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## **The Influence of Mass Media and Friends' Association on Student Delinquency in Public Elementary School 1 Purbasari Purbalingga**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This study aims to investigate the impact of globalization on the declining character of children, focusing on the escalation of student delinquency influenced by mass media exposure and friendship dynamics among elementary school students. Employing a quantitative Cross-Sectional design and Total Sampling technique, data from 20 respondents were gathered through questionnaires and checklists to measure mass media consumption, friendship quality, and delinquent behavior. Statistical analyses, including the F-test and t-test, revealed that mass media exposure and friendship dynamics collectively accounted for 63.7% of the variance in student delinquency. These findings highlight the need for collaborative efforts between schools and parents to combat student delinquency, with implications for targeted interventions and educational initiatives to promote positive behavior among youth. Further research is warranted to explore the nuanced influences of mass media and friendships on student behavior and societal well-being.

**Keywords :** Mass Media, Friendship, Student Delinquency

### **INTRODUCTION**

Schools are a means to optimize children's education in Indonesia. Schools play a role in developing children's abilities both physically and mentally in order to give birth to a future generation of nations with good character (Limbong & Maharani, 2024). However, not all children have good character, many problems occur in the school environment, including in the Elementary School (SD) environment where teachers in educating encounter many obstacles (Sumani, 2019a). The problem that often arises in schools is the attitude of opposition and defiance by students both to teacher orders and violations of school rules.

Primary school-age children are known as a group age (Palikara, Castro-Kemp, Gaona, & Eirinaki, 2021). Children generally want to be accepted by their peers as part of the group. So children try to conform to the standards of the play group such as in terms of appearance, speaking style, and behavior. Relationships with playmates ultimately have a strong influence on the formation of character, traits, and social values (Handayani, Ghufon, & Kasiyun, 2020).

The influence of friends is associated with student delinquency that often occurs in the school environment (Susetyo, 2021). These delinquencies can be in the form of violations of school rules and even acts of violence. These forms of delinquency are an indication of the

deterioration of moral values as a result of rapid globalization. In order to be accepted as members of the group, students try to imitate the behaviors found in various mass media (Siregar, 2017).

Mass media in the increasingly diverse digitalization era is very attractive to students. The digital world makes it easy for children to find a place, atmosphere and environment that suits them (Herlina, 2019; Kyriacou & Khozim, 2021). Whereas elementary school children are categorized as the most vulnerable group to the media because they are considered unable to protect themselves from various world influences. Children are still in the cognitive development stage so they are not able to understand the correct logic of thinking so they cannot consider the cause and effect of an action (Siregar, 2017). The impact is that students now tend to put forward an attitude of indifference, rioting, and not showing a positive image as a student (Wahyudi et al., 2024).

Based on the researcher's observations, a situation was found where students dared to speak harshly and even insult and mock the teacher. Other forms of delinquency at SD Negeri 1 Purbasari include disrupting and being nosy during learning, not doing assignments, cheating, breaking rules, disobeying, skipping class, speaking harshly, bullying, fighting, vandalism, smoking, drinking, and stealing. Based on interviews with students, it is known that the cause of their delinquency is caused by boredom because they feel they cannot follow the lessons. Another cause is also due to imitating favorite shows on mass media, both television and gadget media. Students' negative behavior is also influenced by social friends so that they are accepted and recognized as members of the group.

Based on the above background, the authors are interested in conducting research related to the influence of mass media and friends' association on student delinquency. This study aims to determine the effect of mass media and friends' association on student delinquency at SD Negeri 1 Purbasari, Purbalingga.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

This study uses a quantitative research approach with a cross sectional design that examines the independent variables, namely the influence of mass media and friends' association with the dependent variable, namely student delinquent behavior. This research was conducted at SD Negeri 1 Purbasari Purbalingga with the Total Sampling technique, namely all populations were taken as samples with a total sample size of 20 students in class VI.

Data were collected using an instrument in the form of a Likert scale that has been validated, namely to measure the influence of mass media as many as 17 items, the influence of friends' association as many as 13 items, and student delinquent behavior as many as 19 items. The data analysis used in the study was multiple regression analysis which was carried out in two ways, namely through the F test and t test.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

This study has a response rate of 100% where all respondents as many as 20 students have responded and filled out the questionnaire completely. The following are the results of the research obtained:

### Respondent Characteristics

Based on the results of the study, it is known that the most respondents are male respondents as many as 12 (60%), while the number of female respondents is 8 (40%). It is known that the youngest respondent is at the age of 12 years as much as 12 (60%) and the oldest respondent is at the age of 14 years as much as 1 (5%). Most of the parents' jobs are laborers as many as 12 (60%). While most parents' income ranged less than 500,000 thousand, namely as many as 11 (55%). It was concluded that most respondents were male respondents where the age category of respondents was in the range of 12-14 years. While the average respondent's parents' income ranges less than 500,000 thousand with work is as a laborer.

**Table 1. Distribution of Respondents Based on Student Characteristics at SD Negeri 1 Purbasari**

Respondent Characteristics	F	%
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	12	60 %
Female	8	40 %
<b>Age</b>		
12	12	60 %
13	7	35 %
14	1	5 %
<b>Parent's Occupation</b>		
PNS/TNI/POLRI	1	5 %
Professionals (lawyers, doctors, accountants)	1	5 %
Merchants/entrepreneurs	6	30 %
Laborer	12	60 %
<b>Parents' Income</b>		
< 500.000	11	55 %

500.000 – 1.000.000	3	15 %
1.000.000 – 1.500.000	4	20 %
1.500.000 – 2.000.000	0	0 %
< 2.000.000	2	10 %
n = 20		

### Overview of Student Delinquency

Description of the level of student delinquency is based on hypothetical scores which are categorized into three groups, namely high, medium, and low categories. The results showed that there were 3 (15%) high categories, 10 (50%) medium categories, and 7 (35%) low categories. So it can be said that most of the delinquency is in the moderate category.

**Table 2. Distribution of Respondents Based on Level of Delinquency**

Categori	Skala	F	%
High	$X > 57$	3	15 %
Medium	$38 < x < 57$	10	50 %
Low	$X < 38$	7	35 %

Based on table 3. further explained the classification of delinquency based on characteristics, namely gender and age. High-category delinquency is found in 3 (15%) male respondents, while most female respondents are in the low delinquency category, as many as 7 (35%). In the age characteristics, the highest delinquency was found at the age of 12 years, as much as 2 (10%), and at the age of 14 years, as much as 1 (5%).

**Table 3. Distribution of Respondents Based on Classification of Delinquent Behavior**

Respondent Characteristics	High		Medium		Low	
	F	%	F	%	F	%
Gender						
Male	3	15 %	9	45 %	-	-
Female	-	-	1	5 %	7	35 %
Age						
12	2	10 %	5	25 %	6	30 %
13	-	-	5	25 %	1	5 %
14	1	5 %	-	-	-	-

**Table 4. Distribution of Respondents by Type of Delinquency**

Types of delinquency	F	%
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Neglect of duty	18	90 %
Bullying a friend	13	65 %
Teasing a friend	15	75 %
Lying	16	80 %
Skipping school	10	50 %
Not doing assignments	20	100 %
Damaging things	10	50 %
Saying dirty words	18	90 %
Difficult to control emotions	16	80 %
Disputing what parents say	10	50 %
Fighting	12	60 %
Riding a motorcycle	6	30 %
Dating	7	35 %
Smoking	9	45 %
Stealing	8	40 %
Drinking alcoholic beverages	4	20 %
n = 20		

Based on the results of the analysis obtained in table 4. it can be seen that there are many types of delinquency in students, including neglecting obligations, disturbing friends, mocking friends, lying, skipping school, not doing assignments, damaging goods (something), saying dirty, having difficulty controlling emotions, denying parents' words, fighting, riding motorbikes, dating, smoking, stealing, and drinking alcoholic beverages. While the majority of delinquencies committed by students are not doing assignments, neglecting obligations, saying dirty words, having difficulty controlling emotions, lying, and mocking friends.

#### **Overview of the Influence of Mass Media Use on Delinquency**

From the score calculation results, the minimum score is 17 - the maximum score is 68, with a mean value of 42.5 and a standard deviation value of 8.5. So that the variables are categorized into three categories as in the following table:

**Table 5. Distribution of Respondents based on Mass Media Usage**

Categori	Skala	F	%
High	$X > 51$	7	35 %
Medium	$34 < x < 51$	11	55 %
Low	$X < 34$	2	10 %

Based on the results of the study, it can be explained that the use of mass media is categorized as high as 7 (35%), 11 (55%) medium categories, and 2 (10%) low categories. So most of the use of mass media on respondents is categorized as moderate.

Meanwhile, based on the results of the t-test that has been carried out to measure the effect of mass media use on student delinquency, the sig value is obtained. 0.021, which means it is smaller than the significance level of 0.05. Meanwhile, the t count obtained a value of 2.550, which is greater than the t table of 2.110. So, it is concluded that the use of mass media has an influence on student delinquency.

### **Overview of the Influence of Friendship on Delinquency**

From the results of the score calculation, the minimum score is 13 - maximum 52 with a mean value of 32.5 and a standard deviation value of 6.5. So that the variables are categorized into three categories as in the following table:

**Table 6. Distribution of Respondents based on Friend Association**

Categori	Skala	F	%
High	$X > 39$	9	45 %
Medium	$26 < x < 39$	10	50 %
Low	$X < 26$	1	5 %

Based on the results of the study, it can be explained that the association of friends is categorized as high as 9 (45%), the medium category is 10 (50%), and the low category is 1 (5%). So the association of friends tends to be in the medium to high category.

Meanwhile, based on the results of the t test that has been carried out to measure the effect of friends' association on student delinquency, the sig value is obtained. 0.027 which means it is smaller than the significance level of 0.05. The t count obtained a value of 2.429, which is greater than the t table of 2.110. So it is concluded that friends' association has an influence on student delinquency.

### **Overview of the Influence of Mass Media and Friendship on Student Delinquency**

The results of the F test that was carried out to measure the effect of mass media and friends' association simultaneously on student delinquency obtained a sig value. 0.000 which means less than the significance level of 0.05. The F count obtained a value of 14,914, which is greater than the F table of 3.55. So it is concluded that there is an influence of mass media and friends' association on student delinquency. Meanwhile, based on the R Square value in the summary table of 0.637, which means that the effect of mass media and friends' association simultaneously on delinquency is 63.7%.

The results showed that delinquency in the moderate to high category was 13 students (65%) of which 12 students were male respondents from a total of 12 male respondents. While as many as 7 (35%) female students fall into the low category of delinquency from a total of 8 female respondents (Mambaâ, 2016). These results indicate that the majority of respondents who committed delinquency were male students because men have violent behavior and emotions that tend to be high, so some men will commit delinquency when they have problems both with friends and with family at home. Meanwhile, female respondents

have a tendency to delinquency in the low category, this is because girls have a lower level of aggressiveness than boys (Herdajani, n.d.).

The results showed that more than half of the respondents, namely 65% of students, committed delinquency in the moderate to high category. It can be said that student delinquency has exceeded the limit, where the tendency of students now does not show a positive image as a student. They are like individuals who do not recognize karma, manners, and ethics (Rahayu et al., 2023). Many students nowadays commit various forms of delinquency such as hiding friends' belongings, fighting, being crowded, like toys and not paying attention during learning, skipping school or missing school without information, being difficult to manage, asking for their friends' money, breaking rules at school, not wearing uniforms according to the day, being late for school, lying, and even smoking (Sumani, 2019b). In this study, it is also known that the majority of forms of delinquency that occur are not doing assignments, neglecting obligations, saying dirty words, having difficulty controlling emotions, lying, and mocking friends.

The study showed that 18 (90%) students were exposed to mass media in the moderate to high category. The t test also shows a sig value. 0.021 which means there is an influence of mass media on student delinquent behavior. This is in line with a study which states that mass media has created an increase in delinquent acts and even crimes (Bharagava, 2019). This can be understood because the media has a strong influence on behavior formation (Hidayatullah & Indana, 2022). Moreover, elementary school children are categorized as the most vulnerable group to the media because they are considered unable to protect themselves from various world influences. Children are still in the cognitive development stage so they are not yet able to understand the correct logic of thinking so they cannot consider the cause and effect of their actions (Herlina, 2019).

The results also show that 19 (95%) students fall into the medium to high category in terms of the level of association with friends. The t test also shows a sig value. 0.027, which means that there is an influence of friends' association on student delinquent behavior. This happens because elementary school students as a group age require them to prioritize friendship and follow the actions taken by their friends, even though the behavior of their friends tends to deviate. The actions taken by children arise because they want to be recognized and accepted by their social groups. In another study, it was stated that the intensity of time spent in socializing has a tendency to be more affected by peer influence (Kaiser, 2023). Weak personal morals will be more easily influenced by friends' delinquency.

Based on the research, it is also known that the intensity of students' gathering with social friends is quite high, this is because students play together with friends not only when they are at school. But it is done during the day after school and even at night. As many as 17 (85%) students are used to playing with their friends until the evening. Meanwhile, their social friends are not only peers but also with friends who are older than them as many as 17 (85%). So students are used to playing with teenage children. Where a study states that delinquency is a common thing done by adolescents, and the social environment has a strong



influence on the delinquency (Karlina, 2020). In this study, it is also known that some forms of delinquency are not commonly committed by elementary school students such as dirty talk, riding motorbikes, dating, smoking, stealing, and drinking alcoholic beverages. This can be triggered by the influence of association with more mature friends.

The results of the F test obtained a sig value. 0.000 which means less than the significance level of 0.05. So it is concluded that simultaneously there is an influence of mass media and friends' association on student delinquency. Meanwhile, based on the R Square value, it is known that the influence of mass media and friends' association is 63.7% on student delinquency. This proves that mass media and the association of friends have an impact on student behavior. So there needs to be a collaborative effort between the school and the parents of students. Teachers at school can take preventive measures, coaching, even reprimands and punishments. Meanwhile, parents at home can pay more attention to children's activities outside of school from access to the use of mass media to associations with their friends.

## CONCLUSION

The results showed that more than half of the respondents, namely 65% of students, committed delinquency in the moderate to high category. The majority of the delinquency was committed by 12 male respondents (60%) in the form of not doing assignments, neglecting obligations, saying dirty words, having difficulty controlling emotions, lying, and mocking friends. A total of 18 respondents (90%) were stated in the moderate to high category for the use of mass media. Meanwhile, as many as 19 respondents (95%) were stated to be in the moderate to high category for the association of friends. The statistical test results show that there is an influence of mass media and friends' association on student delinquency at SD Negeri 1 Purbasari (sig. 0.000).

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