



**The Office of Women's Empowerment, Child Protection and Family Planning:  
Are they responsive?**

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**ABSTRACT**

*Protection is an absolute thing to do, especially for the children who are victims of sexual violence. The government must be responsive to take remedial action so that children who are victims of this violence can return to their normal environment. This study aims to determine the responsiveness of Subulussalam Women's Empowerment, Child Protection and Family Planning Service (the so called DP3AKB) in providing protection for children who experience sexual violence. The method used was qualitative with data consisting of primary and secondary data. Data were obtained through observation, interviews and documentation. The results of the study indicated that Women's Empowerment Agency for Child Protection and Family Planning Office in Subulussalam was quite responsive in providing protection for children who experience sexual violence, but the responsiveness has not been carried out optimally. This can be seen from a). the ability of the bureaucracy to recognize the needs of child victims of sexual violence is good, b) the ability to develop a priority agenda for protecting children against sexual violence is in accordance with what is needed by child victims of sexual violence, and c) the ability to develop programs to protect children from sexual violence in the form of safe houses. The obstacles DP3AKB experienced in carrying out their duties were the lack of information and budget limitations experienced by DP3AKB of Subulussalam.*

**Keywords:** Responsiveness; sexual violence; children.

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## ABSTRAK

*Perlindungan terhadap anak merupakan hal yang mutlak dilakukan khususnya terhadap anak yang menjadi korban kekerasan seksual. Pemerintah harus responsif untuk mengambil tindakan penanganan sehingga anak yang menjadi korban terhadap kekerasan tersebut dapat kembali secara normal terhadap lingkungannya. Sehubungan dengan hal tersebut, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui responsivitas Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan Perlindungan Anak dan Keluarga Berencana (DP3AKB) Subulussalam dalam memberikan perlindungan terhadap anak yang mengalami kekerasan seksual. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah kualitatif dengan data yang terdiri data primer dan sekunder. Kedua jenis data tersebut didapat melalui observasi, wawancara dan dokumentasi. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa Badan Pemberdayaan Perempuan Perlindungan Anak dan Keluarga Berencana Subulussalam sudah cukup responsif dalam memberikan perlindungan terhadap anak yang mengalami kekerasan seksual. Namun responsivitas tersebut belum terlaksana secara maksimal. Hal ini bisa dilihat dari: a) kemampuan birokrasi mengenali kebutuhan anak korban kekerasan seksual sudah baik, b) Kemampuan menyusun agenda prioritas perlindungan anak terhadap kekerasan seksual sudah sesuai dengan apa yang dibutuhkan anak korban kekerasan seksual, dan c) kemampuan untuk mengembangkan program perlindungan kekerasan seksual terhadap anak yang berupa rumah aman. Hasil penelitian juga menunjukkan bahwa hambatan DP3AKB yang dialami dalam menjalankan tugasnya yaitu kurangnya keterbukaan informasi dan keterbatasan anggaran yang dialami pihak DP3AKB Subulussalam.*

**Kata Kunci:** Responsivitas; kekerasan seksual; anak-anak.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

A nation's future wealth is its children. Children must be protected since they are particularly vulnerable to rights breaches at this age. Sexual abuse of children is one of the many abuses of their rights (Fibrianti, et al, 2020). Government attention to the matter is demonstrated by Law Number 35 of 2014 on Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning child protection. Anybody under the age of eighteen, including unborn children, is considered a kid in accordance with the law (Maulia & Saptatiningsih, 2020). Moreover, protection is described as ensuring that the kid receives his or her rights as a child, namely the right to live, grow, and participate in society as fully as possible in line with human dignity (Anggara & Subawa, 2018).

The number of child sexual assault cases has occasionally increased in Subulussalam. According to records, there were two incidents of sexual assault against children in 2020, eight cases in 2021, and two cases in 2022.

**Table 1**

Data on child sexual violence cases in Subulussalam by age and gender.

No	Year	Number of cases					
		0 -5 Year		6 -12 Year		13 -17 Year	
		Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
1.	2020	-	-	-	-	2	-
2.	2021	2	-	3	-	4	-
3.	2022	-	-	-	-	2	-
<b>Jumlah</b>		<b>2</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>8</b>	
<b>Total</b>				<b>13</b>			

Source: DP3AKB Subulussalam 2022.

According to the information in the table above, 2021 will see the greatest prevalence of sexual assault against minors. There are so many youngsters who are sexually abused that there has to be substantial attention and therapy given to their future as well as the future of the country and state.

In relation to the aforementioned situation, the government needs to act quickly to ensure that any children who become victims of this violence can eventually return to their usual surroundings. Researchers examine how the government can identify community needs to protect children from sexual violence, how the bureaucracy can set an agenda and prioritize child protection services from sexual violence, and how the bureaucracy can develop service programs based on community needs and related to sexual violence against children, not only the ability to meet community needs but also the efforts to meet those needs. As a result, being responsive is a duty that relates to an organization's ability to fulfill its objectives and mission, particularly in terms of serving the community (Hidayah & Sudaryanti, 2021).

Government response is required due to the urgency of situations involving child sexual abuse, particularly how the victims are treated. These children lack the ability to defend themselves. After getting treated for sexual assault, they need the government to be responsive in order to become better.

The office in Subulussalam known as DP3AKB (Women's Empowerment, Child Protection, and Family Planning Service) actively handles complaints of sexual assault against minors. Its full name is Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan Perlindungan Anak dan Keluarga Berencana. In response to these findings and in an effort to serve the community, the DP3AKB of Subulussalam took action to deal with or handle children who were sexually assaulted. Responses included helping someone heal from trauma, providing medical care, and providing legal counsel. However given the numerous challenges that will undoubtedly arise while carrying out these tasks and slow down the handling, this solution is not unusual. In this sense, DP3AKB's efforts to reduce instances of sexual abuse against children in Subulussalam have not always been successful. Hence, the actions and efforts made by DP3AKB Subulussalam are crucial in dealing with sexual assault against children.

When a kid engages in any type of sexual activity before reaching a legal age restriction set by the state, sexual violence against children occurs when an adult or another child who is older or is regarded to have more knowledge than the child uses the action for sexual gratification with the child (Noviana, 2015). Coercion, threats, bribery, lies, or other

forms of pressure are utilized to carry out this activity. Sexual violence, which can include acts of rape or obscenity, is a felony in this circumstance even if there is no physical contact.

The perpetrators of the recent spike in incidents of sexual abuse of kids in the city of Subulussalam were typically those closest to the victims, as was the case with the abuse of a 14-year-old youngster by his stepfather. The incident began when both the victim's mother and the suspect were collecting palm oil. Nonetheless, the offenders proceeded to the residence to take new locations for the loose palm fruit they collected as they had ran out of places to get the scattered fruit from. As soon as the offender entered the house, he or she unlocked the shack room, and the offender's plan to harass the victim sexually was carried out by first caressing the victim and then hugging her. When the victim protested, the offender utilized violence, including beatings and coercion. Nonetheless, the victim was able to flee and informed the police of the crime along with proof from a postmortem and other sources. (<https://www.tagar.id/beragam-kekerasan-anak-dan-perempuan-di-subulussalam>).

Based on the foregoing context, the objectives of this study were to 1) determine and evaluate the effectiveness of the DP3AKB of Subulussalam's protection against child sexual abuse and 2) learn about challenges to addressing child sexual abuse by the DP3AKB of Subulussalam.

A number of studies have been identified focusing on the role of similar offices (Bagaskara, 2022; Ramadhani, 2022; Zamharira, et al, 2022). Of the related studies, the ones done by Hidayah & Sudaryanti, 2021, Paramastri, et al (2010), and Tobing, et al (2016) would be mentioned here. The goal of Hidayah & Sudaryanti's research in 2021 was to increase bureaucratic ability to address the needs of women and children who have been the victims of abuse. The findings of this study indicate that, although not being at its best, the PPKB and P3A Offices of Wonogiri are pretty good and responsive in providing protection for victims of violence against women and children, particularly sexual assault victims. This is due to the lack of shelters for victims of violence at the Wonogiri Regency PPKB and P3A Offices and the lack of such shelters at the Wonogiri PPKB and P3A Services (Hidayah & Sudaryanti, 2021).

Paramastri, et al (2010) conducted research on early prevention of sexuality in children. The goal of this study is to identify effective media and preventative strategies to stop sexual abuse of children at an early age. The findings of this study show that a program for the early prevention of child sexual abuse is indeed necessary, especially when it needs to be done right away. Moreover, this research recommends preventative initiatives that include visual and audio-visual aids, including cartoons, comics, and caricatures.

In addition, the study by Tobing, et al (2016) sought to determine how well the Women's Empowerment Agency for Child Protection and Family Planning handled incidents of sexual assault against children in Bekasi City. According to the study's findings, Bekasi's Women's Empowerment Agency for Child Protection and Family Planning performed better than predicted in 2016 when it came to managing incidents of sexual assault against children, scoring 60.55% of the required standards. This numerically indicates that it falls within the bad group, which is a hypothesis that the researcher predetermined from the beginning, meaning that the achievement is less than 65% (Tobing, et al, 2017).

The earlier research mentioned above served as a source of information for this investigation. The researcher's prior work, which ranged from taking direct action in the field

(observing) to interviewing informants who had been chosen by the researcher, can be used as a reference or an example regarding the responsiveness of the protection against sexual violence against young children by the DP3AKB Office of Subulussalam.

## **2. LITERATURE REVIEW**

### *2.1. Responsiveness*

One of the criteria used to gauge the efficiency of public service organizations is responsiveness. The capacity of public organizations to fulfill their goals and purposes, particularly in addressing community needs, is explicitly referred to as responsiveness. The capacity to help clients in receiving services promptly is referred to as responsiveness, a phrase that is frequently employed in commercial organizations (Nurani, Zauhar, & Saleh, 2015).

Three indicators can be used to assess an institution's responsiveness: 1) The bureaucracy's capacity to identify community needs; 2) The bureaucracy's capacity to set service agendas and priorities; and 3) The capacity to create service initiatives that address the needs and aspirations of the community (Dwiyanto) (2021).

### *2.2. Child Protection*

Child protection refers to all actions taken to ensure that each child is able to exercise his or her legal rights and responsibilities for the healthy physical, mental, and social development of children. A sign that there is justice in a society is the pursuit of child protection throughout many spheres of governmental and social life (Fitriani, 2016). Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning revisions to Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning child protection established the framework for the government's efforts to maintain public order, particularly in providing protection against violence, including protection against sexual assault against minors.

Children's rights are guaranteed and protected by Law Number 35 of 2014, which amends Law Number 23 of 2002. This law defines child protection as all actions taken to ensure that children can live, develop, and participate in society to the fullest extent possible while also receiving protection from abuse and discrimination (Law Number 35 of 2014).

Children's rights and duties are outlined in Law Number 23 of 2002, where each kid is given 21 rights. One of the rights is to 1) ensure and defend children's rights to exist, to develop, and to be safe from harm and prejudice. 2) Every kid has a right to meet their social, emotional, intellectual, and physical requirements. 3) Every kid gets instruction and education with the goal of helping him to grow intellectually and personally in line with his interests and abilities. 4) Every child has the right to speak out and be heard, as well as to receive, seek, and provide knowledge appropriate to his or her age and level of intelligence, in order to develop in a manner consistent with decency and decency principles. 5) For the sake of self-development, every child has the right to sleep, enjoy their leisure time, interact with other kids their own age, engage in recreational play, and express their creativity in accordance with their interests, skills, and cognitive level. 6) Every child in the custody of parents, guardians, or any other person responsible for raising has the right to be protected from treatment such as discrimination, economic and sexual exploitation, neglect, cruelty, violence, and abuse, as well as other forms of mistreatment.

Moreover, it is stated that parents, guardians, or other caretakers of children who are undergoing any sort of therapy as mentioned in paragraph (1) shall face harsher penalties. Children have the right to protection from abuse, torture, and the enforcement of inhumane laws. Children who are in trouble with the law, are sexual assault victims, or who later turn into sexual assaulters have the right to remain anonymous. Any kid who is a victim or a perpetrator of a crime has a right to legal help and other sorts of support (Act on Child Protection Number 23 of 2002).

Indonesia has ratified the convention on the rights of the child and has a number of rules and regulations controlling children, thus it is a lawful country in terms of products. This demonstrates how well legal safeguards or protections for children are put into practice (Fitriani, 2016).

### *2.3. Sexual Violence against Children*

A crime against humanity that falls under the most serious criminal category is sexual violence. Thus, the UN Women Table of Contents defines sexual violence as any abuse that takes place in circumstances of vulnerability, which includes being exposed to authority or trust for sexual reasons and profiting materially, socially, or politically from the sexual exploitation of others (Hilmi, 2019).

Since they are perceived as weak or helpless and are so dependent on others around them, children are the group that is most susceptible to crimes of sexual assault. When a youngster is threatened with harm for speaking up, this renders them defenseless. It is challenging to prevent this violence due to the perpetrator's capacity to manipulate the victim via lies, threats, and acts of violence (Ekaningtyas, 2020).

Some forms of early childhood sexual violence are as follows:

- a. Asking children to see other people's body parts or genitals
- b. Asking children to show body parts or genitals
- c. Asking children to view pornographic images or watch pornographic films
- d. Stroking, touching, kissing and squeezing the child's body parts
- e. Asking children to caress, hold, kiss, squeeze other people's bodies and genitals
- f. Having sexual intercourse (rape).

Children who experience violence may have sadness, PTSD, anxiety, bodily harm, a propensity to experience additional victimization in adulthood, and other issues (Amalia, 2016). The factors that influence sexual violence against children are family factors, environmental factors, value factor, and individual factor whether internal or external (Fibrinika Tuta Setiani, et al, 2017).

## **3. METHOD**

In order to ascertain the responsiveness of the DP3AKB in Subulussalam in providing protection against children sexual assault, this study employed a descriptive methodology using qualitative data. Given the rising incidence of sexual assault against children in Subulussalam, the DP3AKB of that city was selected. Moreover, there have been no recent initiatives to reduce the incidence of sexual assault against minors or to implement written child protection.

Ten individuals who were chosen as informants for this study using snowball and purposive selection were chosen because they could be relied upon as reliable sources of information and because they were thought to be knowledgeable about incidents of child sexual abuse. In contrast, a sample is acquired by a rolling process from one responder to another in snowball sampling.

The techniques used to gather data were direct observation of the research subject, capturing and decreasing data as a means of adjustment, and gauging how sensitive the DP3AKB is to situations of sexual abuse against children. In order to identify facts that happened in the field, interviews with the study's informants were also performed.

The study's material includes written information, photographs, community responses to DP3AKB Subulussalam, and books and archives pertaining to this assessment topic. The records offer evidence for the findings of the observations and interviews, as well as challenges faced by the researchers.

The steps for analyzing the data in this study are as follows 1) Data collection, 2) Data reduction, 3) Data presentation, and 4) Drawing conclusions.

## 4. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

### 4.1. Responsiveness of Protection against Sexual Violence against Children at the DP3AKB

These three responsiveness factors were utilized to assess the DP3AKB of Subulussalam's responsiveness in offering protection against early childhood sexual assault:

#### 4.1.1. The ability of the bureaucracy to recognize the needs of child victims of sexual violence

Children's rights to the needs of life must be respected since they are an asset for the future of a country and state. DP3AKB already has the capacity to recognize the needs of children who are subjected to sexual assault, beginning with the child's most fundamental right to life. According to the Chief of DP3AKB in Subulussalam, children are born with certain rights that must be upheld, including the right to life, growth and development, protection, and participation.

*“Children already have four rights that must be fulfilled since they are born in this world, which begins with getting the basic needs for the child's survival, for example being given breast milk by their parents for at least six months, proper housing, and being given nutritious food. Furthermore, the child obtains the child's right to growth and development, such as getting education from parents so that the full potential of the child can be developed, such as giving love and others. So this action is more towards the child's own psychology. The third is the right to protection in order to prevent acts of violence, neglect as well as exploitation of the child. So it is not permissible to commit physical violence let alone sexual interests. The fourth is the right of participation, namely the child can give his participation, including in this case he can also influence because he participates so he can influence his own life.”*

There is a need for direct identification of the child; if you cannot go directly with the victim, you can also go with the guardian so that you can it is known what the child really needs. Efforts to meet the needs of children as victims of sexual violence cannot be considered an easy matter because each child victim of violence may have different needs. For this, the DP3AKB counselor in Subulussalam said:

*“Every human being has different needs, especially with children as victims of sexual violence, of course they have different needs, such as some who need education, some from a medical perspective, namely a post mortem, and some who need self-recovery because the child will be traumatized by violence, experiences and legal assistance.”*

Subulussalam DP3AKB, the organization authorized by the government to offer protection for children who are victims of sexual violence, is accountable for the needs of child victims of sexual violence. The DP3AKB Counselor of Subulussalam said:

*“Children who get sexual violence will make them unwilling to go to school anymore, dropping it due to being scared. It could also be medical reason. That's why we have to find the child a school to go, recover the child from a psychological drop after experiencing violence and we also try to find medical help.”*

With this explanation, we can see that every child who is a victim of sexual violence has the following needs:

a. Healing Needs (trauma healing) through Counseling Psychology

The first requirement that has to be met for this psychological rehabilitation is psychological recovery. Children who become victims will suffer great trauma and have their social lives disrupted. In an interview with the DP3AKB Counselor of Subulussalam she said that:

*“Everyone when experiencing an act of violence must have their own trauma, especially children. They must have severe trauma. Therefore, the initial stage we did was removing the child's trauma. Of course this healing will take a long time.”*

Treatment for child sexual abuse victims involves healing (trauma healing), which is a stage of the self-recovery process (generally from psychological disorders, trauma, etc.) Yusuf, Fatimah, and Noviawati (2012).

In providing recovery for the victim with counseling psychology, DP3AKB provided clinical psychology from a psychologist. The DP3AKB Counselor of Subulussalam revealed that:

*“We have counselors here including me too, so the counselor here functions to provide guidance, be it motivation, so that the child's condition returns to normal, although not completely. We can only make further efforts here if the victim reports it. Therefore, if anyone reports, we will accommodate and listen to the flow of events, so we are trying to do psychological counseling by a psychologist”.*

A strategy or service in counseling called modifying attitudes, which are the ones that underpin one's behaviors, ideas, opinions, feelings, and other things, can bring about substantial changes (Hikmawati, 2016). In connection with the interview of the victim's parents:

*“My child when after the incident he experienced became gloomy and did not want to talk, playing with his friends was an activity that was often done every day. So after that incident he just left the house feeling afraid, but thankfully my child improved a little when he received counseling assistance from the service (DP3AKB), my child is willing to talk and occasionally smiles but not as cheerful as he used to be.”*



According to the above description, the first step taken by DP3AKB in protecting children from sexual abuse, which renders them psychologically weak, is trauma healing through psychological counseling, where the assistance is anticipated to be able to overcome the challenges experienced.

#### b. Medical Recovery Needs

Medical recovery demands are those that require the treatment and restoration of physical injuries by medical professionals in order to return the victim's physical state to normal. The sufferer must complete this physical recuperation in order to prevent other, more severe damage. Not only does the victim need to undergo a health checkup to ensure that they are stable, but doing so is also important for victims who wish to file a lawsuit. They unquestionably require proof in the form of a post-mortem investigation. The following conclusions are drawn from conversations with DP3AKB counselors in Subulussalam:

*“To help with the physical healing of the child, we accompany him to ensure that s/he gets good medical services. In addition, we carried out a post mortem to prove that the incident actually happened and as evidence that the perpetrators actually committed the violence.”*

The efforts put out by DP3AKB Subulussalam to offer free medical recovery services for women and children who have been victims of sexual assault, as well as other types of abuse suffered by children, if the government funding is still accessible. Based on the results of the mother of the victim's interviews:

*“At that time, when my child was sexually assaulted, the office provided assistance for treatment and post-mortem examination at the hospital, to serve as evidence of the violence that occurred to my child.”*

In order to meet medical demands, DP3AKB of Subulussalam conducts post mortem tests on victims while also providing physical healing help based on information gathered by the informants in dealing with youngsters who are sexual assault victims.

#### c. Assistance

The next action conducted by DP3AKB of Subulussalam to safeguard children who are sexually abused is assistance. The Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 35 of 2014 on Amendments to Law Number 23 of 2002 Concerning Child Protection states that aid and special protection are provided for children who have been the victims of sexual assault. The need for legal protection stems from the requirement to uphold the rights of sexual assault victims by providing psychosocial support, i.e., by assisting victims in comprehending the issues they are facing, assisting them in making decisions, and also assisting in the facilitation of the restoration of the functions of the victims' physical, psychological, spiritual, and social conditions that social functions are expected to run as before.

The support provided here, however, is mainly concerned with Subulussalam DP3AKB's function as a court-appointed attorney. The DP3AKB of Subulussalam offers support in cases of child abuse that result in justice up till the children's case is concluded. The head of the Subulussalam DP3AKB Service stated that *“We, from the DP3AKB of Subulussalam, gave help, trips to court, until the issue was concluded.”*

It was also accomplished to provide victims with justice via legal clarity. Whether the victim and his family require legal protection depends on their capacity; not all victims of violence choose to pursue legal action. *"We will give legal support to children who are victims of sexual abuse, but depending on the permission of the victim's family should this matter be taken to court,"* stated the DP3AK counselor for Subulussalam.

Given the conditions of the victims, whose anonymity was respected, this researcher's research revealed challenges and problems in directly interviewing both sexual assault victims and the victims' families. It also took a long time, which was a flaw in the study.

According to the explanation given above, it is clear that children who have been sexually abused have three needs: those for psychological and/or psychosocial recovery, those for medical and/or legal aid, and those for recovery from recovery requirements.

#### *4.1.2. The ability to develop agendas and priorities for the protection of child victims of sexual violence*

The DP3AKB Office of Subulussalam has obviously established an agenda and priority for protection in the form and endeavor to safeguard victims of child abuse. The protection priority agenda below was created by Subulussalam DP3AKB based on the requirements of victims.

**Table 2**

Protection Needs and Agenda and Priorities.

No	Needs	Agenda and Priority of Needs
1.	Psychological/psychological trauma healing	Restoring the trauma of child victims of sexual violence through Rehabilitation, Counseling.
2.	Medical recovery needs	Health Service Facilities are free and easy to access
3.	Assistance	Legal Assistance

According to the requirements of the victims of violence against women and children and children, the DP3AKB of Subulussalam is capable of developing agendas and priorities for services for their protection. Yet it should be stated once again.

#### *4.1.3. The ability to develop service programs according to community needs and aspirations*

The DP3AKB Office of Subulussalam has a program pertaining to safe homes (shelters) for victims of violence against women and children since the DP3AKB does not yet have one regarding the establishment of programs to safeguard women and children who are victims of abuse. The Head of DP3AKB Subulussalam claims:

*"Children who will be rehabilitated as a form of recovery are given to victims and families who are under external pressure. Usually, victims of sexual violence are referred to or placed in shelters or safe houses to protect victims from physical and psychological pressures. In addition, victims will also receive gradual and routine psychological therapy facilities, which are useful for strengthening and restoring or restoring the child's condition."*

In this instance, DP3AKB of Subulussalam works to offer a safe home that serves as both a haven of refuge for victims from threats and intimidation and a platform for victims to settle difficulties, particularly sexual abuse victims who endure psychiatric illnesses. According to parent conversations with the victims:

*“My child, who was abused by his child, was very afraid to meet people and didn't even want to leave the room because he remembered the things that happened to him, which made the child unable to calm down, even when he was given psychological healing assistance by the DP3AKB person, but when he returned When I went home, the fear returned, only after that did the office advise me, that my child should stay in a safe house first, the person said, so he would feel calm.”*

As a result, there are challenges in the rehabilitation process, such as the absence of infrastructure and amenities to assist it, such as suitable escort rooms, child-friendly rooms, and other infrastructure rooms in safe homes (shelters). Due to limited facilities, many of the victims merely came for psychological therapy and left right away.

#### *4.2. The Obstacles in Handling Sexual Violence against Early Childhood by DP3AKB of Subulussalam*

A number of obstacles are faced DP3AKB in carrying out the duty and responsibility for child safety and prevention. Based on the interviews with the chief of Subulussalam DP3AKB, there are three challenges in this respect, namely:

- a. For children who already understand that they are victims of sexual violence, they are reluctant to provide information openly even though assistance has been provided by the DP3AKB. This is based on the statement of the head of DP3AKB Subulussalam:

*“In this case, this is the first difficulty we experience in gathering information because the victims are still reluctant and shy to talk because they are traumatized by meeting new people.”*

In the process of handling the case, obstacles also come from the victim herself. Victims are difficult to ask for information because the victim is still psychologically traumatized, so it is difficult to be questioned as a victim.

- b. It is difficult for DP3AKB to reach the victim's location which has quite a long distance. Yusmaniar, the head of DP3AKB Subulussalam said:

*“Not infrequently the distance to the victim's location is quite far which results in difficulties reaching directly in providing services and handling of victims, it is not uncommon to even pass through plantations that have road access which can be said to be difficult for motorbikes to pass.”*

It is difficult for DP3AKB to reach the victim's location which has quite a long distance.

- c. The budget obtained by DP3AKB from the Government tends to be insufficient, especially for operational outreach to the community. Based on Yusmaniar's statement, the head of DP3AKB Subulussalam said that:

*“Now in the form of efforts to prevent sexual violence, of course there are costs in all of these activities, especially in conducting outreach, of course it is necessary*

*to pay for these activities, because the operational costs of each socialization are lacking, so we cannot reach remote areas to carry out outreach.”*

The budget is one of the most important things in preventing and handling child sexual violence, especially for people who have remote locations and are difficult to access.

The first and second issues are those that directly arise while attempting to gather data on children who have reportedly experienced sexual abuse. The third issue, according to the head of Subulussalam DP3AKB, is a financial constraint that still prevents outreach from being fully implemented and situations from being handled effectively.

Due to their fear of the offenders, the victims of sexual abuse against minors sometimes refuse to be open with information and reporting, which is another challenge for Subulussalam DP3AKB. As stated by the victim's parents as follows:

*“Sexual violence against my child has been going on for 2 years, my child has been afraid to tell about the incident because his father threatened him, he would beat him if he dared to resist, so he could only remain silent and accept his father's depraved treatment.”*

According to the aforementioned statement, children who are sexual assault victims are not forthcoming in providing DP3AKB Subulussalam with information that would help the organization safeguard sexual assault victims. As a result, the handling effort is time-consuming.

DP3AKB in Subulussalam has been quite responsive in providing services to child victims of violence with all efforts, such as providing trauma healing assistance, medical recovery and assistance to child victims of sexual assault, and prevention efforts carried out in the form of preventive, educational efforts, and receiving reports in accordance with applicable SOPs, according to this research regarding the responsiveness of protection against child sexual violence at the DP3AKB in Subulussalam.

The research by Hidayah and Sudaryanti (2021) shares similarities with earlier research by Paramastri, et al (2010) focusing on prevention in the form of outreach. While the responsiveness provided is quite good, there are also similarities where there is no safe house. Nevertheless, it is exclusively used in Subulussalam City DP3AKB as a setting for trauma rehabilitation with a psychologist.

Also, the earlier study done by Tobing, et al (2017) was subpar since the achievement was less than 65%, which was a hypothesis tested by researchers.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

The Subulussalam City DP3AKB is sufficiently responsive in providing protection for children who are victims of sexual assault, but this responsiveness has not been executed adequately, according to the findings of the research and debate above. The response indicators demonstrate this. First off, DP3AKB of Subulussalam already knows what psychological needs, physical rehabilitation, and aid child sexual assault victims actually require. Second, DP3AKB of Subulussalam prioritizes the needs of young victims of sexual assault. For them, it is crucial that the youngster receives therapy and rehabilitation support in order to recuperate psychologically. They also provide free health care services for physical

recuperation. Finally, the DP3AKB of Subulussalam established a safe home initiative to offer a haven for young victims of sexual assault.

In addition, obstacles in handling child sexual violence by the DP3AKB in Subulussalam are the lack of information from the victims so that handling is slow. Another challenge is the distance and difficulty of traveling to the victim's location. Limited budget is also another obstacle faced by Subulussalam DP3AKB in carrying out socialization efforts.

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