Fear of Crime and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Treatment: Investigating Indonesian’s Pedophilia Cases

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FEAR OF CRIME AND POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER TREATMENT: INVESTIGATING INDONESIAN’S PEDOPHILIA CASES

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Abstract

Pedophilia is a part of child abuse that tends to occur in children surrounding environment. Pedophiles are not only about trauma but create a sexual predator cycle when the victims are not managed properly. This study aimed to analyze the fear of crime and post-traumatic stress disorder treatment in pedophilia cases in Indonesia. As qualitative research, data was obtained using observation and interview activities for one year continuously for each area of interest. This study was held in three regions in Java, Indonesia, which were specific locations of the victims’ residence in Sudajaya Hilir (Sukabumi City, West Java), Cintanagara (Garut Regency, West Java), and Sukamanah (Tangerang Regency, Banten). This study showed that fear of crime from the victims’ parents and families is still low. It can be seen from those who tend to give full trust to the suspects because closely and consider like good people. In Garut and Sukabumi’s cases, inappropriate post-traumatic disorder treatment caused the victims to transform into sexual predators. Pedophilia made the fear of crime in society, where the suspects have similar images as good and undangerous people for children. Not ideal post-traumatic stress disorder treatment is proven to cause the sexual predator cycle.

Keywords: Fear of Crime; Pedophilia, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Treatment.
A. Introduction

Violence against children (child abuse) tends to increase and occur at home, school, and among peer groups (Noer, 2019). Of several types of child abuse, sexual harassment by adults or adolescents against children (pedophilia) meet most public attention because it will have impacts on victims’ development in the future. In some cases, pedophilia victims in adulthood turn into suspects of sexual harassment with retaliation and behavior preservation motives (Levenson, Willis, & Prescott, 2016; Petherick & Sinnamon, 2017). Sexual harassment creates physical, mental, and psychological problems for victims which if not agreed will become challenges in the future (Hamzah, 2021). Pedophilia cases create a circle among the victims themselves, where victims will develop cycles as a result of bad experiences (Richards, 2017).

This cycle continues to develop not only psychological realm, but also leads to criminal behavior towards other people with different (heterosexual pedophilia) or same (homosexual pedophilia) sexual preferences (Khaidir, 2007). Three pedophilia cases turn out to be a spotlight for Indonesian people. The first case occurred in 2014 in Sukabumi City with a suspect named Emon (24 years old) harassing 118 children. The second case occurred in 2016 in Garut Regency, where the suspect, F (14 years old), had harassed 17 children. Meanwhile, the third pedophilia case occurred in Tangerang Regency with the suspect named Babe (59 years old) who had molested 14 children. Based on the three cases, it is known that the suspects had previously been victims of similar harassment in their past (Nurbayani et al., 2020). Pedophilia issues have minor attention and are forgotten by Indonesian people, especially if the suspects have received prison, without the willingness to accompany victims who have experienced trauma.

This condition indicates that pedophilia threatens the victims’ future as the next generation. Pedophilia cases generally occur in the social settings of the middle to the lower economic community, where both parents are busy providing for their family yet they lose their functions of affection, protection, and supervision. In these relations, the sexual harassers who were previously the victims of such did not feel the proper function of their family (Karayianni et
al., 2017). In addition, the pedophile suspect is usually well known as a good person in the community thus their parents do not have concerns about their neighborhood as well as their parenting. Without adequate supervision, sexual violence victims in society can turn into predators if the trauma is not managed properly (Harahap, 2016).

Pedophilia presents a fear of crime in the community. Fear of crime is a serious problem that can reduce social quality, due to various psychological-behavioral changes (Doran & Burgess 2012; Dede et al., 2019a). Like other dangerous crimes, pedophilia contributes to family and social anxiety which requires social approval and efforts to control it. In addition, pedophilia cases cause post-traumatic stress disorder in victims such as pessimism, introversion, self-blame, and denial (Schiraldi, 2000). Recovery from post-traumatic stress disorder is a fundamental element for victims thus the trauma will fade away and the cycle will be reduced. Therefore, this study aims to analyze the fear of crime and post-traumatic stress disorder treatment in pedophilia cases in Indonesia.

B. Method

This study was held in three regions in Java, Indonesia, which were specific locations of the victims’ residence in Sudajaya Hilir Urban village (Sukabumi City, West Java), Cintanagara Village (Garut Regency, West Java), and Sukamanah Village (Tangerang Regency, Banten) (Figure 1). We defined qualitative data analysis using a comparative approach to find out the fear of crime and post-traumatic stress disorder treatment in the three study areas that were assumed to have almost similar characteristics. Administratively, the study areas were different as Sudajaya Hilir was in an urban setting, while Cintanagara and Sukamanah were in rural settings. This study was conducted for one year continuously for each area of interest including observation and interview activities. Observations were carried out as free description observation without binding guidelines.

To avoid bias due to the researchers’ presence at the study site, some researchers had to be able to develop their observations carefully and
understand the subject/object, situation, and location of the case (Essays, 2018). Thus, this study would obtain data about the same and useful phenomenon from different sources (observers). Observation emphasizing the verstehen process to reveal a deep understanding of reality was based on the researchers’ findings on the social situation (Mills et al., 2010; Rashid 2015). In this study, observation and interviews were complementary activities to deepen the analysis.

Informants of this study consisted of children who were victims, victims’ parents and their families, suspects’ families, neighbors, local government, and security officials as well as community leaders who were willing and cooperative to conduct in-depth interviews for 6-12 months. The informants in this study included 15 persons in Sukabumi City, 19 in Garut Regency, and 18 people in Tangerang Regency. The number and composition of informants did not match that of the victims because the degree of information saturation in every case was different (Fusch & Ness 2015; Faulkner & Trotter 2017).

In the Emon case in Sukabumi, interviews were conducted on seven victims’ mothers, two victims’ fathers, one suspect’s grandmother, two neighbors (stall owners), and two community leaders. Meanwhile, interviews in Garut involved 12 victim mothers, one local community activist who happened to be a victim’s mother, one hamlet leader, one sub-district leader (camat) task
implementer, one police officer, two officers of The Integrated Service Center for Women Empowerment and Children (P2TP2A), and one suspect. In the Babe case in Tangerang Regency, the cooperative informants to be interviewed included three victims, 10 victims' mothers, one victim's father, two local-community leaders, and two police officers.

Fear of crime in this study has been compiled using Garofalo’s scheme, where anxiety is influenced by crime information, crime images, and risk assessment (Figure 2). The fear of crime parameters includes the community's perception of the suspect, suspect-approaching modus, victim detection, knowledge about children playing environment, sense of community, and efforts to control crime (Garofalo, 1981). Meanwhile, post-traumatic stress disorder treatment refers to long-term assistance, supervision, and psychological caring because victims have experienced recurrent trauma, emotional numbness, and anxiety (Wahyuni, 2016).

Data regarding fear of crime and post-traumatic stress disorder treatment has been obtained through observation and interview activities were analyzed using triangulation techniques including triangulation of subjects (informants), data collection methods, and researchers (Olsen 2004; Hales 2010). An in-depth interview process in each region was held intensively at each informant and the triangulation did the next day (Figure 3). In-depth interviews occurred in two stages starting with structured to an unstructured method without guidelines, researchers are required to be near with informants and involved in their daily lives (Harris & Brown, 2010).

![Figure 2: The research framework, explains data acquisition and its triangulation.](image-url)
C. Result and Discussion

A pedophilia case affects the victim's families due to such feelings as shame and disgrace. This should trigger the community to understand the victims' condition resulting from their experience. From the three locations, it is known that parents’ and society’s awareness of pedophilia which is very limited includes the main generator, besides the suspect's sexual drive. Pedophilia cases that occur around or in other places encourage the community, especially parents, to pay attention to the safety of children's play environment which is manifested in cognitive changes, attitudes, and behavior (Hardyns et al., 2018). Pedophiles are vulnerable to environmental settings that are well known to the community itself. In these locations, there are similarities in pedophilia suspects namely having recurrent sexual fantasies with pre-puberty children (children less than 13 years) for at least 6 months, offenders aged at least 16 years or 5 years older than his victims, and have sexual desires that interfere with social life.

In the Emon case, the suspect has abused 118 children aged 6 to 13 years. In 2016, suspect F was registered as a junior high school student who had committed immoral acts against 17 children aged 7 to 11 years. Pedophilia cases also occurred and befall 51 victims in Tangerang, Banten. Suspect Babe has been harassing his students who are generally aged 6 to 12 years. Based on the cases, it is known that the suspect had previously been a victim of similar harassment or unusual sexual knowledge (Nurbayani et al., 2020). The past and deviant sexual experiences of the pedophilia suspects tend to be unknown to around; they succeed in portraying themselves as individuals who are not harmful to children (Table 1).

| Location   | Social image                                      | Modus operandi                                      |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Sukabumi   | An employee, friendly, close to children, and *kenayu* (tend to flirt). | Give money, snacks, and toys, take a bath together and offer magic powers (fly and run fast). |
| Garut      | A student, children's playmate, and considered as a foster brother (elder). | Prize money or toys and threatening children.        |
| Tangerang  | A cigarette seller, religious, and a Koran-read teacher for children as well as *kenayu*. | Lure money, learn to recite, spend the night together as *nabit* (guidance) activity, and offer supernatural powers. |

Table 1: Image of pedophilia suspects and modus operandi
In the pedophilia case at Sukabumi, the community knows the suspect (Emon) as a worker in a food company and is known as a good person who loves children. Emon often gives money to children. It makes children close to Emon, especially when parents are unable to provide money and scold them. The pedophilia began when Emon bathed the children and then forced them to have sex. Emon did it because he was a pedophilia victim by a public transportation driver around his house. In Garut's pedophilia case, the suspect (F) is known to the community as a teenager and plays like a foster brother for children. F often gives money or toys to deceive children and the suspect's relationship with the victim is a game mate who meets almost every day in the surrounding environment and religious schools (madrasah). While in Tangerang case, the suspect (Babe) is a figure who is highly respected by the community as a Koran-read teacher. Babe has several modes to approach children such as luring money, learning to recite and stay together (mabit), and offering supernatural strength. Based on the three cases, pedophiles have similarities as individuals who are close to children and trusted by the community, they can give special attention that is considered as a gift that is actually as threatening (Yuwono, 2018; Nurbayani, 2021).

1. Fear of Crime

In pedophilia cases that have occurred in the Garut, Sukabumi, and Tangerang, there is evidence that the fear of the parents and victims’ families is low. This can be seen from those who give full trust to suspects because they feel like they have a close relationship and are considered good persons (Table 2). Although the pedophilia case has different motives, the incident still occurs in the children's play environment. Hence, pedophiles will use many ways to make a positive self-image in the community so that they can be trusted and able to take pedophile actions, for example through their willingness to care and play with children to sympathy (Fanetti et al., 2015; Schoch et al., 2020). In addition to parenting and family care, victims who are still in physical and psychological development begin to assume that pedophiles are people who can play the role of parents or family when outside their homes.
The relationship between pedophiles and victims is intimate, suspects can be caring people and meet with affection needs of children causing family dysfunction (Duncan, 2005). Pedophiles initially get parents' trust as someone who can guide their children (Quadara, 2015).

Emon's pedophilia case was revealed by the victim's to his parents after previously asking for pain when defecating, his parents began to ask others for help on this matter. Revealing the pedophilia case in Garut is different from that in Sukabumi as this case was revealed when the victim began to ask about the sodomy phenomena from television news, his parent gave the description and knew that the victim has the bad experience. While in Tangerang, the pedophilia case was revealed when parents caught offspring lingering in the bathroom and committed immoral acts with other children as coping behavior-Babe did sodomy and asked other children to see his action. Based on the cases, the victims’ parents and family do not seem to play a protective role which is an essential component in reducing pedophilia chances (Landesman, 2008).

| Parameter          | Information                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Community perception | - Suspects can arise from around and someone who is not considered dangerous.  
                         - Pedophile victims can become new suspects in the future if they do not receive adequate treatment. |
| Suspect effort      | - Making a positive image in the community.  
                         - Close to children and look for their play environment.  
                         - Voluntarily giving affection to children by giving money, gifts, or services.  
                         - Not infrequently the suspects threaten physical and psychological to potential victims. |
| Victim detection    | - There are scores in the anus and intimate organs of children. Physical and psychological trauma to the victim – behavior change.  
                         - Impersonation of pedophile victims towards other children.  
                         - Recognition of the victim when given information about sexual harassment from the request to show intimate organs until sexual relations. |
| Child environment   | - Pedophilia occurs when communities are dominated by permissive parenting.  
                         - Children's playing environment is far from the reach of parents and family. |
| Sense of community  | - Pedophilia is an extraordinary event and causes disgrace to parents, families, and communities.  
                         - Excessive worries about pedophilia did not occur, even leading to |
The suspect has motivations to be pedophilia based on his past incidents (Whitaker et al., 2008). Emon has had a hobby of watching porn since childhood, which was later reinforced to revenge for his sexual harassment. In Babe's case, molesting children is a representation of his grudges when he was sodomized by others. While in F case, he was inspired by pornographic films that were reinforced by his uncle to commit sexual acts to other men (homosexual) and bring the assumption that homosexual acts are justified because they did not produce biological fetuses which normally occur in heterosexual relationships – there is a possibility that the perpetrator F has experienced a similar incident, but still uncover until now. Here F has been indoctrinated from his immediate family and executed into children around him.

Pedophiles from these cases seem to prove that victims accompanied by deviant parenting can incarnate as sexual predators and produce transmitted maladaptive behavior (Chakhssi et al., 2013). This phenomenon occurs when pedophilia victims who previously felt trauma and pressure begin to adapt by eliminating internal inhibitors through efforts to develop false beliefs such as the desire to teach others about sex education from an early age as reasons for mutual love. Furthermore, the maladaptive carries on the process of removing external inhibitors by trying to gain the trust of victims and the people around them. This trust is a capital for the suspects to eliminate the resistance from victims, through seduction, gifts, and sadistic threats to encourage indoctrination until victims keep their secrets. The suspect's doctrine is usually accepted by victims who are still early voluntarily and without rebuttal.

From a social perspective, pedophilia is a behavior that deviates from the values and norms in society. Pedophilia is violence against
children that adversely affects their growth and development, especially for victims. Therefore, the handling of pedophilia cases does not only involve the police or the government but also with actual assistance from the community as the most important and first element in providing social control over deviant behavior. Some cases of pedophilia that have occurred and become national news are needed by the community on children's play environment and this is related to pedophilia which tends to occur in the social environment which had been ensured safe for children's daily activities at least on parents' perspective (Malihah & Nurbayani 2016; Wismayanti et al., 2019; Stelzmann et al., 2020).

This research also shows that pedophiles are part of the community and are known to be close to children. Pedophiles have a preference for finding remote areas far from community activities and tend to approach children's environments such as schools and playgrounds (Chomaria, 2014). However, of the three cases studied, the meaning of remote area is a looseness of the social environment, where parents and families prioritize earning needs and ignore supervision of their children. Thus, the community should start to be aware of the child's playing environment through an understanding of its characteristics including who often interacts with them. This will facilitate to detection of many forms of unusual behavior that occur early.

Based on field observations at the locations, the response of communities to fear of crime through efforts to avoid problems. Some victims' parents and families try to avoid situations (stigmatization) that allow a traumatic feeling of children to reappear because only moving their residence. There are even pedophilia cases that initially will only be resolved using an inter-family approach to maintain their name. The victim community has a tendency not to enlarge the case, thus it passed over time and avoids stigmatization (Jahnke, 2015; Rudolph et al., 2018). The existence of pedophilia is the beginning of crime culture for sexual harassment, where the community will consider the crime as a phenomenon that only seize attention when the case is only revealed and tends permissive if it happens again - as long as they are not victims (Dede et al., 2019b). This arises in F’s case, where the suspect's mother considers
her child’s actions to be within reasonable limits and helps victims who previously did not receive attention from the government and local community through the assistance provided. Here the suspect’s family denies and assumes that F has contributed to around. If any fear arises again, it is usually part of a social reaction. Though worries that continue to awake and consider pedophilia as an extraordinary event should be able to trigger the community, thus similar phenomena do not recur; it is evidenced by a change in the interaction between one another.

Besides, it also has a positive impact on the social environment. If not managed properly, fear of crime can be a potential driver that indirectly causes disintegration due to distrust until disrupts social life and its livelihoods (Viatrie, 2015; Curiel & Bishop, 2018). At first, the community was afraid since the pedophile case was revealed in around; they fear that there would be further victims of the suspect's confession or their children. In addition, their anxiety is also triggered by the victim's tend to become pedophiles in the future which ultimately threatens social stability because the behavior is formed from the process of interaction and social reality occurs. This concept is useful for analyzing changes in perceptions, attitudes, and people's behavior in dealing with social realities that have never been imagined before. The fear of crime situation should encourage the active and participatory role of the community to handle criminal cases so that the opportunity for the reappearance of pedophilia can be reduced until eliminated (Cops, 2010).

2. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Treatment

The impact of pedophilia can last in the long term, result in illnesses and psychological disorders for the victims in the future which are feared to cause suspect of similar incidents (Weber & Smith, 2011). Emon, F, and Babe cases are real examples of past pedophile victims who turned into sexual predators due to lack of treatment and trigger maladaptive behavior. The handling of victims is included in post-traumatic stress disorder treatment which involves parents, families, psychiatrists, local government, public institutions (c.q. P2TP2A and National Commission for Children Protection), law enforcement
(police and court), and surrounding communities. Thus post-traumatic stress disorder treatment is carried out holistically and in a participatory manner.

Ideally, post-traumatic stress disorder treatment that occurs in pedophilia victims must be treated seriously by each party not only by the family but also all elements of the society because the victims experienced extraordinary traumatic feelings, depression, and potentially continue to be carried into their future (Lamberg, 2005; Plummer & Cossins, 2018; (Radoš et al., 2015). Based on three cases, there was only one ideal post-traumatic stress disorder treatment in Sukabumi. This holistic and participatory model is depicted in social movements carried out by village cadres as a concern thus pedophilia cases would soon be thoroughly investigated. The cadres play an active role in facilitating and assisting parents and families to be able to treat victims both physically and psychologically (see Table 3). Efforts of post-traumatic stress disorder treatment in Sukabumi through rehabilitating victims by P2TP2A after the incident was revealed. Active monitoring is carried out for 7 years and periodically in order to heal trauma as well as assisting in searching for children identity who have been victims of Emon.

A similar effort to the less active implementation took place on F victims as many as 17 children. The victims in Garut were assisted by all parties at the village cadre’s initiative who brought them to the hospital using BPJS facilities. The cadres help take care of all administrative documents to clinical care assistance. However, this post-traumatic stress disorder treatment is felt to be lacking active support from the government. Handling was only felt when the pedophilia case was early revealed, such as providing assistance, physical and psychological recovery, and bringing the experts team to disseminate information about pedophilia. After that, there is no further follow-up carried out by the government, even though the victim's families and communities still need recovery and psychological assistance for their children.

Post-traumatic stress disorder treatment that is supposed to be the victim's rights and obligations does not apply to the victims of the Babe case in Tangerang. Village cadres were not formed and the local government tended to be passive in handling the physical and psychological conditions
of the victims. The monitoring of victims was not carried, thus raising fears for the parents and families. As a result, there is a mishandling in which the family immediately acts protective which indirectly makes the child angry and remember their painful incident. The victims also felt a loss of identity as evidenced by confusion over sexual preferences expressed to their parents due to the homosexual pedophilia tragedy (Easton et al., 2014; Tenbergen et al., 2015). Thus, pedophilia cases are proven to form feelings of insecurity, powerlessness, and deep physical-psychological trauma. As a result, victims should be guided and monitored as efforts to reduce pain due to trauma remain focused. This effort has main challenges and obstacles, especially in the practice and supervision which need emerging approaches (McGregor & Devaney, 2020).

Therefore, the active role of government, family, and community in these three cases effective in breaking the pedophilia cycle remains questionable. Findings in the field show that the pedophilia case in Sukabumi cycled, one of Emon's victims became a sexual predator in early 2018. Victims’ recovery is also more difficult when the proactive parties in post-traumatic stress disorder treatment experience the same thing, in Garut the village cadre's son was involved as a victim of sexual deviation. The victim's mother does not realize that the child's interaction with the device (smartphone) causes access to adult content which results in behavior implementation into his friends (homosexual).

In this context, it is clearly shown that not only is it ineffective post-traumatic stress disorder treatment but also the fear of crime is not well-formed. The role of the family, especially mothers, in assisting victims and children is a necessity. Mothers must have concrete knowledge about children's growth and development, as well as skills to understand children's interactions with their devices and peers, bearing in mind the majority of mothers in Indonesia are unable to access children's devices and examine their activities in the digital world (Irmayanti, 2018). This is due to the mother's inconsistency in supervision due to fatigue of activity, does not set an example to children, resistance to children, lack of openness, the wrong presumption of the digital world, and one-way communication
(Chusna, 2017; Nadziroh, 2018). In addition, the role of mothers and family is an important part of post-traumatic stress disorder treatment and fear of crime reaction to pedophilia cases in the community.

Table 3: Post-traumatic stress disorder treatment of pedophilia

| Location | Guidance | Monitoring | Psychological caring |
|----------|----------|------------|----------------------|
| Sukabumi | Cadres facilitate examination of the victim's physical and psychological conditions. P2TP2A is responsive after the incident takes place. | For 7 years since the pedophilia case was revealed. | Assistance for identity search for children who are victims. |
| Garut | The community actively carries out social control. Cadres help treat victims to the hospital. | Monitoring only occurs in the early years since the case disclosure. | No monitoring for victims both physically and psychologically. |
| Tangerang | Assistance for identity search for children who are victims. | Recovery and assistance are only done in the short term. | There was no assistance, the victims' families took the initiative to protect and care for their children. |

The trauma caused by pedophilia raises many conflicts which are not only internal but also external factors (Alaggia et al., 2019). Internal factors included behavior changes (self-blame and self-esteem), mental health disorders (stress, aggression, and excessive difficulties), and intelligence disorders. External factors that represent weak social support, family denial, lack of community and local government support, and family malfunctions. Post-traumatic stress disorder treatment that is not working ideal encourages victims to be maladaptive, drug users, pornography addicts, and future predators (Gallo-Silver et al., 2014; Bates, 2017). Post-traumatic stress disorder treatment was not running properly indicates the need for a social movement to change ineffective social phenomenon (Sztompka, 2011).

This social movement can be started by strengthening the literacy, knowledge, and skills of parents, especially mothers who interact intensively with their children (Nur; 2017; Salami et al., 2020). Mothers must be able to build patterns of two-way interaction with their children who are open, consistent, and build trust against sexual harassment as a preventive effort. Children's environment also needs to be built positively and able to clearly
distinguish the limits of social interaction, including their image of behavior, suspects, and victims of sexual abuse.

The blurring of values and norms in the community that begins at a family level and causes deviant sub-cultures neither anomie to crime culture that considers the homosexual patterns as a harmless act, hence breaking of the pedophilia cycle goes ineffective because it tends a latent threat (Wardhani & Kurniasari, 2016). This is happening where the mother's role as primary socialization agent for children needs to be strengthened and re-empowered, although this requires systematic efforts supported by the government, NGOs, educational institutions, religious institutions, and the community, especially for mothers who have limitations in paying attention to children in the digital world. In addition, the social movement also needs accurately assessing for child vulnerability and needs (Handrianto, 2017; Qi & Wu, 2020).

D. Conclusion

Pedophilia not only has impacted at present but also has triggered a sexual predator cycle. Pedophilia raises fear of crime in the community, especially since the cases have similar actor images. Fear of crime from pedophilia cases as the public knew the suspects as good person and look harmless, willing to give money and gifts, make the victims unaware of their position and need physical-psychological detection efforts. Also, it has been proven that such a case usually occurs in children's play environment; thus prevention efforts are to be carried out through geographical migration and victims’ treatment. Pedophilia victims having deep trauma should get adequate post-traumatic stress disorder treatment to prevent the pedophilia cycle from recurring, although in these cases, victims’ treatment occurred in Sukabumi and Garut were still unable to prevent similar behavior in the community – the sexual predator cycle reappeared.

In future research, we need to formulate a social model for handling victims and perpetrators of pedophilia so that they can return to society in an integrative way by involving the roles of families, schools, local government, the surrounding environment, social institutions, and law enforcement.
Revealing fear of crime in the community requires a variety of observation times so that we get the dynamics. In addition, victims must receive periodic and in-depth guidance to ensure that their post-traumatic stress disorder is significantly reduced.

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