Implementation Of Child-Friendly City Policy In Karawang City, West Java: Supporting Early Childhood Creative Play Activities

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Abstract

Since the birth of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the resulting "A World Fit For Children", the world community began to work together to create a child-friendly environment. Indonesia issued the Child-Friendly Regency / City (KLA) program as a policy for each district / city in Indonesia to ensure that the fulfilment of children’s rights and protection is carried out in a planned and systematic manner to achieve a Child-Friendly Indonesia. One of the problems stated in the 2021 Karawang district RPJMD is that the implementation of KLA has not been optimized. Even so, Karawang City received an intermediate rank in KLA implementation in 2019. The purpose of this study is to see whether the implementation of KLA policies supports the implementation of creative play activities in Early Childhood Education. Using the literature review method, collecting data from various sources and interviews with employees of the Office of Empowerment and Protection and documentation, it can be concluded that the implementation of KLA in Karawang City is still being optimized both in budget priorities and also socialization of KLA to the wider community in Karawang City.

Key words: Policy Implementation, Karawang City, Child Friendly City

Introduction

Internationally, on November 20, 1989, the Convention on the Rights of the Child was approved by the UN General Assembly, which contains 10 Children's Rights that must be fulfilled and facilitated by the State. As a follow-up to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, on May 8, 2002, the 27th United National General Assembly for Special Section on Children produced "A World Fit for Children". The theme of "A World Fit for Children" suggests that children's problems are not just the problems of parents, families or a community but have become a global concern because it concerns the fate of the younger generation in the future. International strategic issues in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are one of the most important things in fulfilling children's rights globally. Broadly speaking, the Sustainable Development Goals have 17 goals, 169 targets and 220 indicators that are under the authority of the Regency.

The preparation of regional development planning in Karawang Regency is expected to be in line with the goals of sustainable development, as stated in the Regulation of the Minister of Home Affairs Number 7 of 2018 that in
order to maintain the sustainability of resources and ensure the safety, ability, welfare, quality of life of present and future generations, local governments prepare regional medium-term development plans with due regard to the principles and objectives of sustainable development. The guarantee of proper education for children is emphasized in the 10 points of commitment that have been agreed upon and must be implemented in the Word Fit For Children declaration, namely: Put Children First, Eradicate Poverty, Leave no child behind, Care for every child, Educate every child, Protect children from harm and exploitation, Protect children from war, Combat HIV/AIDS, Listen to children and ensure their participation, Protect the Earth for children (A World Fit for Children, UNICEF July 2).

From the 10 points above, the right to adequate education for all girls and boys should have access to education and should be able to complete free primary education of good quality as the first stone of a comprehensive basic education. Gender imbalances in primary and secondary education must be eliminated. This is done in order to realize a "child–friendly world" where all children have the best possible start in life and have access to quality basic education, including basic education that is compulsory and available to all levels of society.

As proof that the Indonesian State is concerned about the fulfilment of children's rights in life and proper education, ensuring that children are protected, respected, and their rights are fulfilled. Therefore, the issuance of Presidential Decree No. 36 of 1990 concerning the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the child, which was then transformed through the Child-Friendly City District (KLA) program, Child-Friendly Province (PROVILLA) towards Child-Friendly Indonesia (IDOLA). Through the KLA concept can be fulfilled. KLA is a district/city with a development system that guarantees the fulfilment of children’s rights and special protection of children, which is carried out in a planned manner, as outlined in the RPJMD, Renstra and RKAs of each city agency, comprehensive means that all parties in the district/city participate both from children, parents, families, community organizations, the business world and the mass media. Sustainable means that each district/city to develop this program must be bound by a Regional Regulation on KLA (KemenPPPA: 2000).

KLA is a child rights-based development system that integrates the commitment and resources of government, society and the business world, which is planned thoroughly and sustainably in policies, programs and activities to ensure the fulfilment of children’s rights and protection. Comprehensive and sustainable policies, programs and activities need to ensure the fulfilment of children’s rights and protection. Throughout Indonesia, by the end of 2016, 302 districts/cities have initiated to become Child-Friendly Districts. KemenPPPA explains that to develop KLA in each district/city, it must refer to 24 indicators of the fulfilment of children’s rights and protection, which are broadly reflected in 5 clusters of children’s rights, namely (1) Civil rights and freedoms; (2) Family Environment and Alternative Care; (3) Basic Health and Welfare; (4) Education, Utilization of Leisure Time and Cultural Activities; and (5) Special Protection for 15 categories of children.

KLA guarantees the fulfilment of children’s rights so that local governments/regents and mayors are obliged and responsible for implementing and supporting national policies in the implementation of child protection in the region. A Child-Friendly City District has:

- a. Facilities and infrastructure: play spaces, disability facilities, safe routes to school.
- b. Human resources: medical, teachers, social workers, security forces.

Whereas Article 22 of Law Number 35 of 2014, concerning Amendments to Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection. KLA development is not only the role of the government alone; Article 72 of Law Number 35 of 2014 explains that the community participates in Child Protection, both individually and in groups such as Child Protection Institutions, Social Welfare Institutions, Community Organizations, Educational Institutions, Mass Media and the Business World. Thus, to realize child-friendly districts/cities, it must focus on the optimal development system that guarantees the fulfilment of children’s rights and special protection of children, which is carried out in a planned, comprehensive, and sustainable manner.

Karawang Regency is located in the northern part of West Java Province and has an area of 1,913.71 km². Karawang is one of the areas that has fertile land in West Java, so most of the land is used for agriculture. Karawang Regency is traversed by a river that slopes to the north towards the Citarum River. It has 30 sub-districts, 297 villages and 12 urban villages (RKPD Kabupaten Karawang 2022). In 2021 the total population Karawang Regency reached 2,468.6 thousand people. The male population is 1,250,585 people, and the female population is 1,217,991 people. The total population aged 15 years and over in Karawang was 1,808,911. 64.19 per cent of them are in the labour force (both employed and openly unemployed), and the remaining 35.81 per cent are not in the labour force (i.e. the population who are attending school, taking care of households and others). The labour force participation rate, as shown in the figure below, in Karawang Regency in 2021 was 64.19 per cent, and the unemployment rate was 11.83 per cent.

Karawang has undergone an economic transformation from being a rice granary city to an industrial city surrounded by many large factories. As an industrial area city, Karawang is even one of the largest industrial areas in Southeast Asia, having a total of 1,762 factories, with details of 787 private factories, 269 PMDN, 638 PMA, and 58 joint venture companies (Nurlia et al.: 2022), so this city is an attraction for workers. In addition to many factories, in 2020, the Regency Minimum Wage / MSE in Karawang ranked first out of all regencies/cities in Indonesia. Karawang’s
MSE of IDR 4.59 million is higher than Bekasi City, Depok City and Surabaya City. The UMK nominal also exceeds the Provincial Minimum Wage / UMP DKI Jakarta, which only reaches Rp. 4.26 million. Even so, people’s purchasing power is more about household and housing matters, not personal development and education (BPS 2022).

In terms of Early Childhood Education, the mandatory 1-year PAUD movement before entering elementary school was launched in 2017, and in 2019, the Regent of Karawang won first place in the National PAUD Mother Appreciation National Level 2019 Criteria for Intermediate District / City Level. However, in Karawang Regent Regulation No 23 of 2021, it is not required to have a PAUD diploma or certificate in registering for elementary school.

Method

This study uses descriptive quantitative research methods. As mentioned by Sugiyono (2014: 7), the quantitative research method is a scientific approach that views reality as classifiable, concrete, observable, and measurable; the variable relationship is causal in nature, where the research data is in the form of numbers, and the analysis uses statistics. While this research uses descriptive research because it aims to find out the nature and in-depth relationship between the two variables by observing certain aspects more specifically to obtain data that is in accordance with the existing problems with the research objective.

Results and Discussion

Planning for Child Friendly City Districts in Karawang Regency

Based on Law Number 25 of 2004 concerning the National Development Planning System and Law Number 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Governments mandates that local governments are required to prepare a Regional Government Work Plan (RKPD) as an annual elaboration of the Regional Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMD), which contains a draft regional economic framework, regional development priorities, as well as work plans and funding for a period of 1 year prepared by referring to the Government Work Plan (RKP) and the National Strategic Program established by the Central Government.

Constitution Number 35 of 2014 is the basis for the development of Child-Friendly City Districts and is strengthened by Law Number 17 of 2016, namely in the:

a. Facilities and infrastructure: play spaces, disability facilities, safe routes to school.

b. Human resources: medical, teachers, social workers, security forces.

c. Section 24: The Local Government guarantees children to exercise their right to express their opinion in accordance with the age and intelligence level of the child.

d. Section 72: The role of the community in the implementation of child protection is carried out by providing information through socialization and education about children’s rights and laws and regulations concerning children.

In RPJMD 2021, Karawang Regency explains that the problems in the field of empowerment and protection are:

a. There is still a high level of violence against women and children including human trafficking

b. Not yet optimal implementation of the Child Friendly District

c. The quantity and quality of women’s and children’s protection institutions are not yet optimal.

In point b, the suboptimal implementation of the Child-Friendly City District can be a strategic issue in Karawang District. Based on the Minister of Home Affairs Regulation No. 86/2017, strategic issues are conditions/things that must be considered in regional development planning. The year 2022 is the second year of the implementation of the Karawang Regency RPJMD 2021–2026 period. The vision of the elected Regent and Deputy Regent for 2021–2024 is: "Realizing an Independent, Dignified and Prosperous Karawang".

There are many issues as well as challenges that must be faced by each district in developing Child-Friendly Cities, including equalizing the paradigm of children as the main part of development, basic data on children and ensuring that the views of the children’s forum are heard during the preparation and implementation of policies and programs. Thus, the service of children’s rights as one of the mandatory non-basic service affairs handed over by the government to district and city governments will be increasingly realized (Law Number 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Government).

The following are the development stages of the Child-Friendly City District:

The Regent of Karawang has issued a Regional Regulation of Karawang Regency Number 4 of 2016 on the Implementation of a Child-Friendly Regency consisting of 9 Chapters and 23 Articles with the following details:
a. General Provisions
b. Rights and Obligations of Children
c. Implementation of Child Friendly District in Karawang Regency
d. KLA institutions consisting of the Child Friendly District Task Force, Regional Child Protection Commission (KPAD), Integrated Service Center for Women and Children Empowerment, Regional Children’s Forum
e. Fulfillment of Children’s Rights in accordance with the 5 clusters of Child Friendly City District indicators, namely: Civil Rights and freedoms, Fulfillment of Family Environment and Alternative Care, Fulfillment of Basic Health and Welfare Rights, Fulfillment of Education Rights and utilization of leisure time and cultural activities, and Fulfillment of Special Protection Rights.
f. Obligations and Responsibilities of Institutions involved in KLA
g. Administrative Sanctions
h. Awards
  i. Provisions and Closing

Discussion

The Indonesian government appreciates development in the field of children in the form of Child-Friendly City Districts (KLA). Child–Friendly City District is a district/city that has a child rights–based development system through integrating the commitment and resources of government, community, business and media that are planned thoroughly and sustainably in policies, programs and activities to ensure the fulfilment of children's rights and special protection.

The Ministry of Women and Child Protection Empowerment (PPPA) 2009 has evaluated each district/city by holding a competition every year so that each district/city is enthusiastic about developing a Child–Friendly City District. Appreciation of KLA implementation in the region is given with five categories, namely:

a. Child Friendly City District
b. Utama
c. Nindya
d. Madya
e. Pratama

To determine which districts/cities can achieve each category, the Ministry of PPPA appoints a Child–Friendly City Evaluation Team that works to conduct an assessment based on 24 indicators of the 2017 Child–Friendly City District (Patilima: 2017).

In 2019, Karawang Regency received the Child–Friendly District award with the Pratama predicate, and the Karawang Regency Government (Pemkab) through the Office of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection (DP3A) was again honoured as an Intermediate category Child–Friendly District. as an Intermediate category Child–Friendly District in commemoration of National Children’s Day in 2021. while in 2022, no assessment was held because of the Covid pandemic 19. The following is the Evaluation Value of Child–Friendly Cities in Karawang Regency for 2016 – 2020:
Table 1. The Development Priorities of Karawang Regency in 2020 are aligned with the implementation of Mandatory Affairs (Basic Services and Non-Basic Services).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Achievement of Child Friendly Cities Evaluation Value</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>426</td>
<td>605.45</td>
<td>729.86</td>
<td>Not Held</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Percentage of Child Friendly Cities Indicator Values Fulfilled</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>57.51</td>
<td>60.55</td>
<td>72.98</td>
<td>Not Held</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Elective Affairs and Supporting Affairs, as stipulated in Law Number 23 of 2014, concerning Regional Government which includes: Education, Health, Public Works, Social, Public Housing and Settlement Areas, as well as Peace, Public Order and Community Protection.

The results of research summarized by Patimila: 2017 explain that the best urban environment for children is one that has the following characteristics:

a. The existence of a physically and socially strong community
b. The existence of a community that has clear and firm rules
c. The existence of a community that allows for the provision of opportunities to children
d. The availability of educational facilities that provide opportunities for children to learn and investigate their environment and world.

Furthermore, the Karawang Regency Government implements Article 13 paragraph (3) of the Karawang Regency Regional Regulation Number 4 of 2016 concerning the Implementation of a Child-Friendly Regency, which explains that the Regional Government is obliged to provide facilities to fulfil the rights to education, utilization of leisure time and cultural activities in the form of:

a. Facilitating learning groups for children with special needs (inclusive learning)
b. Maximizing skills-based learning
c. Provide facilities to hone and improve children's talent, attention and creativity in the fields of arts, culture and sports, including city courtyards, playgrounds, arts buildings and sports arenas.
d. Provide convenient traffic expedition infrastructure such as School Safety Zones (ZoSS), School Zebras and Student Transportation and School Police.
e. Realizing child-friendly schools at every level of education
f. Facilitate school dropouts in open schools or non-formal learning units
g. Distributing awards to outstanding students in academics, cultural arts and sports

Produce policies in the implementation of learning and produce policies and supervision so that the implementation of the participant orientation period is carried out educationally and without violence.

Conclusion

Recommendations that can be submitted are: 1) Stakeholders involved as partners in the development of Child-Friendly City Districts must equalize perceptions or paradigms about 'Children', provide accurate data about children and consider input and views from communities or children's forums in the community. 2) More intensive socialization related to the Child-Friendly City District program carried out by the Integrated Service Center for Women and Children Empowerment (P2TP2A) and the Karawang Regency Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (DP3A). 3) Immediately realize the discourse on the "Si Pelapor" application, which is an application program that can be utilized by the community in the event of crimes against children, both physical and psychological. 4) Optimize mental consultation services for both children and parents at telephone number 119 ext eight as well as services for complaints and consultations can contact Phone Sahabat Anak at number 129.

References


Peraturan Bupati Karawang Nomor 6 Tahun 2019 Tentang Perlindungan Anak