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Community Capacity in Providing Neighborhood Unit-Scale Social Infrastructure in Supporting Surakarta Child Friendly

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Abstract

The top-down approach cause the programs of child friendly social infrastructure development uncertain in its sustainability. This paper used scoring technique in identifying the neighborhood characteristics and community capacity in providing child friendly social infrastructure in Surakarta. The neighborhood characteristics were viewed from the provision of social infrastructure service capacity, then the community capacity was measured from the level of participation in the stage of development process. The results showed that the community had capacity in providing child friendly social infrastructure and its supporting facility, even though it could not entirely attend the level of degree of citizen power.

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Keywords: child friendly city; community capacity; neighborhood unit; social infrastructure; participation.

1. Introduction

City as community settlement with various ages must be able to fulfill the right of every single person in the community, including children (Joga, 2013). Nowadays, development mostly pays less attention to children right and focuses on economic interest. This phenomenon encouraged UNICEF through Habitat Conference II in 1996 in Istanbul, Turkey, introducing the concept of child friendly city initiative. This idea was responded by the government of Indonesia by Peraturan Menteri Pemberdayaan Perempuan dan Perlindungan Anak No. 11/2011 and No. 12/2011

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which regulates about child friendly city and the indicators. There are 31 indicators of child friendly city which consists of the part of institution strengthening and five clusters of children right, including the access toward social infrastructure which accommodates children's right.

In establishing the vision of Surakarta Child Friendly in 2016, the government of Surakarta implements child friendly social infrastructure, such as Child-friendly Puskesmas (Community Health Center), integrated posyandu, plus schools, inclusive education, education houses, and moving library (Bapermas Surakarta, 2013). However, the child friendly social infrastructure was only established in city and district level; therefore by considering the number of served children and the area of Surakarta, it was not reachable by all of the children everyday comfortably and safely (Putri, et. al., 2014).

City and the parts of it is one organism which relates each other as well as having functional limitation, so that every development in the smallest environment unit has a relation to the city development as a whole (Sujarto, 1976; Putri, 2012). Therefore, the development of child friendly city must be carried out not only in city level for supporting the city branding, but also empowering the community capacity in neighborhood level. The top-down development implementation without strengthening the community capacity causes uncertain sustainability of the program when the government faces the limited fund.

Neighborhood unit is a physical design concept of the smallest settlement environment which is considered ideal since it can fulfil the need of socio-psychology of its inhabitants, including children (Stein, 1923, in Golany, 1976). Neighborhood unit is considered as the smallest housing environment in which the physical bond is able to encourage the social bond among the inhabitants (Perry, 1929; Reiner, 1968: 60-62; Porteous, 1977: 72; Gallion, et al., 1986: 298; Chiara, et al, 1995: 207; McMillan, 2005), therefore they are potential subjects to actively involve in the provision of child frienfly social infrastructure in the smallest housing level, based on community participation. Neighborhood unit-scale social infrastructure consists of education (kindergarten, elementary school, children workshop/ informal education facility), health (posyandu and clinics), and socioculture (play ground, and park) (Chiara, et. al., 1995: 205-261; Kepmen PU 378/1987; Kepmen PU 20/1986; Permen Pemberdayaan Perempuan dan Perlindungan Anak 12/2011; Instruksi Walikota Surakarta No. 050/620). Child friendly social infrastructure must fulfil the criteria of serving capacity toward the number of citizen, comfort and secure access for children, and access for children with special needs (Chiara, et, al., 1995: 205-261; Kepmen PU 378/1987; Kepmen PU 20/1986; Riggio, 2012). Secure and comfort accessibility for children is elaborated through the fulfilment of the distance of social infrastructure with the farthest house which is affordable by the children walk, free from continue traffic, the separated track for vehicle and pedestrian, and the protection for the children while crossing the streets (Perry, 1929, in Reiner, 1968: 60-62, and Gallion, et al., 1986: 298; Chiara, et al, 1995: 207; McMillan, 2005).

Top-down concept in the provision of child friendly social infrastructure would not run optimally if it is not followed by community participation (bottom-up). Community basically has capacity in fulfilling the need of its members, including the provision of neighborhood unit-scale social infrastructure. Community involvement in the process of social infrastructure development can be applied in the stage of planning, implementation, and maintenance (Dusseldorp, 1981, in Euis, 2012; Tjokroamidjojo, 1996; Solihin, 2013; Putri, et.al., 2015). The community involvement can be measured based on the community power in influencing the planning including the phase of nonparticipation, degrees of tokenism and degrees of citizen power (Arnstein, 1969).

Based on the background, the problem formulation of this research emerged, "How much the community capacity in providing neighborhood unit-scale social infrastructure in supporting Surakarta child friendly seen from the level of participation?"

2. Methods

2.1. Identification of Neighborhood Unit Distribution in Surakarta

Neighborhood unit distribution is based on the criteria of elementary school serving radius 800 meters (size), the number of citizen 1500-5000 persons and physical boundary of arterial and collector roads (boundaries), and the scope

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