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FACTORS INFLUENCING IDEOLOGICAL RADICALIZATION AMONG YOUTH: A QUALITATIVE STUDY

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A B S T R A C T	A R T I C L E I N F O
<p>This study aims to identify and analyze factors that influence ideological radicalization among teenagers through a qualitative approach. Data was obtained through in-depth interviews and literature analysis to understand the experiences and perspectives of teenagers exposed to radicalization. The research results show that ideological radicalization is influenced by a number of interacting factors, including: Identity crisis and search for meaning, social and environmental influences, the role of social media and propaganda, extremist interpretations of religious teachings and political ideologies, negative life experiences, lack of critical education and media literacy. This research suggests a comprehensive prevention approach, including strengthening critical education, supportive school environments, training for teaching staff, monitoring online content, and promoting dialogue and tolerance.</p>	<p>Article History: <i>Received 29 Juni 2024</i> <i>Revised 1 July 2024</i> <i>Accepted 14 Juli 2024</i> <i>Available online 30 Juli 2024</i></p> <hr/> <p>Keywords: Radicalization, Ideology, Teenagers</p> <hr/> <p>To cite this paper (in APA style): M. Yuda Prayoga, et. al <i>International Journal Multidisciplines and The Development of Science</i></p>

INTRODUCTION

Ideological radicalization among teenagers is a complex phenomenon influenced by various factors. In qualitative studies, various aspects such as the social, psychological, political, and technological environments are often explored to understand how and why teenagers become radicalized.

Ideological radicalization is a process in which individuals or groups adopt extreme beliefs, views, and actions that conflict with prevailing social norms. Among adolescents, this process is often triggered by the search for identity, the need to feel belonging, and the desire to give meaning to their lives. Social, economic, political, and personal factors can accelerate this process, especially in contexts of rapid social change and political instability. The following is the background and factors that influence ideological radicalization among teenagers.

Family environment, disharmonious families, divorce, or domestic violence can make teenagers vulnerable to the influence of extreme ideologies. Parents or family members who have been radicalized can transmit extreme ideologies to teenagers. (Bjorgo, T. 2005: 71)

Social environment, friends and peer groups can play a significant role in influencing teenagers' attitudes and views. Radicalized groups can attract teenagers by offering a sense of community and purpose. Difficult economic conditions and a lack of job opportunities can leave teenagers feeling frustrated and looking for an outlet in radical ideologies that promise change. Social media platforms are often used by extremist groups to spread propaganda, recruit new members, and form virtual communities that support radicalization. Policies that are considered discriminatory or unfair towards certain groups can trigger radicalization as a form of protest or resistance. Political conflict, war, and instability in certain countries or regions can be a catalyst for radicalization. Extreme or radical interpretations of religion can attract teenagers who are looking for meaning and purpose in their lives. Mosques, churches, or other places of worship that promote extreme views may influence teenagers.

Adolescence is a period of searching for identity. Radical ideologies can offer a strong sense of purpose and identity. Teenagers who feel their lives are meaningless or have no purpose may be influenced by ideologies that offer clear meaning and direction.

In qualitative studies, data is usually collected through in-depth interviews, focused discussion groups, and participant observation. Researchers often conduct interviews with radicalized youth, their family members, educators, and community leaders to gain an in-depth understanding of the factors that influence radicalization.

Ideological radicalization among teenagers is the result of a complex interaction of various factors. Understanding these background and factors is critical to developing effective prevention strategies and interventions that can help reduce the risk of radicalization among youth. A holistic approach involving families, schools, communities and government policies is needed to address this problem.

METHOD

This research uses qualitative methods with literature (library research). The materials used in this research are books, journal articles, websites, and writings related to the research topic. This research also uses a sociological approach because it is social and dynamic, the discussion of an object is based on society as the object of study.

MethodThe approach used in this research is a qualitative descriptive method, the data collected is in the form of words, and not numbers. This is caused by the application of qualitative methods. (James P. Spradley, 1997: 12)

This analytical research is a continuation of descriptive research which aims to reveal events or symptoms that occur in the current situation. The data collection techniques used must be adjusted to the effectiveness of the data collection tools, the efficiency of data collection implementation, and the relevance of the techniques used to the type of method used.Kartono in 1995, page 170.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

A. Understanding Radicalization

Radicalization is the process by which a person or group becomes increasingly extreme in their views, attitudes and actions, often to the point of adopting ideologies that lead to violence or terrorism. The following is the definition of radicalization according to several experts: (Djelantik. S & Akbar. T. H, 2016: 61)

- 1) Arie W. Kruglanski: According to Kruglanski, radicalization is a process that involves the adoption of extreme ideas that can lead to violent acts. It is often triggered by feelings of injustice, relative deprivation, or a need for meaning and identity.
- 2) Edwin Bakker: Bakker defines radicalization as a journey in which an individual or group progresses toward extreme political, social, or religious views and, in some cases, is willing to support or use violence to achieve their goals.
- 3) John Horgan: According to Horgan, radicalization is a dynamic process in which a person becomes involved in and supports extremist violence. This process can be influenced by various factors, including psychological, social, and economic.
- 4) Randy Borum: Borum stated that radicalization is a developmental process that goes through stages in which individuals adopt extreme beliefs, which can then lead to acts of terrorism. Borum emphasizes the importance of contextual and individual factors in this process.
- 5) Tore Bjørgo: Tore Bjørgo identifies radicalization as the transformation of a person from having moderate to more extreme attitudes, which is often associated with increased involvement in extremist groups and support for violent acts.

These definitions show that radicalization is a complex process influenced by various factors, both internal and external, which push individuals or groups towards extreme views and actions.

B. Ideological Understanding

Ideological is a trait or characteristic related to or based on ideology. It is an adjective that describes something that is influenced by or reflects a particular ideology.

Ideology is a collection of ideas or belief systems that determine a person's view of the world, which includes political, economic, social and cultural aspects. The following are several definitions of ideology according to experts:

- 1) Karl Marx: Marx saw ideology as a set of ideas that reflect the interests of the dominant class. According to him, ideology functions to maintain the power and domination of the ruling class by covering up the reality of real social relations. (Febriane, S, & Mariamah, 2013: 70)
- 2) Antonio Gramsci: Gramsci developed the concept of "hegemony", indicating that ideology plays a role in maintaining control of the ruling class not only through violence or coercion, but also through consensus and persuasion, making the ideology of the dominant class accepted as normal by society.
- 3) Louis Althusser: Althusser argued that ideology is a system of representation that operates through the "ideological apparatus of the state" such as schools, families, media, and religion. According to him, ideology works by infiltrating individuals' consciousness so that they voluntarily accept and comply with existing norms.
- 4) Clifford Geertz: Geertz defines ideology as a system of symbols that functions to create social reality, providing meaning and direction for social action. Ideology helps individuals and groups understand the world around them and act in accordance with that understanding. (Garfinkel, R, 2007: 8)
- 5) Terry Eagleton: Eagleton describes ideology as ideas that justify and strengthen existing power structures. He emphasized that ideology operates at the cultural level and is often manifested in everyday practices and in the language used by society.
- 6) Daniel Bell: Bell viewed ideology as an attempt to provide a moral and rational basis for public policy. Ideology provides a framework for understanding and

responding to the challenges faced by society, although Bell also recognizes that ideology can be dogmatic and resistant to change.

These understandings show that ideology is a multifaceted concept and functions in a variety of ways, from creating and maintaining power to providing meaning and direction for the social actions of individuals and groups.

3. Understanding Teenagers

In Indonesian, the word "teen" comes from the word "raja" which means "noble" or "precious." In general, teenagers refer to individuals who are in the transition period from childhood to adulthood, usually between the ages of 12 and 18 years. This word reflects an important developmental period characterized by physical, emotional, and social changes. (Indrawan, J & Aji, M. P, 2019: 23)

Understanding Teenagers According to Experts.

- a) Stanley Hall: Stanley Hall was one of the pioneers in the study of adolescent development. He described adolescence as a period of "storm and stress," characterized by emotional fluctuations, conflict with parents, and risky behavior.
- b) Jean Piaget: Jean Piaget, a developmental psychologist, defined adolescence as a formal operational stage of cognitive development. At this stage, individuals begin to think abstractly, logically and systematically. Teens can formulate hypotheses and think about complex concepts.
- c) Erik Erikson: Erik Erikson, with his psychosocial theory, considered adolescence as a stage of identity vs. role confusion. During this period, teenagers search for their personal identity and develop self-awareness. Success in this stage leads to independence and a sense of integrity, while failure can lead to confusion about self-identity.
- d) Lawrence Kohlberg: Lawrence Kohlberg viewed adolescence in the context of moral development. According to him, teenagers begin to think about morality

in a more complex way, moving from a simple rule-based understanding to a more abstract and principled understanding of justice and human rights.

- e) David Elkind: David Elkind highlights the concept of "adolescent egocentrism," in which teenagers often feel that they are the center of attention and have an "imaginary audience." They may also believe in a "personal myth" that their experiences are unique and not understood by others. (Isnanto, S.H, 2018: 42)
- f) Hurlock: Elizabeth Hurlock defines adolescence as a transitional period involving biological, cognitive, and social changes. He emphasized the importance of guidance and support from adults in helping teenagers overcome the challenges of this time.

Overall, adolescence is a complex and dynamic period in human life, marked by various significant changes that affect physical, cognitive, emotional and social development. According to experts, the definition of adolescence provides deeper insight into the various aspects and challenges faced during this period.

C. Factors Influencing Ideological Radicalization Among Adolescents

The study of the factors that influence ideological radicalization among adolescents is an important effort to understand the complex dynamics that drive them toward extreme views and actions. This background can include various sociological, psychological and environmental aspects that contribute to the radicalization process.

Discussion

Social and Environmental Factors

Social and environmental factors play a significant role in influencing ideological radicalization among teenagers. Here are some of the main factors frequently identified:

Family: Families with extremist views or exposure to prolonged conflict may influence their children. Lack of attention and healthy communication within the family can also make teenagers look for identity and meaning outside the home. Lack of emotional support Adolescents who do not receive sufficient emotional support and attention from their families may seek identity and meaning outside the home, including in extremist ideologies. Violence and conflict in the family. Exposure to

domestic violence or prolonged conflict within the family can trigger trauma and emotional instability, making teenagers more vulnerable to radicalization.

Community and Social Environment: Living in marginalized neighborhoods or experiencing social and economic discrimination may make youth more vulnerable to extremist ideologies as a means of seeking justice or retribution.

Marginalized environments, teenagers who live in marginalized environments, where they experience social and economic discrimination, tend to feel they have no place in society. This can make them more vulnerable to ideologies that promise justice and retribution.

Exposure to violence and crime, living in an environment full of violence, crime, or social conflict can form a violent and extreme worldview in teenagers. Lack of Social and Economic Opportunities. Environments that do not provide adequate educational and employment opportunities can leave teenagers feeling frustrated and helpless, prompting them to seek radical solutions. (Horgan, J, 2008: 59)

Discrimination and marginalization, racial and ethnic discrimination, experiences of racial or ethnic discrimination can lead to feelings of anger and injustice, which extremist groups can exploit to attract new members. Social marginalization: feelings of not being accepted or marginalized by mainstream society can make teenagers seek acceptance and solidarity in extremist groups.

Peer Influence of Peer Groups with Extreme Views. Teenagers are greatly influenced by their peer group. If their friends hold radical views or are involved in extremist activities, they may be influenced to follow suit. The pressure to be accepted and part of a group can encourage teenagers to adopt extremist views and actions in order to feel accepted and valued in the group.

The influence of religious communities on religious groups with extreme interpretations. Some religious communities may promote extreme interpretations of religion, which may influence teens seeking meaning in life and moral certainty. Exclusive religious activities involvement in exclusive religious activities and

intolerance towards differences can strengthen extremist views and reduce openness to different views.

Media and information, social media plays a big role in spreading extremist ideology. Teenagers who are active on social media can easily be exposed to radical content and propaganda. News and traditional media's biased or sensational coverage of conflict and violence can reinforce extreme worldviews and polarization among youth.

Globalization and cultural change Rapid social changes resulting from globalization can cause uncertainty and dissatisfaction among teenagers, who may feel that their traditional values are threatened and seek radical ideologies as a way to maintain their identity. Rapid urbanization is often accompanied by increased anonymity and social isolation, which can make teenagers more vulnerable to extremist influence. (Horgan, J. & Braddock, K, 2010: 43)

These factors interact with each other and create conditions that allow ideological radicalization. By understanding these social and environmental factors, we can design more effective prevention and intervention strategies to protect youth from extremist influences. (Hwang, JC, Panggabean, R., & Fauzi, I. A, 2013: 12)

Economic Factors

Economic factors play a significant role in the process of ideological radicalization among teenagers. Poor economic conditions and instability can create an environment that facilitates the emergence of extreme ideologies. The following are several economic factors that influence the ideological radicalization of teenagers:

Poverty and unemployment, poor economic conditions can make teenagers feel hopeless and seek a way out through radical ideologies that promise change or material rewards. To fulfill basic needs such as food, shelter and education. This condition can make them vulnerable to the influence of extreme ideologies that promise to improve living conditions.

Social inequality, perceived economic and social injustice, can trigger anger and frustration, prompting teenagers to seek radical solutions. High levels of unemployment among teenagers can lead to feelings of helplessness and a lack of purpose in life. Radical groups often take advantage of this situation by offering

alternatives, such as the promise of employment or financial compensation as part of their organization. Even when jobs are available, if they are inadequate in terms of pay and working conditions, teenagers can feel dissatisfied and look for meaning and satisfaction elsewhere, including in extreme ideologies.

The stark inequality between rich and poor can give rise to feelings of injustice and hostility. Teenagers who feel they or their communities have been treated unfairly may seek justice through radical ideologies that promise social and economic change. Adolescents from lower economic groups often feel marginalized and unappreciated in society. These feelings can be exacerbated by existing discriminatory policies or practices.

A severe economic crisis can increase vulnerability to radicalization by worsening living conditions and reinforcing the narrative that the existing economic system is failing. Extremist groups often use economic crises to attract teenagers with promises of revolutionary solutions. (Khamdan. M, 2015: 31)

Teenagers who do not have access to support networks, such as government programs or social assistance, are more vulnerable to radicalization because they seek support elsewhere, including radical groups. Some extremist groups offer financial or material assistance as part of their recruitment strategy, attracting desperate youth in need of economic support.

Rapid urbanization often produces urban slums where teenagers live in difficult economic conditions. Life in overcrowded slums and a lack of basic facilities can encourage teenagers to join radical groups that promise to improve living conditions.

Several case studies show how economic factors contribute to radicalization. In Nigeria, Boko Haram succeeded in recruiting many young members from impoverished communities who felt neglected by the central government and the Egyptian state. Many young members of radical groups in Egypt come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, with little hope for economic advancement.

Economic factors such as poverty, unemployment, economic inequality, and economic crises play an important role in the ideological radicalization of teenagers. To address this problem, a comprehensive approach is needed that involves improving economic conditions, increasing educational and employment opportunities, and providing adequate support networks for youth. By reducing economic vulnerability, society can reduce the appeal of radical ideology among youth.

Psychological Factors

Search for Identity Adolescents are often in the search for identity stage. They may be attracted to extremist ideologies that offer a sense of belonging and purpose.

Trauma and experiences of violence Traumatic experiences or exposure to violence can make teenagers more easily influenced by radical ideologies that offer solutions or revenge.

Feelings of Alienation Feeling isolated or not accepted by mainstream society can make teenagers vulnerable to ideologies that promise acceptance and solidarity.

Identity crisis often makes teenagers look for meaning and purpose in their lives. Radicalization can provide a strong sense of identity and belonging. The need to feel important and meaningful can make teenagers vulnerable to radical invitations that offer a significant role in a struggle. So pressure from peers and social groups can influence teenagers to follow radical ideologies. Radical groups often provide community and a sense of brotherhood. Social media and the internet make it easier to spread radical ideology. Teenagers who spend a lot of time online are more susceptible to being exposed to and influenced by radical content. (Moghaddam, F. M, 2007: 86)

trauma, injustice, discrimination, or other negative life experiences can make teenagers feel angry and frustrated, making them more easily influenced by radical ideologies that offer solutions or revenge. Adolescents with a high sense of justice may be attracted to radical ideologies that appear to offer social and political justice. Teenagers who feel alienated or isolated from family, friends, or society tend to seek connection and support in radical groups. Mental health problems, such as depression and anxiety, can make teens more vulnerable to radical influences as they look for ways to cope with these negative feelings. (Mubarak. Z, 2012: 43)

Understanding these factors is important for developing effective prevention strategies to address radicalization among youth. A holistic approach involving families, schools and communities can help prevent radicalization by providing the support and guidance that youth need.

Education and Media Factors

A lack of education or education that promotes critical thinking can make teenagers more vulnerable to radical propaganda. Social media influence can be a tool to spread extremist ideology quickly and effectively. Teenagers who are active on social media can easily be exposed to radical content and online recruitment.

Factors of education and media that influence ideological radicalization in adolescents include several important aspects:

- a) **Unbalanced Curriculum:** A curriculum that does not teach the values of tolerance, diversity and criticism of various ideologies can make teenagers vulnerable to radical thinking. Education that does not provide a deep understanding of various cultures and religions can reinforce negative stereotypes and prejudice.
- b) **Lack of Critical Education:** Education that does not develop critical and analytical thinking skills makes it easier for teenagers to accept radical ideologies without questioning their validity or implications. Lack of learning to criticize the information received can increase vulnerability to radical propaganda.
- c) **Influence of Teachers and Educators:** Teachers or educators who hold extremist views can influence their students, especially if they are seen as trustworthy authorities. The attitudes and values taught by educators greatly influence the formation of adolescents' worldview.
- d) **Unconducive School Environment:** Schools that are unsafe, lacking in support, or filled with conflict can make teenagers feel alienated and seek belonging in

radical groups. An unhealthy educational environment can trigger feelings of frustration and anger.

Media Factors

- a) **Social Media Exposure***: Social media is the primary platform used by radical groups to recruit and spread their ideology. Social media algorithms often amplify extreme views by displaying content that fits existing beliefs, creating an echo chamber effect.
- b) **Online Propaganda**: Websites, videos, forums, and messaging apps are often used by radical groups to spread propaganda. This content can be designed professionally and target teenagers in an interesting way, such as using memes or videos that are entertaining but include radical messages. (Mubarak, MZ 2015: 17)
- c) **Sensational and Biased News**: Media that reports sensationally and biasedly about certain issues can influence teenagers' views of certain groups or ideologies. Excessive or unbalanced news can reinforce the “us versus them” narrative and increase polarization.
- d) **Unfair Media Representation**: Negative representations or stereotypes about certain groups in the media can fuel hatred and radicalization. Media that frequently depicts minorities or certain groups in a negative context can strengthen prejudice and justification for extreme ideologies.
- e) **Lack of Media Literacy**: Teenagers who are not equipped with media literacy skills may have difficulty differentiating between real news and hoaxes, or between information and propaganda. Low media literacy makes them more easily influenced by radical content.
- f) **Influencers and Idols**: Influencers or public figures who hold extremist views can influence their followers, especially teenagers who idolize them. Radical messages conveyed by figures they admire can be very impactful. (Noricks, D. 2009: 67)

To reduce the risk of radicalization through education and the media, several steps that can be taken include:

Strengthening Critical Education and Media Literacy. Teaches teens to think critically, evaluate information sources, and understand how social media and propaganda work. Developing an Inclusive Curriculum. Including lessons about tolerance, diversity and conflict resolution in the school curriculum. Training for Educators. Provide training to teachers and educational staff on how to detect and handle radicalization in schools. Monitoring and Regulation of Online Content. Encourage social media platforms to be more active in monitoring and removing radical content. Promoting Fair and Balanced Media. Support media that presents news in a balanced and fair manner to reduce stereotypes and prejudice. With a comprehensive and collaborative approach, the risk of ideological radicalization in adolescents can be minimized. (Priyanto. S, Dermawan M. K & Runturambi AJS 2020: 39)

Religious and Ideological Factors

Extreme Religious Interpretations Some teenagers may be exposed to extreme religious interpretations that encourage radical action. **Search for the Meaning of Life** Radical ideologies often offer a strong and clear meaning to life, something that may be felt to be lacking in their daily lives.

Factorreligious and ideological factors that influence ideological radicalization in adolescents include the following aspects:

Teenagers who are exposed to extremist or radical interpretations of certain religious teachings may become more susceptible to radicalization. This often involves a narrow and literal understanding of sacred texts used to justify violent acts. Charismatic religious or ideological figures can influence teenagers by promoting radical views and claiming that they have a true and pure understanding of a particular religion or ideology.

Teenagers who seek meaning and identity in religion may be more easily influenced by radical groups who offer simple explanations of the world and their role in it. Religious communities that are closed and emphasize total adherence to a

particular interpretation of religion can create an environment that supports radicalization. Feelings that their religious group is being treated unfairly or persecuted may make teenagers more receptive to radical ideologies that offer resistance or revenge.

Extreme and radical political ideologies have an impact on both the left and right spectrum, and can influence teenagers. These can include extreme nationalism, fascism, or radical communism that offers simple solutions to complex social and economic problems. Some ideologies and religious sects use apocalyptic narratives that depict the world in a final struggle between good and evil. Teenagers influenced by this worldview may feel they have an important role to play in this struggle.

So the feeling of injustice felt due to social and economic inequality can make teenagers more interested in radical ideologies that offer revolution or drastic changes to the status quo. Then global issues, such as international conflict and colonialism, can be used by radical groups to build an "us versus them" narrative, which strengthens group identity and justifies extreme actions. Some radical ideologies emphasize the value of self-sacrifice for a greater cause, which can appeal to teens seeking meaning and purpose in their lives. (Sahasrad. H & Al Chaidar, 2016: 22)

To overcome radicalization influenced by religious and ideological factors, a comprehensive approach is needed involving education, interfaith dialogue, psychological support, and strengthening positive social ties within the community.

Qualitative Study

Factors Influencing Ideological Radicalization Among Adolescents Conducting a qualitative study to understand the factors that influence ideological radicalization among youth involves in-depth and detailed methods to explore the experiences, motivations and social dynamics that play a role in the process. The following are the important steps and elements that can be followed in this qualitative study:

1. Qualitative Study Steps

- a) Determining Research Objectives: Determine specifically what you want to achieve from this research. For example, "Understanding the factors that encourage youth to engage in ideological radicalization."

- b) Choosing a Qualitative Approach: Choose an appropriate approach such as case study, phenomenology, or ethnography. (Sindi. HQ 2016: 12)
- c) Determining Population and Sample: Identify the group of youth to be studied, possibly including those who have been exposed to or involved in radical groups. Use purposive sampling or snowball sampling techniques to select participants.
- d) Collect Data: conduct semi-structured or in-depth interviews with youth, families, teachers and other relevant parties. Participant Observation: If possible, observe the social environment and their interactions. Document Analysis: Review documents, social media, and publications relevant to radicalization.
- e) Analyzing Data: Use thematic analysis to identify patterns, themes, and categories that emerge from the data. Triangulate data with multiple sources to increase the validity of findings.
- f) Organizing Findings: Arrange findings in a systematic report, including introduction, methodology, results, discussion and conclusions.

Factor-factors that influence ideological radicalization among teenagers, ideological radicalization among teenagers is a complex phenomenon that is influenced by various interacting factors. Prevention and intervention efforts require a holistic approach, involving families, communities, educational institutions, and government policies that support social inclusion, educational access, and fair economic opportunities. In-depth qualitative studies can provide sharper insights into these factors and help design effective strategies to address radicalization among youth.

To better understand how teenagers can be involved in ideological radicalization, real examples from various cases that have occurred illustrate various pathways and factors that can influence the process of radicalization in teenagers.

The Case of Young Jihadists from Indonesia, there are cases of teenagers involved in ideological radicalization, especially those involved with groups such as Jamaah Ansharut Daulah (JAD) which is affiliated with ISIS. The causal factors are: Family. Some teenagers come from families that have been involved in radicalism or have parents involved in terrorist groups. Peer Influence and School Environment: Recruitment often occurs through peer networks and extracurricular activities that seem normal but have hidden agendas. Online Propaganda: As in many other countries, social media and radical websites play an important role in spreading extremist ideologies among teenagers. (Sukabdi, ZA 2015: 57-60)

Studies The case of young jihadist teenagers in Indonesia who were involved in ideological radicalization can be illustrated using a phenomenological approach to gain in-depth insight into the experiences, motivations and dynamics that play a role in the radicalization process. The following is an example of a case designed using this method: Case background Ahmad (pseudonym) is a 17 year old teenager from a small town in Indonesia who was involved in a local terrorist network affiliated with a radical group. Ahmad was arrested by authorities for his involvement in a planned terrorist attack. Ahmad describes his initial involvement with radical groups as a gradual process. He started with curiosity fueled by online videos, then slowly became more involved through discussions with friends who had similar views. His first experience interacting with members of a radical group gave Ahmad a strong sense of belonging and the emotional support he was looking for. Although he initially felt doubtful and afraid, his dissatisfaction with his life circumstances and the influence of his friends made him increasingly convinced that the path he had chosen was the right one.

Studies The phenomenology of Ahmad's case provides an in-depth understanding of the various factors that influence youth radicalization in Indonesia. Through subjective narratives, we can see how the search for identity, peer influence, online propaganda, and social and economic dissatisfaction play a role in the radicalization process. These findings can be used to design more effective interventions in preventing radicalization among youth, with a focus on individual

empowerment, increasing access to education, and developing programs that support positive social engagement.

These examples show that ideological radicalization in adolescents can be caused by a combination of individual, social, economic, political, cultural and technological factors. Each case has its own unique context and dynamics, but there are general patterns that can be identified, such as the search for identity, peer influence, and exposure to radical propaganda. To prevent and deal with radicalization among teenagers, a comprehensive and coordinated approach is needed, involving various parties such as families, schools, communities and government. (Mahdalena. Y & Yusuf. B, 2017: 38-70)

StudiesIn-depth qualitative research into the factors influencing ideological radicalization among adolescents can provide invaluable insight into understanding and addressing this phenomenon. With the right approach, research results can be used to design effective interventions and policies that support the prevention of radicalization.

Example of a Qualitative Study

Qualitative studies will involve interviews and observations to understand how these factors interact in the lives of adolescents. This research may involve analyzing individual or group cases to gain in-depth insight into the radicalization process. Through this approach, researchers can identify common patterns and themes that help understand how and why youth become involved in extremist ideologies, as well as potential ways to prevent and intervene in this process. (Usman. 2014: 77-90)

CONCLUSION

Factor-Factors that influence ideological radicalization among teenagers, based on qualitative studies, in general are that teenagers who experience an identity crisis or feel they have lost meaning in life are more vulnerable to radicalization. They tend to seek belonging, purpose, and meaning, which are often provided by radical groups. Pressure from peers and social groups can influence teenagers to follow

radical ideologies. A school environment that is not conducive, a dysfunctional family, or a community that supports extreme ideologies can accelerate the process of radicalization. Social media plays a big role in spreading radical ideology and recruiting new members. Teenagers who spend a lot of time online are more susceptible to exposure to radical content and propaganda designed to attract them. Teenagers who are exposed to extremist interpretations of certain religious teachings or political ideologies are more easily influenced by radical views. Doctrines that emphasize conflict and self-sacrifice can attract teenagers who seek greater interests in their lives. Traumatic life experiences, injustice, discrimination, and social or economic frustration can make teenagers feel angry and hopeless, which then makes them more open to radical ideologies that offer solutions or revenge. Education that does not teach critical thinking skills and media literacy makes teenagers more easily influenced by radical propaganda. Unbalanced curricula and a lack of education about tolerance and diversity exacerbate this problem.

Studies Qualitative research shows that ideological radicalization in adolescents is a complex phenomenon influenced by various psychological, social, religious, ideological, educational and media factors. A prevention approach that is comprehensive, involves all stakeholders, and focuses on strengthening youth's capacity to think critically and engage positively in their communities is critical to addressing this problem.

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