



CHILDREN'S
WORLDS



INTERNATIONAL SURVEY OF CHILDREN'S WELL-BEING (ISCWeB)

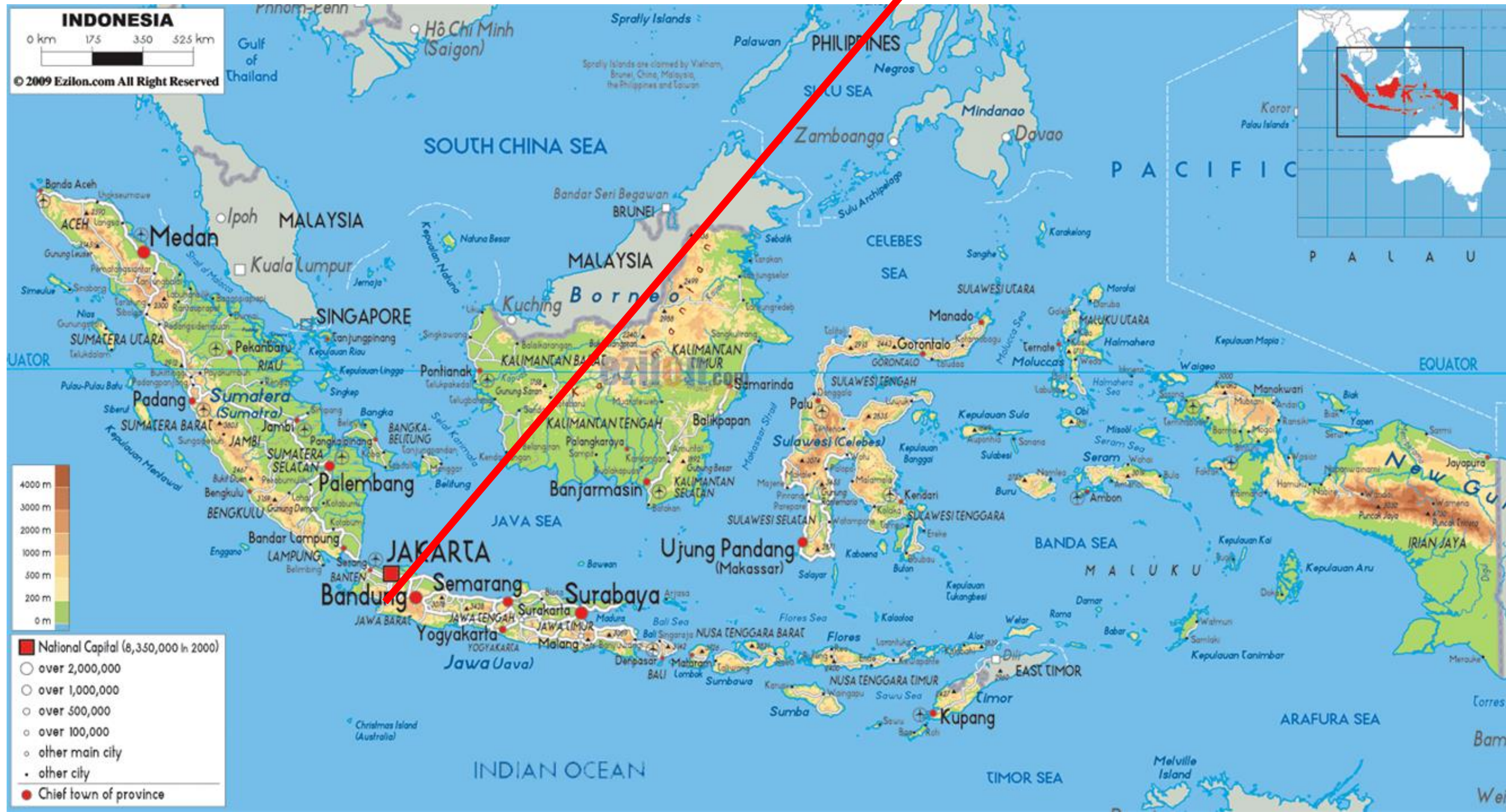
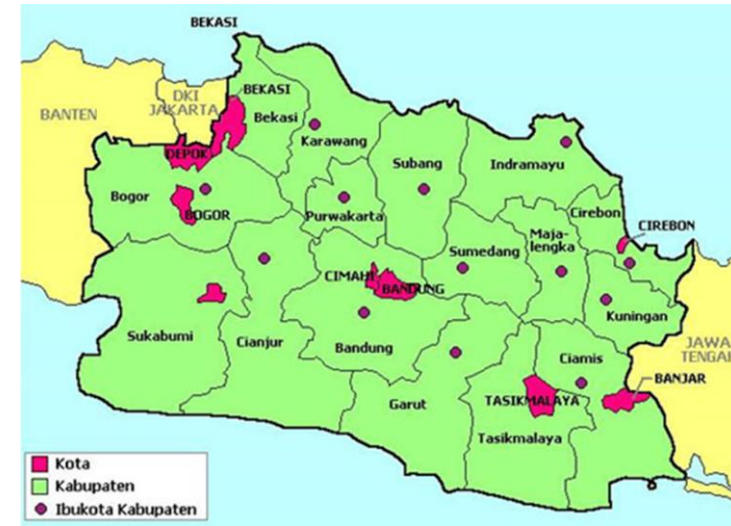
BULLYING AND SUBJECTIVE WELL-BEING IN INDONESIAN CHILDREN

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Launch webinar of the 3rd wave's findings
17 November 2020

Children's Worlds Survey in Indonesia

Indonesia
(1,919,443 km²)



Children's Worlds



Data collection in Indonesia

- Data were collected in West Java Province, across all 27 districts.
- West Java is the most populous province in Indonesia with 48 million people and 14,8 million of those are children age 0-17 year olds.
- Data collection was a collaboration work between UNISBA-UNICEF Indonesia
- 267 elementary schools participated in the data collection
- Participants were elementary school students ($N = 23,402$) from Grades 2, 4, and 6 (8, 10, and 12 year-olds)

Bullying Cases In Indonesia

The Global School-Based Health Survey (2015)

32% of Indonesian students aged 13-17 have experienced physical violence, 20% have been bullied at school

Trends in Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS, 2011)

55% of Indonesian children aged 11-15 have been bullied at school

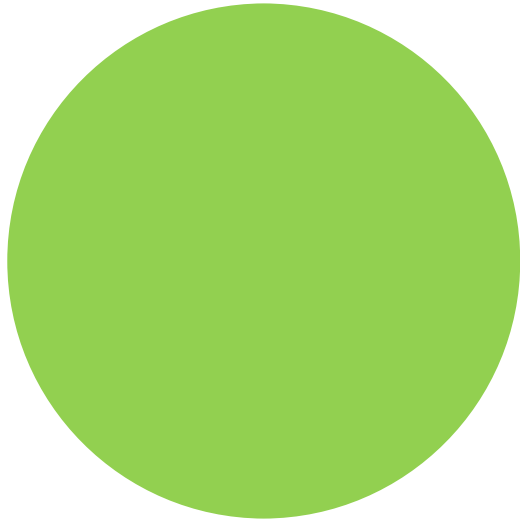
The National Child Protection Commission of Indonesia

Received 26,000 child protection cases during the period 2011-2017 and 34% of these cases involved bullying.

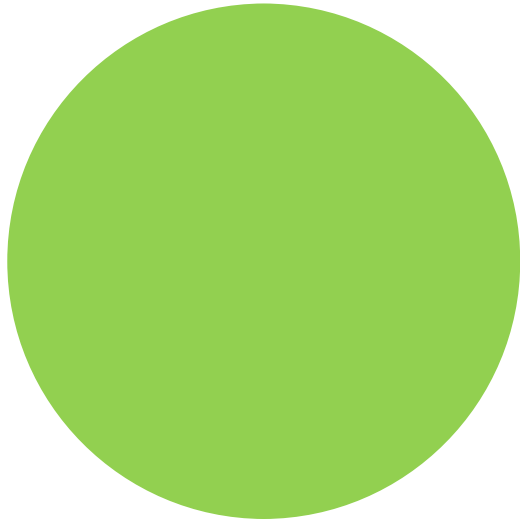
The newest report in 2019 stated that during the period January to April 2019, the majority of child protection cases in Indonesia still involved bullying



It is an aggressive
behaviour



which is carried out
repeatedly and over
time



in the context of an
interpersonal relationship
characterized by an
imbalance of power

Three criteria of bullying (Olweus, 1997)

School Bullying

A student saying nasty and unpleasant things to another student, and doing aggressive behaviour towards another student (Smith & Sharp, 1994)

Sibling Bullying

Repeated aggressive behaviour perpetrated by sibling, with intention to cause harm and involving an element of perceived or real power imbalance (Wolke, Tippett, & Dantchev, 2015)

Bullying Items

2 items measure sibling bullying (physical & verbal)

3 items measure school bullying (physical, verbal, & psychological)

Overall Life Satisfaction

How satisfied children with their life as a whole

Children's Worlds Subjective Well-Being Scale

Five items context-free psychometric scale

Adapted in Indonesia (Borualogo & Casas, 2019)



	8 year-old group (Grade 2)	10 year-old group (Grade 4)	12 year-old group (Grade 6)	Total
Boys	3,189	3,417	3,777	10,383
Girls	3,237	3,441	3,941	10,619
Total	6,426	6,858	7,718	21,002

Participants



- Only data from a part of the depurated sample was analysed
- Children who reported having no sibling ($n = 687$) were not included in the sibling bullying analysis
- In order to have a sharp perspective on the differences in SWB between bullied and non-bullied children, scores of each bullying item were transformed into dichotomous variables.
- The major implication is therefore the size of the subsample is different for each of the five bullying items analysed depending on the bullying types

Descriptive data of sibling bullying actions last month, by age groups and gender

		8 YO	10 YO	12 YO	GIRLS	BOYS	TOTAL
Being hit by sibling	Never	3,451	3,170	3,207	5,265	4,563	9,828
	%	80.5	72.9	72.4	78.2	72.0	75.2
	> 3 times	835	1,180	1,222	1,463	1,774	3,237
	%	19.5	27.1	27.6	21.8	28.0	24.8
	Total	4,286	4,350	4,429	6,728	6,337	13,065
Being called unkind names by sibling	Never	3,471	3,940	4,407	6,174	5,644	11,818
	%	86.8	87.0	84.4	87.7	84.1	86.0
	> 3 times	529	589	813	863	1,068	1,931
	%	13.2	13.0	15.6	12.3	15.9	14.0
	Total	4,000	4,529	5,220	7,037	6,712	13,749

Descriptive

data
of
school
bullying
actions
last
month,
by age
groups
and
gender

		8 YO	10 YO	12 YO	GIRLS	BOYS	TOTAL
Being hit by other children at school	Never	3,411	2,787	3,123	5,408	3,913	9,321
	%	82.8	78.6	76.1	85.4	71.9	79.2
	> 3 times	710	761	982	927	1,526	2,453
	%	17.2	21.4	23.9	14.6	28.1	20.8
	Total	4,121	3,548	4,105	6,335	5,439	11,774
Being called unkind names by other children at school	Never	2,953	2,283	2,424	4,089	3,571	7,660
	%	80.5	61.7	54.8	67.3	62.5	65.0
	> 3 times	715	1,416	1,998	1,983	2,146	4,129
	%	19.5	38.3	45.2	32.7	37.5	35.0
	Total	3,668	3,699	4,422	6,072	5,717	11,789
Being left out by other children in class	Never	3,197	2,876	3,599	4,849	4,823	9,672
	%	82.5	78.0	81.0	79.4	81.8	80.5
	> 3 times	679	812	845	1,261	1,075	2,336
	%	17.5	22.0	19.0	20.6	18.2	19.5
	Total	3,876	3,688	4,444	6,110	5,898	12,008

Mean scores of the **OLS** and the **CW-SWBBS** by grade and gender

		OLS				CW-SWBBS			
		8 YO	10 YO	12 YO	TOTAL	8 YO	10 YO	12 YO	TOTAL
POOLED SAMPLE	GIRLS	85.66	86.52	85.91	86.03	79.80	87.87	86.89	85.05
	BOYS	84.11	85.19	84.81	84.72	77.75	85.92	86.17	83.50
	TOTAL	84.89*	85.86*	85.37*	85.38*	78.78*	86.90*	86.54*	84.28*

* mean difference significant at $p < .01$

Mean scores of the OLS and the CW-SWBS, by grade, gender, and type of bullying if never bullied or bullied more than 3 times last month



			OLS				CW-SWBS			
			8 YO	10 YO	12 YO	TOTAL	8 YO	10 YO	12 YO	Total
Being hit by other children at school	never	Girls	86.82	88.30	87.57	87.52	81.40	89.60	89.05	86.43
		Boys	85.87	88.02	86.51	86.72	79.41	88.57	88.56	85.18
		Total	86.41	88.18	87.12	87.18* SD = 16.78	80.56	89.17	88.84	85.91* SD = 15.41
	>3 times	Girls	85.24	84.83	83.10	84.17	77.99	86.51	84.39	83.44
		Boys	82.85	83.53	83.30	83.23	78.57	84.06	84.84	82.64
		Total	83.63	84.02	83.22	83.59* SD = 19.91	78.38	84.99	84.65	82.94* SD = 17.00
	Total	Girls	86.65	87.78	86.75	87.03	81.04	89.13	88.19	85.99
		Boys	85.12	86.71	85.53	85.74	79.20	87.26	87.43	84.47
		Total	85.94	87.29	86.19	86.43* SD = 17.54	80.18	88.27	87.84	85.29* SD = 15.80

* mean difference significant at $p < .01$

Regressions of bullying actions on the **CW-SWBS** and **OLS** for **10 year-old group**

Predictor Variables	CW-SWBS					OLS				
	b	SE	β	t	Sig	b	SE	β	t	Sig
Hit by siblings	-.155	1.451	-.004	-.107	.915	.467	1.719	.010	.271	.786
Called unkind names by siblings	-2.282	1.825	-.047	-1.250	.212	-2.747	2.163	-.048	-1.270	.204
Hit by children in school	-6.312	1.216	-.159	-5.192*	.000	-6.731	1.441	-.143	-4.670*	.000
Called unkind names by children in school	-1.133	1.516	-.033	-.747	.455	.750	1.796	.018	.418	.676
Left out by other children in class	.645	1.705	.016	.378	.705	-.032	2.020	-.001	-.016	.987

n = 1,068. Adjusted R² = .028; F = 16.446; df = 2; Sig = .000
*p < .01

n = 1,068. Adjusted R² = -.019; F = 11.573; df = 2; Sig = .000
*p < .01

Regressions of bullying actions on the **CW-SWBS** and **OLS** for **12 year-old group**

Predictor Variables	CW-SWBS					OLS				
	b	SE	β	t	Sig	b	SE	β	t	Sig
Hit by siblings	-3.262	1.244	-.092	-2.623*	.009	-4.654	1.348	-.109	-3.453*	.001
Called unkind names by siblings	-6.357	1.463	-.147	-4.346*	.000	-3.481	1.819	-.067	-1.913	.056
Hit by children in school	2.342	1.313	.066	1.784	.075	-.744	1.610	-.017	-.462	.644
Called unkind names by children in school	-2.192	1.198	-.068	-1.830	.068	-3.154	1.209	-.082	-2.609*	.009
Left out by other children in class	-4.159	1.196	-.104	-3.477*	.001	-.008	1.704	.000	.005	.996

n = 1,224. Adjusted R² = .069; F = 23.786; df = 4; Sig = .000. *p < .01

n = 1,224. Adjusted R² = .025; F = 11.280; df = 9; Sig = .000. *p < .01

Discussion

The most frequent kind of bullying in Indonesia is being called unkind names by children at school—a problem reported by more than one third (35.0%) of children in the studied age groups, most frequently among older students (45.2% of the 12 year-old reported being bullied more than three times last month), and it seems to be only slightly more frequent among boys (37.5%) than among girls (32.7%).

Being called unkind names by siblings is also more frequent among boys (15.9%) than girls (12.3%).

Discussion

In general, the older the children, the more they reported being bullied.

Children at 12 year-old are in transition to becoming teenagers. In Indonesia, they are in the last grade of elementary school, in transition to middle school.

It is a critical period when children explore their new social roles and identities, and they need to be accepted by peers, which might result in aggressive behaviour (Hong and Espelage 2012; Pellegrini 2002).

Sibling Bullying

- Frequency of children being bullied more than three times in the last month by siblings is quite high, particularly the fact of being hit by siblings, which is reported in a much higher percentage (24.8%) than being hit by other children at school (20.8%).
- That means sibling bullying is a serious problem in Indonesia as the cases are more frequent than school bullying.
- Even though not many bullying cases at home have been reported in Indonesia, it does not mean they are non-existent.

Sibling Bullying

Gender and age have been suggested to be associated with sibling bullying (Tanrikulu and Campbell 2015).

In this study, both boys and girls reported experiencing physical bullying by siblings, but girls reported experiencing physical bullying by siblings much more frequently (21.8%) than being bullied physically at school (14.6%), while boys reported being bullied by siblings and by children at school with the same frequency (28% and 28.1%).



School Bullying

Being hit at school is reported to be double frequent among boys (28.0%) than girls (14.6%).

Being left out by other children at school seems to be more frequent among children 10 year-old compared to 8 and 12 year-old groups.

In our research, it is slightly more frequent to happen among girls (20.6%) than boys (18.2%).

SWB

Overall results showed that children who are not involved in bullying display higher scores in any of the two SWB indicators used here (the OLS and the CW-SWBS).

Bullying showed a significant negative contribution to SWB in Indonesian children in the 10 and 12 year-old groups, and no significant association to SWB in the 8 year-old group.

8 Year-Old Group

Regression models showed that none of the bullying had a significant association to the SWB of this age group.

It seems that 8 year-old children become used to being victims of bullying, and apparently their SWB does not change significantly as a consequence of being bullied by siblings or by children at school.

However, children 8 year-old display the lowest SWB mean (both for OLS and CW-SWBS) compared to 10 and 12 year-olds.

Although the bullying seems to be manageable, adults still need to be aware that these children might be having serious problems.

10 Year-old Group

For 10 year-old children, being physically bullied at school shows significant negative association with SWB while being verbally or psychologically bullied does not display any significant association.

It seems that children at 10 year-old are able to adapt to the situations in which they are bullied verbally at home, and bullied both verbally and psychologically at school, and for that reason these situations do not show a significant impact on their level of SWB.



12 Year-old Group

According to our regression models, the SWB of children 12 year-old appears to be more affected by different bullying experiences than that of younger children.

In fact, different significant contributions are identified depending on the SWB indicator used as the dependent variable when all the bullying actions are included as independent variables in the regression model.

However, the bullying actions with the highest negative significant contribution to SWB for this age group are being bullied by siblings.

This results suggesting that being bullied by siblings has the highest impact on children's SWB for the 12 year-old group.

SWB by gender

Indonesian girls usually display higher mean scores of SWB compared to boys.

In the Indonesian context, this is because girls are protected more by parents than are boys. Therefore, when girls express unhappiness, parents are usually aware of it.

Indonesian girls are allowed to express their emotions, and it is socially acceptable to seek help, which is not the case for boys.

These factors allow girls to maintain higher SWB than boys.

Cummins' theory of homeostasis (2014) sees this as one of the buffers that help individuals maintain their level of SWB.

Cummins' theory of SWB homeostasis

Using Cummins' theory of SWB homeostasis (2014) for Indonesian children who participated in this study, bullying seems to be a challenge they have to face in their daily lives.

Indonesian children seem to adapt to these negative challenges (particularly 8 year-old), including being bullied at home and at school, and the situation apparently does not significantly disrupt the homeostatic controlled set-point of SWB in most cases. These results appear to be consistent across age groups.

Cummins' theory of SWB homeostasis

Results showed that the level of well-being of Indonesian children who experienced bullying is lower than children who had never been bullied.

According to Cummins (2014), if the level of SWB moves towards the margins of the homeostatic system, the system then functions to revert the SWB level back to the normal range of around 60-90.

This explains the adaptation process Indonesian children went through every time they experienced bullying at home or at school.

Children maintained their well-being even though they experienced bullying, shown by their scores being around 81.4-84.8



Cummins' theory of SWB homeostasis

Despite this, they remained relatively high in the normal range; in general, SWB scores for bullied children were significantly lower than those of non-bullied children (except for the 8 year-old group), and such high scores may hide the problem and make it invisible to many adults.

This is a serious problem for children, and it needs to be taken into account by parents and teachers in order to help the children, whose mental health might be at serious risk.

Conclusion

Both sibling bullying and school bullying significantly contributes to a lower level of SWB in Indonesian children and are in line with results obtained by Tiliouine (2015) and Savahl et al. (2019).

Parents and teachers need to be aware that these children may need support

Parents and teachers also need to understand that a high frequency of bullying (more than three times in the past month) becomes a serious problem for children, and those who bully these children need to be stopped.



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Thank You

