

# THE EFFECT OF THIEF LABELING ON YOUTHS

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## THE EFFECT OF THIEF LABELING ON YOUTHS

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### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to determine the effect of labeling on youths in X Village, Tambang District. The research method used in this research is using qualitative research methods which aim to describe the actual situation of what is happening at the research location through collecting, identifying and analyzing data in order to obtain the answers to be achieved. In this study using the labeling theory (Howard S. Becker and Edwin Lemert) which explains how society reacts to someone's behavior that is considered deviant and then labeled by their social environment to give rise to various influences on the people they label. The conclusion of this study is the need for public awareness of their views on youth who will eventually become victims of the community itself and trigger negative impacts on these youths.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

In social life, there are several types of people who do good and bad thing. It is natural for good deeds or actions that can harm other people. There is always injustice that caused by the actions of people who violate the laws and norm in society, and it also make impact and cause detrimental to the people who wasn't involved in it. In Indonesia, there are many people do not obey their obligations and rights as Indonesian citizens. In this aspect of life, each individual has their own problems. However, mostly some of them looking for a short way in solving the problem those they have by doing a crime. There are many factors that supported people commit criminal acts such as lack of financial need, social inequality and others.

The is the most crime that occurs in community. The is a crime that occurs in the community with a target with valuable property, such as homes, offices or the public places that have a high selling value. The crime of theft is a social phenomenon that is always faced by the community, various efforts have been made by the authorities and the citizens themselves to eliminate it, but these efforts are unlikely to be realized as a whole, because every crime will not be eliminated easily but can only be reduced. Intensity and quality. The happened in community is not only done by adult perpetrators (lawful) but also done by adolescent.

In Indonesia, the occurrence of juvenile delinquency, such as theft, is certainly disturbing the surrounding community. There are various factors that cause them to steal, such as the influence of environment, peers, lack of affection from parents, and so on. The increasing number of cases of theft is causing public unrest. Public unrest is occurs due to the intensity of theft over the years and it experienced by several villages located in Tambang District, Kampar Regency.

In recent years there have been a number of criminal acts in a number of villages in Tambang District, one of them is theft. In several cases of theft, there were several acts of theft that were caught by the local community and arrested by the police for legal processing. Apart from being processed legally, there are also cases were successfully resolved by custom and deliberation, such as an agreement, a fine, and several cases. Other conditions agreed by local residents. In a number of cases, it is not uncommon to find out that the perpetrator is a young resident of the "X" Village.

According to the news circulating in the community, there were a number of criminal acts whose perpetrator was also one of the youths from "X" Village. This is in accordance with the data from the Tambang Police, Kampar District on March 25, 2021:

**Table 1.1 Theft Case Data of Tambang Police**

THEFT CASE DATA OF TAMBANG POLICE			
	2018	2019	2020
	56 Cases	48 Cases	94 Cases

Source: *Head of Criminal Investigation Unit of Tambang Police*

"X" village is a village located in the middle of other villages in the Tambang District. Since the first, "X" Village has always faced a fairly serious problem, namely the problem of theft. So from this problem, the surrounding village community and even the "X" Village community itself view and label the perpetrators and label the other young people in the same group with him as thieves too.

There are a lot of unfair things that appear due to that label, for example, there are some of youths in "X" Village that never do theft or any other thing against the rules, but the people labeling them as theft, and it make them feel ostracized from the community due to the label that have been given to them. So, based on the phenomenon that happened in that village, the writer would like to do a research about how it the effect of labeling on youths in Village X, Tambang District, Kampar Regency.

## 2. RESEARCH METHOD

In this research, we used a qualitative method because the research data is more related to the interpretation of the data found in the field so that this research can be directed to collect data, take meaning, and gain understanding from the case. The research subjects that have been described in the research core are determined randomly, the focus of this research can determine the informants who will be used as key informants and provide the necessary information during the research process. Informants are people who understand and control data, information or facts from an object of research. According to Bagong, an informant is someone who has clear information, in the form of data, statements or information that can help solve problems in the research. Research informants include several types, namely:

1. Key informants are those who know and have various basic information needed in research.
2. The main informants are those who are directly involved in the social interactions studied.
3. Additional informants are those who can provide information even though they are not directly involved in the social interactions studied.

Qualitative research can be defined as a social science research who tried to collect and analyze the data in those kinds of words or written as the actions of humans and researchers to calculate the qualitative data that has been obtained. Data that has been analyzed by researchers in qualitative research is can be seen in the form of words and actions that committed by humans. Bungin in quotes all qualitative research in several ways reflect perspective phenomenological. That is, researchers trying to understand the meaning of an events and interactions for ordinary people in certain situations.

**Table 3.1 Informan and Key Informan**

RESPONDEN	INFORMAN	KEY INFORMAN	JUMLAH
Youths	-	3	3
Community	-	3	3
Village Apparatus	1	-	1
Tambang Police	1	-	1
<b>Total</b>			<b>8</b>

Source: *the author, 2021*

The types and sources of data obtained from the results of this study can be divided into two types, namely primary data and secondary data, including the following:

1. Primary Data



The data obtained directly at the research location, namely, in village X, Village Office X, and the Tambang Police which were obtained by interviewing directly to the informants.

## 2. Secondary Data

The data obtained indirectly from various sources in the form of literature, both with techniques for collecting and inventorying books, scientific works, the internet, and documents related to those studied by the author.

The data collection technique used by the researcher used primary data and secondary data, namely using the interview method and the documentation method. Mustofa explained, data collection techniques that are usually carried out for self-recognition surveys consist of:

1. Observation is an effort to collect data with the author conducting research directly to the location or directly in the field.
2. Interview is a question and answer process with one individual or group to get the information the writer wants. The author conducts questions and answers using unstructured guidelines.
3. Documentation is the process of taking legal documents with problems in research.
4. Data collection carried out by the author, one of which is an interview that aims to obtain data from key informants with unstructured guidelines, interviews are addressed directly to key informants in order to obtain primary data.

## 3. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

Based on the results of the research, we found out that:

1. The label as a thief has been attached to the youth in Village X. Since the past, there have often been labels given to several youths, they were labeled as thieves, even though not all of them committed the theft, only one person did the theft but society assumes that all of the gang members are thieves and the stamp is attached to them.
2. The community assumes that these youths are branded or labeled because they are related to the perpetrators of the theft, so they are likely to be the same as perpetrators and involved in the theft.

Regarding to the research about labeling of the of several youths who were accused by the community and then had a very large impact on most of the youth in village X which eventually led to polemics and gaps between youths and communities. This can be seen by the interviews with several key informants in Village X and several local residents where the youths claimed to be very affected by the labels that given by most of the community to them, there are:

1. Youths are not trusted by local communities.
2. Youths are often ridiculed and even suspected only with their own assumptions which are not necessarily true.
3. Often accused even though they're doing nothing
4. Excommunicated.
5. Fear of mingling with society.
6. Often avoided both between groups and with residents.
7. It is difficult to find work around the village and neighboring villages.
8. Getting pressure from society that may have an impact on the psychology of youth.
9. And some other influences and impacts by the public labeling.

Labeling is a theory of stamping in individual behavior deviations. In his explanation, the labeling theory also uses an interactionism approach which is interested in the consequences of the interaction between the deviant and ordinary people. Or actions that the person's judgment of is negative. This analysis of labeling is centered on the reactions of others, meaning that there are people who define, label, or label individuals, if they are associated with crime [9]. It is clear in the phenomenon that this problem can become an increasingly serious problem; this is due to the pressure by these communities who always assume irresponsibly so that it can result in these young people being able and likely to agree. The accusations so that criminal acts occur due to the negative impact of the labeling. It can be assumed that the approach between the community and youth needs to be the main milestone that must be done to reduce the inequality that occurs between them, this can be done in various ways and supported by the encouragement of the village government which should tend to encourage youth to be more open with the community and society as well. The role of the police must also intervene in providing socialization with communities and youth, it aims to provide knowledge and advice on how the attitude should be between the community and youth to be harmonious citizens in society.

## 4. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings and analysis that the authors got at the research location, that there have been problems with village youths as a result of and the aftermath of bad labels or labels given by the community to them.

The conclusions obtained from what was obtained by the author when conducting research in X Village in Tambang District will be translated into a conclusion section which is the conclusion of this study, while the conclusions obtained are the form of labeling the act of theft against a number of youths who have become victims due to wrong thoughts, views and visions, as well as the lack of knowledge from the community about the problems they face, resulting in the emergence of new problems by the influence and impact of the low public awareness of the wrong view of the problems they experience. The author considers that the most influencing factor that it is difficult to overcome the problems of these young people is that it lies in their community members themselves. Because from the results of the research that the author managed to conclude that many young people who are victims of the wrong view of the community towards them only because one of the perpetrators of theft hangs out with them and immediately suspects that they label them as a thief syndicate.

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