

The turbulence of drug trafficking among the elite

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ABSTRACT

Sidenreng Rappang Regency is the largest rice-producing area or rice barn and then this positive stigma shifted to being called a drug producer or drug barn which became one of the centers of drug trafficking in South Sulawesi Province. This research is a qualitative research that aims to find out the network pattern that allows for an increase in network cases which are the center of network operations and the mode of network operation in capturing drug abuse. The snowball sampling technique is a sampling method in which samples are obtained through a rolling and multilevel process, from one individual to another. The research location is focused on Baranti sub-district, Sidenreng Rappang district with the consideration that this area is a red zone. The results showed that there was an increase in the number of drug cases and the mode of operation of the network was highly structured and there was a positive response from the government from all components in Sidenreng Rappang.

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INTRODUCTION

Sidenreng Rappang Regency is currently very alarming, because Sidenreng Rappang Regency used to be known as the Rice Barn Area, recently this positive stigma has shifted and is now better known as a drug barn which is one of the centers of drug trafficking in South Sulawesi (Pannyiwi et al., 2020). As a good citizen and responsible for the formation of awareness from the community, both for parents and adolescents, so as not to educate and approach promiscuity and invite all components of the Sidenreng Rappang Regency community to help the Government and the Police to eradicate drug trafficking, because if this continues, the Sidenreng Rappang Regency icon as a Rice Barn can turn into a drug barn. So we hope that the entire social community of Sidenreng Rappang Regency, parents, and teenagers who are critical of the situation and conditions of outside life, in the community, and free life are always changing. The world of teenagers is very vulnerable to promiscuity (Verina et al., 2023). Because they are too free, their daily activities are

often uncontrolled, If this continues it is not impossible that many negative things will happen to them. One of them is falling into the world of drug abuse (Lukman et al., 2021; Patimah & Herlambang, 2021; Zahara et al., 2020).

The case of Civil Society (Youth Leaders) drug offenders who were arrested in Sidrap Regency. Four drug offenders in Sidrap Regency were arrested by the local police. The disclosure of this case began when the Sidrap Police Drug Unit arrested the first perpetrator, Hatta Bin Pandu (39), who lives on Andi Haseng Street, Pangkajene Village, Maritengngae District, Sidrap Regency, then on Pelita Street, Panreng Village, Baranti District, Sidrap Regency, three other perpetrators, Ansar Bin Laemba (25), Herman Bin Abdul Rahman (42) and Sewang Bin Mallu were also arrested. The three were arrested at the house of the perpetrator, Ansar Bin Laemba on Jalan Pesantren Timur, Benteng Village, Baranti District, Sidrap Regency. The case of an unscrupulous civil servant (PNS). "The unscrupulous civil servant is listed as an unscrupulous civil servant. He was arrested in front of SMKN 2 Sidenreng with two of his colleagues," said Sidrap Police Chief, AKBP Anggi Naufal Siregar, at Sidrap Police Headquarters, Jl Bau Massepe, Maritengngae District, Sidrap. Thirteen of the 16 drug offenders have been named as suspects (Nurhaedah et al., 2023).

In the case of the Sidrap legislator, the National Narcotics Agency (BNN) of South Sulawesi Province arrested a member of the Sidrap Regional People's Representative Council at a cafe in Watang Pulu Subdistrict, Sidrap Regency, Wednesday, July 29, 2015. Based on information, the smuggled Sidrap legislator is Azis Laseda, 43, from the Gerindra Party. He is allegedly a methamphetamine drug dealer and user. The Sidrap legislator was arrested along with six other suspected perpetrators. Among them, two men, namely Arhan Wasad, 39 years old and Asri Sabir, 35 years old. Furthermore, the four women who were also secured were Ratna Syam, 31 years old, Juliyanti Sondak (28), Etry Palaenzi (23), and Suriyani Adam (28). They are self-employed and cafe employees at the location of the arrest.

It is a law that political elites have power or influence over political life so that when talking about political elites, the discussion will also not be separated from power and influence (Juraev & Ortikova, 2021). The concept put forward by Laswell and Kaplan is the concept most often used as a foothold in distinguishing power and influence. It is said that power is a person's ability to influence others to do something that if not done can be sanctioned (Kovach, 2020). Power is a special form of influence, while influence is the main concept of power so that what distinguishes power from influence is the sanctions that can be imposed by those who have power but not those who have influence (Anglin et al., 2018; Nordesjö & Fred, 2021; Siregar, 2021).

Vilfredo Pareto (1848-1923) used the word elite to explain the inequality of individual qualities in every sphere of social life (Bottomore, 1996). Pareto believed that every society is ruled by a small group of people who possess the qualities necessary for their lives at full social and political power. Those who can reach the center of power are always the best. They are known as the elite. Elites are people who manage to occupy high positions in society. Furthermore, Pareto in Bottomore (1996) divides the elite class into two classes: (a). The governing elite, Individuals who directly or indirectly play a major role in government a major role in government. (b). Non-governing elite (Burke & Stephens, 2018; Lasswell, 2017; Yack, 2023).

In society there are two layers, a low layer and a high layer which are divided into two, the governing elite and the non-governing elite (Nagareksa, 2023; Rochmiatun, 2018). Not much different from Pareto, Gaetano Mosca (1858-1941) gave the idea of the elite that in all societies there are always two classes, namely the ruling class and the ruled class. The ruling class is smaller in number, performs all political functions, monopolizes power, and enjoys privileges (Kambo, 2022; Maliki, 2018; Rumi, 2019).

By looking at the relationship between the state/government and the community in the development of rural communities that is not harmonious/balanced, it can be said that in this relationship there is domination. This domination is carried out by supra-village elites, both bureaucratic elites and political elites, who collaborate in establishing regulations or policies that

govern villages and their communities (Cikusin & Hadi, 2020; Lalu, 2021; Suryana, 2022). The dominance of the supravillage elite is what suppresses the village community, which has implications for community disempowerment (Nur et al., 2022). As a result, initiatives, creativity, innovation and community participation do not develop because all community roles are taken over by the state/government so that the state exercises hegemony over village communities. In Moeljarto Tjokrowinoto's view (2020), many functions that were traditionally the responsibility of the village were then taken over by the government. Hegemony is a form of control over certain groups using intellectual and moral leadership by consensus. This means that the hegemonized groups agree with the ideology of the ruler.

The existence of domination seen from the relationship between the state/government and the village community can be strengthened from Hegel's view. The view that the state is a representative of the general or public interest, while society only represents private and fragmented interests. Through the concept of dialectics, Hegel said that the state is the institution that best understands the will of individuals; the people do not know their will (SARI & SUDRAJAT, 2019; Zamroni, 2022).

This research presents a novel exploration into the dynamics of social and political elites, drug trafficking, and community empowerment within the context of Sidenreng Rappang Regency in South Sulawesi, Indonesia. It sheds light on the alarming transformation of the region from being renowned as a Rice Barn Area to being labeled as a hub for drug trafficking, illustrating the multifaceted challenges faced by its residents. By examining cases involving various individuals, including civil servants, legislators, and youth leaders, the research elucidates the intricate interplay between political influence, law enforcement, and societal well-being. Furthermore, it delves into the theoretical frameworks proposed by scholars such as Vilfredo Pareto, Gaetano Mosca, and Hegel, providing a comprehensive analysis of power dynamics and hegemonic structures within rural communities. The research also underscores the importance of community awareness and involvement in combating drug-related issues and advocating for meaningful change, thereby contributing valuable insights to both academic discourse and practical interventions aimed at fostering social resilience and empowerment in the face of complex socio-political challenges.

RESEARCH METHOD

The snowball sampling method is a sampling method in which samples are obtained through a rolling and multilevel process, from one individual to another (Leighton et al., 2021; Parker et al., 2019). This research is a type of Qualitative research with descriptive analysis (Doyle et al., 2020; Kyngäs, 2020; Seixas et al., 2018), the focus is on individual actions, so the approach taken is a case study of behavior in drug users among the elite.

1. This research was purposively set at the location of Sidenreng Rappang Regency. Data collection was obtained through direct interviews with respondents and then analyzed.
2. Observation, the data collected in this observation is the social condition of the informant.
3. Direct observation, the researcher makes direct observations of the living conditions and habits of the informants, also makes observations of written documents that have to do with the research.
4. Interview, the data collected in this technique is about the informant's perception of drugs and their impact on the health and economy of the family.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Based on data obtained from the South Sulawesi Regional Police of the Republic of Indonesia, Sidenreng Rappang Regency Resort, it is clear that there has been an increase in the number of drug abuse cases in Sidrap Regency as shown in the following table:

Table 1. Data on drug abuse cases in the last 4 years

No.	Year	Number of Cases	Number of Suspects	Description
1.	2015	82 Cases	109 Persons	-
2.	2016	111 Cases	149 Persons	-
3.	2017	140 Cases	197 Persons	-
4	2018 (July 31, 2018)	159 Cases	99 Persons	The Development Process

Source: South Sulawesi Regional Police of the Republic of Indonesia Sidenreng Rappang Resort, 2018

In the last four years, data on drug abuse cases in the South Sulawesi region, Sidenreng Rappang Resort shows a significantly increasing trend. In 2015, there were 82 cases involving 109 suspects, which then increased to 111 cases with 149 suspects in 2016. The upward trend continued in 2017 with 140 cases and 197 suspects. However, in 2018, the data shows a decrease in the number of cases to 159, although the number of suspects arrested dropped dramatically to only 99 people as of July 31, 2018. What factors led to the decline requires further analysis, but it can be concluded that the problem of drug abuse in the region remains a serious concern for the authorities.

Despite the decline in 2018, the data shows that drug abuse remains an issue of concern in the region. The arrest and handling of drug cases seems to have experienced obstacles or a change in strategy in 2018, especially seen from the significant decrease in the number of suspects arrested. This shows the importance of more effective prevention and prosecution efforts in addressing this issue. In addition, this data can also serve as a reference for authorities to evaluate and improve strategies for handling drug cases in the future to minimize the adverse impact on society.

The table above shows that the level of drug abuse is increasing from year to year. The assumption is that drug trafficking is not decreasing, but increasing because Indonesia has a large market share to support narcotic, psychotropic, and addictive substance (NAPZA) businessmen and dealers. There are many cases of drug abuse that have been revealed, but many more cases are not revealed because they are well organized and there are people involved whose lives are devoted to the fertility of drug business actors in Indonesia.

Discussion

The data presented from the South Sulawesi Regional Police of the Republic of Indonesia sheds light on the concerning rise in drug abuse cases in Sidrap Regency over the past four years. Despite occasional fluctuations, the overall trend depicts a steady increase in both the number of cases and the individuals involved. While the decline observed in 2018 may provide a brief respite, it's evident that drug abuse remains a pervasive issue requiring urgent attention. The decrease in arrests in 2018 raises questions about the efficacy of law enforcement strategies and underscores the need for a comprehensive approach that combines prevention, prosecution, and rehabilitation efforts to combat this complex societal problem.

Moreover, the analysis alludes to broader systemic challenges, suggesting that the issue of drug abuse in Indonesia extends beyond mere law enforcement. The mention of a well-organized network involved in drug trafficking hints at the multifaceted nature of the problem, requiring a coordinated response from various sectors including law enforcement, healthcare, education, and community engagement. This data serves not only as a stark reminder of the gravity of the situation but also as a call to action for policymakers and stakeholders to collaborate on holistic solutions aimed at curbing the spread of drug abuse and mitigating its harmful impact on individuals and society as a whole.

CONCLUSION

Primary eradication is aimed at providing information and education to individuals, groups, communities or the wider community, where there are no visible signs of drug offenses, including alternative activities to prevent individuals, groups or communities from drug offenses and strengthen their ability to reject drugs. Secondary eradication, aimed at individuals, groups, communities or the wider community who are vulnerable to or have shown symptoms of drug-related crimes, through education and counseling to those who have dabbled in drug use, so that they stop and follow healthier behavior. Tertiary eradication, prevention aimed at those who have become habitual users or who have suffered from dependence, through treatment or rehabilitation and recovery services and services to prevent relapse. One limitation of the current research lies in its focus primarily on the societal and political dimensions of drug trafficking and community empowerment in Sidenreng Rappang Regency, without delving deeply into the specific strategies and effectiveness of primary, secondary, and tertiary eradication efforts in combating drug-related issues. Future research could address this gap by conducting a comprehensive evaluation of the implementation and impact of these eradication approaches within the local context. This could involve longitudinal studies tracking the outcomes of awareness campaigns, educational initiatives, counseling programs, and rehabilitation services on individuals and communities. Additionally, exploring the socio-cultural factors influencing drug use patterns and attitudes towards eradication efforts could provide valuable insights for designing more targeted and culturally sensitive interventions. Moreover, investigating the role of law enforcement agencies, healthcare providers, and community-based organizations in collaborative eradication strategies could offer practical recommendations for enhancing the synergy and effectiveness of multi-sectoral efforts in addressing drug trafficking and addiction in Sidenreng Rappang Regency and similar settings.

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