



Representation of Child Exploitation in the Film 'Trade of Innocents' and Reflections for Indonesia

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Abstract

The film Trade of Innocents (2012) presents an overview of the situation of child trafficking in Cambodia. It explores the psychological impact of victims and the role of social support interventions in victim recovery, as well as strategies in the context of tackling child trafficking in Indonesia. The research also examines the potential strengths of the characters and protagonists in the film who demonstrate perseverance in the face of challenges. This research offers a new perspective in analyzing the issue of child trafficking, its psychological impact, social support for victim recovery, and the utilization of potential strengths. A qualitative approach was used in this research, with the type of content analysis method, supported by various sources such as previous research, books, national regulations, and international conventions on children's rights. The results concluded the complexity of human trafficking and the need for attention from various parties including the state, community, and family. The strengths perspective focuses on the strengths in the problem of human trafficking, including the strength of the main character, the ability of survivors to overcome their trauma, the role of social workers, NGOs, and the government in providing interventions to handle of child trafficking. Multi-stakeholder cooperation is needed in addressing the issue of child trafficking, advocacy, and building collective public awareness.

Keywords: Trade of Innocents, Human Trafficking, Child Exploitation, Social Intervention

Introduction

Human trafficking is the act of collecting, transferring, receiving, or detaining human beings accompanied by threats, violence, coercion, and deception for exploitation (The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime). The global problem of human trafficking is longstanding and the practice continues to transform and expand today, with various forms of actions including exploitation, forced labor, and even sexual slavery (Daniel et al., 2017; Giovanni & Schooneveld, 2022). Historically, human trafficking began in 1525, when Africans were trafficked to Europe and the Americas. This continued for the next 350 years, known as the trans-Atlantic slave trade period, when 12.5 million slaves were shipped from Africa around the world, and around 10.7 million were sent to the Americas. Slavery was first outlawed by Britain in 1807 and the United States in 1820 (Giovanni & Schooneveld, 2022).

The issue of human trafficking has been raised in the movie Trade of Innocents released in 2012 by The Bicycle Peddler LLC and distributed by Monterey Media (Bessette, C, 2012). The movie tells the story of a married couple, Alex Becker (Dermot Mulroney) and Claire (Mira Sorvino) in their volunteer role in Cambodia. The two volunteered at the request of the Cambodian government after they experienced the loss of their daughter, who became a victim of human trafficking. The process of human trafficking in this movie is depicted in detail. The initial stage begins with recruiting child victims under the age of 12. There are two patterns of perpetrators in recruitment, by kidnapping and paying a sum of money to the

victim's parents. The final phase is offering the victim's services to pedophiles in a special place for 2,000-4,000 USD (Besette, C, 2012). The perpetrators are tourists from other countries who target victims from among children.

Furthermore, the dynamics of Becker and Claire's roles are told coherently. Becker conducts investigations and reconnaissance of the main perpetrator of human trafficking (Duke), while Claire assists children in a safe house (Besette, C, 2012). The condition of the rescued children is as trauma that is still so strong, such as deep sadness, gloom, and lack of joy in life. Overall, the film shows the crime of human trafficking in Cambodia triggered by the presence of tourists from other countries as pedophiles, its complex dynamics, and the impact on victims.

Other research that has discussed the movie *Trade of Innocents* only focuses on the first stages of the trafficking process, namely the recruitment of potential victims and victim transactions (Giuliani and Heriyati, 2022). Related to the recruitment process, it confirms the two forms, direct and indirect, mentioned above. The direct process is targeting victims and then forcibly abducting them to take them to brothels. Meanwhile, in the indirect method, the pimp (broker) buys the victim from the victim's family. This stage begins with the pimp's efforts to offer the victim to customers in the brothel until they find a price agreement.

It is known that movies function as a tool for entertainment, cultural expression, and education. In principle, it is also an effective medium and has a significant impact on humanitarian issues (Huda & Nafsika, 2023). Likewise, the movie, *Trade of Innocents*, can be a campaign medium in raising awareness of child exploitation, raising support, and anti-trafficking advocacy. For Okyere (2021), the film *Trade of Innocents* can be used as a means of communication for victims who often do not have the voice and ability to defend themselves.

Conceptually, violence against children is any form of physical and/or emotional abuse, sexual abuse, commercial or other exploitation (Salim et al., 2022). To overcome its impact, social intervention is essential in restoring the victim's social functioning. More specifically, traumatic recovery and rehabilitation services strengthen individual functioning for a better future. In this case, social workers play a positive role in dealing with victims of sexual crimes, because their presence facilitates the fulfillment of children's rights and needs to obtain assistance and access to social services (Siregar and Africa, 2021). Forms of various assistance services to victims include counseling services, psychotherapy, support systems, victim assistance, and acting as a broker in connecting victims with other sources of services needed (Tintin et al., 2020).

This research offers a new perspective in analyzing the problem of child trafficking that includes psychological impact, social support for victim recovery, and utilization of potential strengths. The purpose of this research is to explore the psychological impact of the role of social support interventions in victims' recovery efforts and strategies in contextualizing counter-trafficking in Indonesia. In addition, it examines the potential strengths of the movie's characters and protagonists who show perseverance in facing various challenges. Although the movie contains controversial scenes showing the negative impact on children, the approach reveals various aspects of strength.

Methods

This research uses a qualitative approach referring to the film, *Trade of Innocents*, to describe and understand the phenomenon of trafficking in persons who exploit children and analyze it in a descriptive narrative. The qualitative approach, according to Babbie (2004), is a method that seeks to reveal the deep meaning of a fact of behavioral experience by obtaining qualitative data. Furthermore, this type of research uses the content analysis method to study the content of the movie in depth related to the identification of problems and story structures relevant to child trafficking. The source of data for this research is not only the movie content but also previous research, books, national regulations, and international conventions on children's rights.

Results and Discussion

About the Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is a form of modern slavery, which is related to and carried out by organized criminal networks operating globally (Cameron, 2016). Meanwhile, Malloch and Rigby (2016) revealed that human trafficking is a term that refers to a variety of actions including the forced removal, exploitation, and involuntary servitude of men, women, and children around the world. Based on the two definitions above, human trafficking is equivalent to modern slavery, a crime against humanity.

The issue of human trafficking has become a serious threat to global security. This crime is driven by advances in transportation, technology, information, and communication which are used as opportunities in the development of trafficking modes (Syaputra, 2019). In addition, globalization provides freedom of mobility for citizens in trafficking across countries. Trafficking activities are aimed at forced human labor, slavery, sexual exploitation, and other commercial activities that provide benefits to traffickers or others. Other commercial activities include providing forced marriage partners and selling human organs or tissues (Vageshjith and Kaur, 2022).

Generally, women and children are the most frequent victims of human trafficking. One of the causes of the vulnerability of women and children to become victims is the urgent economic conditions and limited employment opportunities amid higher population growth (Hatta, 2012). Specifically, trafficking in persons (women) according to the Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women (1997) emphasizes three elements including the recruitment process, transportation, and crossing national borders. (Herlan, 2018). Victims of human trafficking mostly come from developing countries where regulations and law enforcement tend to be weak (Cameron, 2016). These countries are unable to prevent and fight the penetration of highly organized transnational criminal networks. Indonesia, as one of the developing countries in the world, is not free from the problem of human trafficking. It has been repeatedly revealed that Indonesian citizens are victims of human trafficking, for example in Malaysia and Singapore (Rumlah, 2021).

In Indonesia, the problem of human trafficking is regulated in Law Number 21 of 2007 concerning the Eradication of the Crime of Trafficking in Persons. Article 1 paragraph (1) of the law explains that trafficking in persons is the act of recruiting, transporting, harboring, sending, transferring, or receiving a person by threat of violence, use of violence, abduction, harboring, falsification, fraud, abuse of power or vulnerable position, debt bondage or giving payments or benefits, to obtain the consent of the person who has control over the other person, both within the country and between countries, for exploitation or resulting in exploitation. This definition highlights efforts to recruit, accommodate, transfer, and send to the recipient. Some of these efforts are accompanied by threats and violence with various modes such as falsifying documents, fraud, ensnaring debt, and providing money payments. The process leads to situations and acts of human exploitation within a country and also between countries.

Child Protection

As an international regulatory instrument, the International Convention on the Rights of the Child highlights the idea that children are not objects of their parents' property and do not just accept their decisions. Children are human individuals who also have rights to their lives. The Convention on the Rights of the Child has four main pillars including the right to survival rights, development rights, protection rights, and participation rights (Fadhilillah et. al., 2015). The guarantee of the fulfillment of the four main pillars rests on the principles of non-discrimination, prioritization of the best interests of children, survival and development of children, and respect for children's opinions.

There are three substantial elements that underly child rights. First, the element of protection, namely that everyone has the right to legal protection against all forms of actions that can harm them. Second, the element of recognition is characterized by the recognition of a person who is the subject or owner of a right. Third, the element of will, that the right is a will accompanied by power, for example, a person can own various assets such as a house based on the will of the owner that others are obliged to respect (Apeldoorn, 2001: 198-212). In the context of child protection, every child has the right to be protected from all actions that can harm them. Children are the subject or owner of rights, and children have the will to have a happy, safe, and comfortable life.

In the context of achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals to eliminate all forms of violence against children, national and local governments, non-governmental sectors and communities need to work together to prevent violence against children. Most importantly, they need to prioritize child welfare and protection in the national development agenda (Agastya, 2024). Meanwhile, related to the facts of sexual violence against children, in Indonesia, unequal power relations are a source of sexual violence against children. The perpetrator perpetrates violence by capitalizing on the victim's trust, authority, and dependency. Child sexual abuse has profound consequences, including psychological trauma, social stigma, and long-term health losses (Santi, 2024).

Children's rights in Indonesia, have been regulated and guaranteed in the 1945 Constitution and Law No. 35/2014 on Child Protection. Article 28B paragraph (2) of the 1945 Constitution guarantees that "Every child has the right to survival, growth and development and the right to protection from violence and discrimination". The government and state institutions are obliged and responsible for providing special protection to children in conflict with the law, children from minority and isolated groups, children who are economically and/or sexually exploited and trafficked children, as stipulated in Article 29 of Law No. 35/2014 on Child Protection.

Protection for every child everywhere is the responsibility of many parties, especially the state, government, parents, family, and society. Each of these parties can play a role in child protection in every aspect of life including religious, educational, health, and social aspects (Shohib, 2023). Law 35 of 2014 on Child Protection, in its articles and explanations, guarantees protection for children who are victims of trafficking, and children who experience economic exploitation, and sexual violence.

The Strength Perspective

Historically, the strengths perspective in social work was first promoted by Dennis Saleebey. The strength perspective as one of the approaches in social work focuses on identifying and strengthening the resources, abilities, and potential possessed by individuals, families, and communities that can be used to overcome various problems (Guo, 2010). David Howe (2009) argues that the strengths perspective not only requires social workers to be able to see people behind the labels of their problems and weaknesses but also to recognize and acknowledge their potential and strengths. When clients face difficulties, social workers need to recognize what strengths, talents, experiences, skills, resources, and supports service users can use to cope with stress.

Furthermore, Payne (2016) also stated a similar explanation of the strength perspective as a forward-looking approach, rejecting “problem-solving” as a focus for individual help. Instead, social workers are directed to help clients and their families to re-examine problems by looking for strengths in their current lives, so that they can build a positive future. In addition to emphasizing the importance of recognizing clients' strengths and potential, the Strengths Perspective changes the previous traditional social work perception of social work service users as victims so as not to devalue clients. Social workers must be able to listen and be interested in clients' stories to effectively find out about clients' strengths and potential.

Furthermore, Saleebey (in Zastrow, 2017) suggests five principles of the strength perspective, 1. Every individual, group, family, and community has strengths. 2. Trauma, abuse, illness, and struggle may be detrimental. However, they can also be a source of challenges and opportunities. 3. Social workers should not assume that they know the upper limit of the capacity to grow and change. Social Workers should take the aspirations of individuals, and groups seriously. 4. Serve clients in the best way by collaborating with them. 5. Every environment is full of resources. These five principles can guide social workers in providing intervention services for clients.

The strength-based perspective is a special method when providing help to clients and relies on each client's experience to overcome their problems. Although focusing on strengths, this approach emphasizes that difficulties or problems faced by clients are not ignored (Ishartono & Rahardjo, 2016). The strengths perspective is closely related to the concept of empowerment, which is the process of helping individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities to increase interpersonal, personal, political, and social, economic power so that they can improve their circumstances (Zastrow, 2017).

Discussion

Complexities of Human Trafficking

The complexity of trafficking and exploitation of children in Cambodia as depicted in the movie, *Trade of Innocents*, shows the processes of trafficking. The first aspect focuses on the process. Children under the age of twelve are sold and forced into commercial sex work when they should be living a happy life and attending school. This trafficking and exploitation of children is carried out by organized criminal networks with the aim of financial gain. High consumer demand for child prostitutes is the main driver of this trafficking activity. In this case, Duke, as the leader of the network, actively offered high-priced prostitutes to men from various countries through tourism channels and sought out children in villages to be recruited or abducted.

The second and third look at underlying causes. Trafficking and child exploitation networks take advantage of the extreme poverty that many families in Cambodia experience. The movie depicts these conditions through the setting of a densely populated and rundown residential area. Poor families in these areas do not have enough income to make ends meet, so they are forced to rely on debt. The pimps in the trafficking network take advantage of this situation to trap the girls' parents with large debts that are difficult to repay, so they are forced to give up their children to become prostitutes. Third, the limited education of families means that they are easily manipulated and exploited by the human trafficking network. The lack of education of parents and children means that they do not have information and understanding about the cunning strategies used by pimps to ensnare and exploit them. In addition, they also do not know what steps to take to overcome the problems they face.

Fourth, the widespread practice of trafficking and exploitation of children is also strongly influenced by the local cultural understanding that considers children as a financial source to fulfill family needs. This is signaled in the film by a police official's statement to Becker, with the verbatim sentence “You don't understand Asian culture; for us children must be devoted to their parents. If parents experience poverty,

a child will make sacrifices to save his younger sibling". The fifth, stresses the weak law enforcement and corrupt behavior of the authorities. In the film, this aspect is characterized by the cooperation of police officials with perpetrators of crimes against humanity for personal gain. Sixth, the deep trauma experienced by victims, who are predominantly children, as a result of physical and sexual violence, has an impact on the mental health of the victims. The movie depicts moody, depressed, and frightened children, who are unable to interact with strangers. Repeated physical and sexual violence over a long period makes child victims lose their sense of security and distrust others around them.

Seventh, treating victims' trauma requires special treatment by medical personnel and professional social workers over a long period. The movie depicts the lack of traumatic healing services from the government. Eighth, the movie also shows the problem of gender discrimination, where girls are more vulnerable to becoming victims of trafficking.

Causes of Child Trafficking and Exploitation

Of the eight issues raised in *Trade of Innocents*, the root causes of trafficking and child exploitation are severe family poverty and lack of education. Poor economic conditions put families in a very vulnerable situation. Such conditions often force parents to make difficult decisions, including allowing their children to be trafficked. Selling children is a way to survive and maintain the continuity of the family. The heavy economic burden often makes parents decide to accept offers from child trafficking networks, especially when they have usually been engineered as economic opportunities that promise high-paying work opportunities. Parents may also be lured with money to sell their children. When parents refuse to sell their children, the traffickers will count it as a debt that gets bigger and will be considered paid off if they want to give up their children.

In addition, severe family poverty is difficult to separate from the limited education and skills of parents and children. The lack of education means that they do not have enough knowledge to recognize trafficking and the dangers it poses. Low levels of education and skills will also limit access to decent work opportunities, making it easy for families to get caught in a cycle of poverty that leads to vulnerability to exploitation. The film also explicitly shows that child victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation usually come from families with low educational backgrounds, so they can easily be manipulated and lured by the perpetrators. In addition, poor families in Cambodia are also not supported by public education programs that aim to prevent trafficking and protect children from crime.

Victim Psychological Impact Intervention

Social intervention, Huda (2009: 26) is an effort to improve social functioning through various action models. Social functioning is characterized by three main elements including a sense of satisfaction in life roles, feelings of self-worth, and positive relationships with others. (Skidmore, 1991: 19). It is hoped that with client intervention services, these three strengths can be re-established in clients. The intervention for victims of child exploitation in the context of social work is so important. Survivors of child exploitation need help for past traumatic recovery and for building confidence in their future. Social intervention means an act of providing help to overcome the problems experienced by clients.

Social intervention for victims of child exploitation can be formulated in several forms of help. First is the focus on providing economic support to the victim's family so that they can get out of the vicious cycle of poverty and reduce the level of vulnerability to trafficking. The second, stresses raising awareness about the importance of education and open access to education for the poor so that they gain knowledge about the dangers of trafficking and ways to protect themselves increases.

The third aspect includes raising awareness about children's rights and child protection and addressing gender discrimination. The fourth leads to strengthening law enforcement systems and efforts so that all parties involved in the crime of trafficking and exploitation of children receive punishment that provides a deterrent effect. Lastly, the fifth points to improving traumatic healing and rehabilitation services for victims of trafficking and child exploitation to help them recover from trauma and foster the spirit of building a normal life in the future.

Child victims of exploitation and trafficking are particularly vulnerable to mental health disorders. Barry (1998) in Prasetyo (2018) identify several intervention methods to restore mental health, namely psychosocial and psychopharmacological intervention methods. Psychosocial intervention methods optimize the support of social environmental resources such as family and social networks. Some forms of psychosocial intervention methods are crisis intervention, milieu therapy which focuses on good environmental support, behavior modification, and group therapy. Meanwhile, the psychopharmacological method involves the use of chemical drugs to restore the mental stability of a person with a psychiatric disorder.

Maximizing Anti-Trafficking Power

Based on the movie, *Trade of Innocents*, there are several potential strengths in efforts to overcome the problem of child trafficking and exploitation, including: First, a couple, Alex Becker and Claire used their personal experience of losing a child as a strength to help child victims of sexual exploitation in Cambodia. Despite their trauma, both were able to recover and empower the child victims of exploitation, who were rescued. Claire is involved in volunteer social work, while Alex focuses on investigating and eradicating human trafficking cases. Their courage and commitment in the face of challenges in Cambodia reflect the importance of individual strength of character in addressing the issue of child trafficking and exploitation.

Secondly, child survivors of trafficking and sexual exploitation in safe houses are portrayed as having extraordinary abilities to overcome their trauma. They are considered not only as victims but also as individuals who have the potential to recover and develop, as long as they get good and appropriate support. Thirdly, the role of N.G.O.s is crucial in providing intervention and assistance to children rescued from trafficking. The existence of these non-governmental organizations creates a strong support network. They often provide rescue and rehabilitation for victims. Fourth, the social worker at the safe house managed by N.G.O., was once a victim of trafficking and child sexual exploitation. She and her team demonstrated their emotional strength using personal experiences to help clients at the safe house. This experience-based helping offers victims hope to survive and change for the better. Fifth, the strength of bonding in Asian families, including in Cambodia, is reflected in close relationships and parenting. For example, a grandfather who cares for his granddaughter and a sister who works as a prostitute yet still carries out her responsibility to care for her younger sibling. Sixth, the strength of the community is shown by the cooperation between N.G.O., law enforcement officials, volunteers, and the local community in efforts to eradicate human trafficking and child exploitation. The movie narrative and message of “*Trade of Innocents*” build collective public awareness about human trafficking and child sexual exploitation. The story shows hope for a better future through multi-stakeholder cooperation, starting with a couple (Becker and Claire). Despite sabotage from the police, Becker and his team catch the trafficker (Duke).

Reflections from Cambodia and Indonesia's Policy Strategy

The child trafficking and exploitation in Cambodia involves complex dynamics. The movie, *Trade of Innocents*, has illustrated how minors are recruited and exploited by trafficking networks. The problem is not only about recruitment and sales but the impact of trauma and prevention efforts so that trafficking is not experienced by the community, including in Indonesia. Addressing the problem of child trafficking requires social intervention through a strengths-based approach.

Social workers play a central role in the recovery process of child trafficking victims. Identifying potential strengths between the client and the social worker can help victims recover from trauma and build a strong social support network. The counseling service covers various aspects of life to ensure complete recovery. At the micro level, the provision of counseling and therapy services is essential in overcoming the trauma experienced by victims. Groups that enable victims to come together to share their experiences can help build a strong social support network. The counseling service process covers a wide range of life aspects, including psychological, emotional, spiritual, and social aspects, which are important indicators of social functioning (Skidmore, 1991). Thus, victims can recover from traumatic impacts and develop effective coping strategies.

The role of social workers in the recovery of child trafficking victims, with a focus on identifying strengths, building social support networks, and holistic counseling services, is applicable to both the Cambodian and Indonesian contexts, although not exactly the same. The principles of social intervention and social work practice that emphasize individual strengths and social support are universally relevant approaches to help child trafficking victims recover from trauma and build better lives, regardless of geographic context.

At the mezzo level, related to community groups and society, efforts to optimize local resources are needed as an important step in preventing child trafficking. The potential of Cambodia is not much different from Indonesia, which has leading export commodities such as agriculture, the garment industry, fisheries, and tourism. Strategies to optimize the use of agricultural land, for example, can increase the production of rice, corn, rubber latex, and black pepper. This step can be optimized by involving the government, communities, and domestic and international NGO organizations concerned with the elimination of human trafficking (Chhuor, 2017). Increased employment opportunities will help to escape poverty and improve people's quality of life.

In addition, psychosocial interventions through practical skills training programs such as handicrafts, painting, entrepreneurship, and technology can help victims become more independent. These skill improvement efforts need to be followed by opening access to capital that can be used by participants to start new businesses or develop existing businesses (Prasetyo, 2018). Opening access to capital can be achieved through religious social fundraising efforts, international N.G.O assistance, or government credit programs with light requirements. For example, the Mekaar program, run by PT

Permodalan Nasional Madani (Persero) since 2015, is a financing service for the underprivileged micro-enterprise sector. The Mekaar program is considered to be the closest to the poor among existing microcredit services in Indonesia, with a loan of IDR 2 million (approximately US\$150) for each recipient (Rokhim, 2018).

Law No. 21/2007 on the Eradication of Trafficking in Persons and Law No. 35/2014 on Child Protection are broader policy foundations that mandate victim protection and recovery. Furthermore, establishing the Directorate of Crimes against Women and Children and Trafficking in Persons (Dir PPA-PPO) in the Indonesian National Police in September 2024 is an example of an institutional policy that aims to handle trafficking cases more optimally and comprehensively. While Dir PPA-PPO's main focus is law enforcement and protection, its existence also opens up opportunities for the development and implementation of victim recovery programs, which can include skills training and facilitating access to capital. Economic empowerment programs organized by the government or non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Indonesia for vulnerable groups can also be considered as examples of policy implementation that supports the economic independence of child trafficking victims. While these programs may not be exclusively aimed at child trafficking victims, they create opportunities for victims to acquire the skills and capital needed to build a more independent life.

Next, it is important to provide access to formal and informal education for victims to improve their knowledge and skills. Financial support for poor families will provide an opportunity for victims and their families to escape poverty and improve their quality of life. Education is also a psychosocial intervention method that emphasizes good environmental support and group support (Barry, 1998). Vocational academic education and self-potential development will help victims prepare for a brighter future. Furthermore, given the potential for child victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation to experience discriminatory stigma in the community, public education campaigns on the potential risks and impacts of trafficking and sexual exploitation are needed to reduce stigma and support the reintegration of victims into the community.

Regarding macro-level strategies, the implementation of interventions by social workers cannot work alone or partially; it requires synergy and the role of law enforcement institutions. This step aims to guarantee the safety of the victim's right to security and right to justice until the prosecution stage as an effort to hold the perpetrator accountable before the law, even though in the context of the film, the police in Cambodia collaborated with the perpetrators of the crime because they were entangled in corrupt behavior. In essence, strengthening the intervention requires synergized cooperation efforts across sectors.

At a more macro level, interventions can also encourage policies based on the perspective of protecting victims and their rights and policies that are committed to enforcing the law against traffickers of sexual exploitation of children (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2020). Most recently, in September 2024 the Indonesian National Police established the Directorate of Crimes against Women and Children, and Criminal Trafficking in Persons. The establishment of Dir PPA-PPO is a progressive step to realize more optimal and comprehensive services in handling cases of violence against women, and children and cases of human trafficking (Komnas Perempuan & KPAI, September 2024).

Looking at the complexity of the problem of child trafficking and exploitation in Cambodia as a reflection as well as strategies to address trafficking in Indonesia, collaboration between social workers, government, and communities is essential in creating a safe and supportive environment for children. With a strengths-based approach, at the micro level the focus is on providing inclusive victim recovery services, then at the mezzo level through optimizing local community resources and implementing policies at the macro level through strengthening cross-sector synergies and law enforcement. It is hoped that all parties in Indonesia can work together to reduce the potential risk of human trafficking and support victims to build a better future to protect the rights of children in Indonesia.

Although the movie 'Trade of Innocents' is set in Cambodia, reflections on the Indonesian case are particularly relevant given Indonesia's vulnerability to the problem of child trafficking. As a developing country with significant poverty and economic disparities in some areas, Indonesia faces similar challenges in preventing and tackling child trafficking. Factors such as lack of education, limited employment opportunities, and certain cultural norms may also increase the risk of child exploitation in Indonesia. Furthermore, while Indonesia has legal foundations such as Law No. 21/2007 on the Eradication of Trafficking in Persons and Law No. 35/2014 on Child Protection, the effectiveness of implementation and law enforcement still needs strengthening. Establishing Dir PPA-PPO is a positive step, but it needs to be accompanied by increased capacity of law enforcement officials, more solid cross-sectoral cooperation, and prevention programs that target the root of the problem at the family and community levels. Learning from the depiction in the movie, strength-based social interventions, economic empowerment of vulnerable families, and increased public awareness are key to protecting Indonesian children from the threat of human trafficking.

Conclusion and Suggestions

The movie, *Trade of Innocents* (2012), contributes to the dissemination of knowledge to build awareness of the importance of combating human trafficking and child exploitation crimes. The lead actors in the movie, Alex Becker and Claire can be a source of inspiration for many people. After experiencing the tragedy of losing a child to trafficking in the past, they were moved to help similar victims voluntarily. This shows the strength of their motivation to fight trafficking and help the recovery process of children who have been victims of exploitation. Based on the movie, it was also concluded that the problem of child trafficking and exploitation in Cambodia is complex. This awareness is important for reflection on setting various strategies to combat child trafficking and implementing the protection of children's rights in Indonesia. To implement these strategies, strength-based social interventions are needed at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels.

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