

Enhancing Role of Family and Social Worker For Children with Disability

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Abstract:

Children with disabilities are faced with several problems. The series begins with the obligation of children to be able to accept and adjust to their disabilities, as well as the reaction of the surrounding environment. Children with disabilities in developing countries are also faced with a lack of social services and education that can be accessed, especially disabled children from poor families. Another problem for the poor is the father of mother's education is generally low, leading to a lack of knowledge of their parents and families in the care of children with disabilities, so that children with disabilities are neglected and cannot develop optimally (Tillie Curran, 2008). Unfavorable conditions that have to be faced by children with disabilities are low social support from family and environment around children.

This research is aimed to know exactly how the physical characteristics of children with disabilities and their families in one of the rural areas in the border city of Bandung. How family social support in the form of child care and how to support the environment and its implications for the development of children with physical disabilities. Researchers also analyze and find the right model to improve social support and family environment for children with physical disabilities. The highlight literature is focused related to disability problems, social support, systems theory to see the various systems that affect the condition of children with disabilities, The concept of person in environment in social work, the concept of ecological perspective and role theory.

The research methodology was qualitative approach, this type of action research with the aim not only to conduct research, but also to solve problems encountered in the field. The research was conducted on eight physically disabled children (7-13 years old). Another informant was the child's family and community social worker. The characteristic of physically disabled children consist of disability, speech and hearing disabilities with few multiple disabilities. Children belonging to poor families with children the whole family incomes below the minimum wage of West Java Province. Low parents education mostly elementary and only 1 person could reach high school.

Action research is done by developing a model of increased parents social support and environment with the hope of a positive implication on the development of children with physical disabilities. The substance model contains parents' capacity building in the care of physically disabled children, as well as improving environmental understanding of disability problems.

The results showed after the implementation of the model, parents social support is increased and Implications for the child's development appears on several aspects of the development. On physical development especially activity daily living (ADL). 7 children have been able to perform ADL and only 1 child who has not been able to perform ADL independently.

On children's cognitive development, the changes quite significant. Children who previously have not reached the aspects of cognitive development, after the application of model 7



children are able to achieve these aspects of cognitive development for his age. On emotional development, seven children have been able to achieve some satisfying emotional development as capable of displaying a normal emotion, good and bad conscience development and have the motivation. At the end of the age of the child, the child has achieved self-acceptance and positive self-concept. On social development, only 6 children who experience positive change, 2 children are not able to achieve significant change. Failure to achieve the optimal development of the two children after the implementation of the model can be predicted due to two significant obstacles before. Previous children not in school and at home were not getting the proper stimulus for development, so the delay progress far enough. Time in action research has not been sufficient to keep pace with the developments before.

Significant changes to the development of children can be affected by various factors that have collaborated in the action research. The role of the social worker as facilitator and mediator in the application of the model is very important as a central figure who can provide guidance and psychosocial approaches that fit the characteristics of the target.

The results of this research have implications for government policies related to disability issues. That the problems of disabled children in poor families are not just a question of basic needs such as food, education and health. Psychosocial condition problems of parents of a disabled child are also needs serious attention. Disabled child development is strongly influenced by the care provided by his parents. It was also influenced by the parents' support and also environments that enable children with disabilities to participate.

Recommendations to the relevant government policies and programs that can be run to the public:

1. The need to develop psychosocial support program for families with children with disabilities.
2. The need to develop community-based programs so that related to the characteristics and needs of the community.
3. The need for synergy program between the various agencies involved, so that the government would like the program puzzle sequence complementary to help especially the poor families with disabled children.
4. The need to increase programs to raise awareness and public understanding of disability problems, the rights of children with disabilities and participation opportunities that can be provided by the community.

Recommendations for the practice of social work in community :

1. Conducting participatory assessment.
2. Perform the action plans agreed with the target group.
3. Social workers can also run role activity and to facilitate the implementation of the model :
 - a. Evoking the spirit, motivation, stimulate and build commitment target group.
 - b. Build awareness their condition and beliefs to change for the better related to the development of their children.
 - c. Organizing the target and source systems can be invited to engage in the activity.
 - d. Using sources that are within the community itself, and social workers can build networking with government and non government agencies involved.

Keywords: Family Social Support, Social Workers and the Development of Child with Physical Disabilities.

