative peer groups, and less family support, which then continues in relationships with antisocial peer communities, so that more complex problematic behavior arises until sexual violence occurs. Although, when analyzed carefully, this hierarchical developmental path seems consistent with the theory of

problematic behavior, alternative paths can occur simultaneously or in combination, so that the problem becomes more complex. Previous studies have shown that antisocial adolescent social networks can increase the risk of alcohol and drug use, which provides an opportunity to model aggressive behavior to potentially commit acts of sexual violence.

Problematic behavior, lack of understanding, and further consideration caused sexual violence. Problematic behavior is often considered a personality construct that has a negative impact on quality of life and subsequent decision-making. When connected to the theory of dangerous sexual behavior, namely sexual behavior that is not in accordance with the development shown by children or adolescents who are dangerous and aggressive are also influenced by the above factors. This problem can cause many losses in the future, not only for perpetrators but also for victims. Therefore, massive education is needed at the policy level that touches all levels of society so that cases of sexual violence can be suppressed, especially those involving children as perpetrators. Juvenile delinquency to the level of crime, in this case, sexual violence, when viewed from a sociological perspective, is caused by changes that occur as a result of interaction between humans. These interactions and changes cause changes in norms, values, behavior, and group patterns. This interaction not only occurs in the real world but also in cyberspace. The Internet is used as a means of satisfying desires, both positive and negative, which they cannot do in the real world. The Internet also provides access for children who are more exposed to pornography, which is one of the supporting factors for the occurrence of sexual violence. The important points that can be understood from this article are the characteristics of children as perpetrators of sexual violence, influenced by various interrelated and ongoing factors, and that children in their developmental stages need to receive intensive attention and guidance.

Conclusion

The literature review that was conducted based on reference journals provides an understanding that the characteristics of perpetrators of sexual violence committed by children differ slightly. There are several characteristics that are typical of children, influenced by psychological immaturity, cognitive development, and problematic behavior experienced by children. Especially for children who become perpetrators of sexual violence, they have a situation that does not support their healthy emotional and moral development. The different characteristics of perpetrators of sexual violence by children when viewed from a psychological perspective are influenced by many interrelated and ongoing factors. Problematic behavior in children emerges from a combination of three systems. The first is the trigger system, namely alcohol and illegal drugs or exposure to pornography; the second is the environmental system, namely being perceived as associating with antisocial peers or bad experiences in the past about violence, sexual abuse, or being neglected; and the third is the personality system, such as impulsivity, aggressiveness, negative emotions, or other personality disorders, resulting in dangerous sexual behavior or sexual violence committed by children. Therefore, children in their developmental stages need special attention from the people around them, family, friends, and society. Because of their psychological and hormonal instability, they need to obtain guidance from more mature people so that they have a deeper understanding. When comparing national and international journals, the characteristics of children as perpetrators of sexual violence have several similarities, but abroad, cases of sexual violence committed by children are more complex. This can be used as a lesson in Indonesia because in Indonesia, cases of sexual violence committed by children are relatively more conventional. Given the complexity of cases abroad, this can be used as a lesson so that more intensive prevention and assistance efforts can be carried out for children.

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