

Stigma And Social Community Discrimination Against PLHIV In Ujung Bulu District

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ABSTRACT

Human immunodeficiency virus, it can be interpreted that this virus can only infect humans, in other words that these cells are able to reproduce on their own in the human body so that it can cause the human immune system to decrease. *Acquired is* defined as being transmitted from person to person, then *immune* means damaging the human immune system, while *deficiency* means reduced or decreased, *syndrome* defined as people with AIDS who suffer from opportunistic infections and other infections. Stigma is an attribute, behavior, opinion, and negative response given to someone. Discrimination is a form of prejudice, behavior, which distinguishes a person because he or she comes from a different social identity (religion, ethnicity, race, gender, and social orientation), because of this difference the person is treated badly. The purpose of this study is to find out the stigma and discrimination given by the community to PLWHA in the district. The tip of the kab. Bulukumba. This research method uses a qualitative research design with a *phenomenological* approach, six participants were selected according to the criteria and recorded during the interview process using a structured interview guide, then an interview transcript was made, and analyzed using *thematic analysis*. The results of this study obtained three themes, namely (1) Stigma of politeness (2) Stigma of structural (3) Discrimination. There are 3 themes found in this study. It is hoped that the community will be able to provide enthusiasm and support for both the patient and the patient's family.

Keywords: Stigma, discrimination, social society, PLWHA

INTRODUCTION

Cases of infection caused by HIV tend to increase every year, while cases of AIDS itself tend to be stable. Global conditions related to HIV there are 35 million people in the world living with HIV, then there are 19 million people who do not know they have HIV (*InfoDatin-HIV-AIDS-01.Pdf*). The prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the world is evidenced by data from UNAIDS in 2020 which notes that the number of people living

with HIV is 38.0 million cases, then new patients infected with the HIV virus in 2019 were 1.7 million cases, and patients who died of HIV. in 2019 there were 690,000 cases, East and South African countries were the countries with the highest number of HIV sufferers with 20.7 million cases of adults and children infected with HIV, adults and children newly infected with HIV in 2019 as many as 730,000 , and patients who died as many as 300,000 cases (*UNAIDS*, 2020).

The prevalence of HIV/AIDS in Indonesia according to data from the national directorate general of P2P in 2017 amounted to 48,300 cases for AIDS totaling 10,488 cases, in 2018 the number of HIV sufferers was 46,650 cases, AIDS sufferers were 10,190, and for 2019 data, HIV sufferers were 50,282, and 7,036 AIDS cases. For HIV cases in the province of South Sulawesi, there are 1,537 cases (Infodatin Ministry of Health RI, 2020). In addition, HIV/AIDS is spread in several areas in Indonesia, especially in Bulukumba Regency as evidenced by data obtained from the district health office. Bulukumba that the number of HIV sufferers from 2019-2020 has decreased where for HIV cases in the district. Bulukumba in 2019 amounted to 67 people, while in 2020 it was 40 people. One of the inhibiting factors for controlling HIV/AIDS is the high or high amount of stigma given by the community to PLWHA.

Where stigma is a trait that connects HIV/AIDS sufferers with negative values or traits obtained from society. As many as 50% of women and men experience stigma and inappropriate treatment related to their HIV/AIDS disease. A number of household surveys reported widespread stigmatizing attitudes towards PLWHA among the general population in all samples studied in different settings such as China, US, Hong Kong, South Africa, Jamaica, Brazil, Nigeria, Thailand, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Burkina Faso, Zambia, and Ghana. In Indonesia, there are about 62.8% of women and men giving stigma to PLWHA in various forms (Asra, 2019).

One of them is that stigma will result in discriminatory attitudes towards PLWHA, causing the spread of HIV/AIDS to be more widespread. There are several studies conducted related to community stigma in several countries, one of which is the research conducted by Ullah and Ki-moon in 2011 which showed that 80% of nurses and 90% of doctors gave stigma and discrimination to HIV/AIDS patients. This study shows that one of the forms of stigma given is that they talk far from the patient. Interestingly, even though doctors know very well about the route of transmission, they do not believe it and will continue to stigmatize it. HIV-related stigma

remains a barrier to effectively combating this pandemic. Fear of discrimination often prevents people from seeking treatment in public. The stigma attached to people living with HIV / AIDS can extend to the next generation, so that it can cause an emotional burden on the family (Ullah & Ki-moon, 2011).

To see the incidence of stigma and discrimination given by the community to PLWHA, the researchers conducted an initial survey of several communities related to their views on PLWHA. There were various responses, including people who gave negative views towards PLWHA even though they knew what HIV was and how it was transmitted, then other communities encountered stigmatized them because their understanding of HIV/AIDS was still lacking. Based on the description of the data and problems above, the researchers are interested in conducting research related to "social community stigma against PLWHA in the district. The tip of the kab. Bulukumba in 2021"

METHODS

This study uses a qualitative method, with a *phenomenological* approach. Where the qualitative method is a method that focuses on describing and understanding phenomena (concepts) socially based on the perspective of individuals who have experience in the social world (Dharma, 2011). In (Whitehead, 2013) said that the minimum amount of qualitative research depends on the research design used. As in phenomenological research, the sample size is around 6-10 participants. So that in this study the number of samples planned at least 6 people. *Purposive sampling* in this research is the determination of the sample is still temporary, and will develop after researchers in the field (Sugiyono, 2010). The research instrument is the researcher himself (Sugiyono, 2010). With the help of a recorder, camera, and recording device (Siyoto, S., & Sodik, 2015).

This study uses a structured interview method where during the interview process using an interview guide that only contains an outline of the questions to be asked (Siyoto, S., & Sodik, 2015).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The community that became participants in this study consisted of 6 people consisting only of the female gender. The easiest age is 22 years and the oldest age is 50 years. This study found 3 themes using *thematic analysis*.

Theme 1: Stigma of decency

Stigma of decency is a social punishment for people related to HIV/AIDS issues or people who are HIV positive, stigma to PLWHA is often expressed in one or more stigmas, especially those related to homosexuality, prostitutes, and injection drug users (Lama et al., 2015).

The following are statements made by participants:

a. P1

Thank God I don't, I mean I actually feel sorry for people like that... yes, maybe because of the factor of how I have been lacking since I was little..

b. P2

"For example, my response to people with HIV must be negative, there is no term pity. Because if you feel sorry.... I'm really sorry, but I think I'm more negative because of this,,,,, "

c. P3

" Yeah,,,ehhh,,we'll see what kind of condition he is in, let's see what his condition is, we can't either ehhe...convicting people that he was affected by this because ehhe because of sex or do we have to find out first why he was infected this disease,,,"mother will talk badly about them or not",,depends on who she is and how she is if she really is like ehhe.... He's a sexual colonizer, maybe, well, maybe that's how it is,, he will definitely talk but well, we should be quiet rather than spit on people's disgrace"

d. P4

" Honestly, personally, I'm afraid, if someone can get sick, then they want to share it again, if we can, we shouldn't let people disgrace because this is a big disgrace, I'm sorry... "

e. P5

"Ehh, at first, you must have told a bad story first because it was known that people because of HIV disease said that at first it was from, saying like from always changing partners, people using illegal things like that,, for sure if you are new to HIV, you must have a bad mind - bad first appeared, why did you always end up like this before, like it like this, use this, use this, mutually change partners like this so it must have been bad at first unless "

f. P6

" I want to say it's bad, how is it because the transmission is bad, some don't want it because it's like a blood transfusion, for example, this patient doesn't know that the blood that is being transfused to him is from someone who has AIDS, so it depends on how his condition is. ,,"

From the results of the interviews above, it can be concluded that of the 6 participants, there were 4 participants who gave bad responses or negative responses about PLWHA, namely participant 2, participant 3, participant 5 and participant 6. 66% percent gave the stigma of politeness to PLWHA, namely a bad or negative response to people suffering from HIV/AIDS.

As it is known that the stigma of decency can be in the form of a negative response or response from the community to PLWHA. So this research is in line with research conducted by (Puspita et al., 2017) which shows that there is a symbolic stigma, instrumental stigma, and a stigma of decency/social punishment in the village of Menang, Pagu District. The stigma of politeness given to sufferers consists of several forms. Another form of decency stigma given by the community to sufferers is in the form of exclusion from the community, then it is considered bad and seen as negative because it is considered to have a bad impact on children or people around them (Islam et al., 2016).

Theme 2: Structural Stigma

Structural stigma is a form of stigma that is given to the community such as not being given a job, or not being given the opportunity to receive a proper education like other people according to (Gaebel, 2017).

The following are statements made by several participants:

a. P1

"In my opinion, I'm not good at school, don't you have anything else at school, but as a parent, you have to keep an eye on your child for fear of this?"

b. P2

"In my opinion, you don't have to go to school, it's better if you don't go to school anyway,, some say it's home schooling, it's better for the teacher to come because if for example he comes to school, eeee..."

c. P3

"Ehhhh,, yes, you shouldn't have to, because it will endanger other children. The government must pay attention, ehhhh,, sufferers like this must be paid attention to,, so ehhhh,, maybe the government knows what steps they are taking to their children. this is because this will cause fear to the parents of the students who are there, yes maybe, maybe in a few days maybe not but the names of children when they play automatically they don't care anymore who they are, right..."

d. P4

"If that's the case, we don't have the same authority over people with HIV, we don't have the authority to prohibit or how I feel, leave it to the school, which is clear that we are trying to take care of the children, because what I heard that sufferers are so avoided and this I also don't know." Do you know if it was us who ostracized the sufferer that was wrong or how we also went awry..."

e. P5

"But it's better if there is a school that is indeed provided for children with HIV, the good thing is that there are only schooled"

f. P6

"Well, the name is a person, yes, there must be misgivings but maybe from that perspective we as parents might be able to give understanding to the child so that the child also understands to be able to keep a distance or eh hh avoid things that allow transmission"

From interviews conducted by researchers, it was found that 3 out of 6 participants gave stigma. From the results of this study, it can be concluded that 3 participants or 50% of participants gave stigma in a structural form. The form of stigma given by participants in this study is not allowing children with sufferers to go to school with children who are not sufferers. The results of the study (Baroya, 2017) also show that female teachers with HIV+ are less acceptable to the general public to continue teaching even though they are not sick. In addition to the work environment, PLWHA also get bad treatment from the surrounding environment, in line with research conducted by (Sugiharti et al., 2020), that children suffering from HIV/AIDS get bad treatment and stigma from the surrounding environment, school, family, and health care workers.

Theme 3: Discrimination

Discrimination is a form of treatment that distinguishes a person from others because they come from a certain group, or community that can cause adverse effects both physically and mentally (Cressman et al., 2020).

The following is a statement given by the participant:

a. P1

Well maybe not at all,,, because instead of being afraid,, it's a natural problem after all,,

b. P2

"It's better to have five there, but the food I buy has to be packaged so that it's more hygienic, so that it's guaranteed to be healthy.... "But if it's food that he makes himself?",,, I won't buy for sure even though I say I know I don't say it's not through, it's only through blood, but be careful because we know people don't get sick, it must be guaranteed...

c. P3

"ehhh, it's not like that, well, ehhhh, there are still many other places like that," even though the food sold is from the factory and in packaging, mom still won't buy it?? "Well, maybe it won't be touched, it will automatically be touched, so eh hh,,, he will definitely hold it, even though it's a small possibility, but what we call a virus, it's better to take care of it..."

d. P4

"But if there is a feeling of fear, it may be avoided, but the intention is to avoid it subtly, don't let it offend you,"

e. P5

"If it's like mixed goods, after all, it's already been packaged from the factory, so I'll buy it, but if he really wants to think twice, because he's in direct contact anyway,"

f. P6

"Emmm, maybe it's safer to find another place, if I know he's a patient because who knows what kind of food he knows when he's processing his hand, does it cut and the blood keeps dripping, now that could be a way for transmission, so it's better to buy it elsewhere "If it's already packed, you can still buy it because it's less likely to get infected anyway"

Based on the results of interviews conducted, data obtained that all respondents discriminated against participants. Then based on the results of observations made by researchers, that participant who is a neighbor of PLWHA does not want to buy food sold by sufferers, and prefers to go to another place. So, in this study it can be concluded that all respondents, namely 6 participants (100%) who were interviewed and observed gave discrimination or gave different treatment to PLWHA. So in this study in line with several studies conducted by several researchers.

One of the studies conducted by (Lestari, 2016) that discrimination is a form of disappearance for PLWHA such as loss and rejection in work, as well as rejection of health services. Another study that is in line with this research is research (Baroya, 2017) that most respondents (81.4%) stated that they would not buy food if they knew the seller was an HIV/AIDS sufferer. This research is the case with research conducted by (Puspita et al., 2017) showing the results that people still have a fear of buying food sold by people with HIV-AIDS.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the research that has been done about community stigma against PLWHA in Kec. Ujung Bulu can be concluded that society gives stigma in the form of structural stigma and stigma of decency. As well as discriminating against PLWHA in the form of people not buying food sold by people with HIV/AIDS. Researchers suggest for further research with phenomenology to explore more answers from respondents when conducting interviews, especially for qualitative researchers. And the community is able to provide encouragement and support both to the sufferer, or to the patient's family.

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