

## THE PHENOMENOM OF HOMELESSNES BEGGARS AND VAGRANT IN MEDAN CITY

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### ABSTRACT

*The purpose of this study are to find how the homelessness can survive in tough economy and what are the reason for being homeless. This type of research is qualitative descriptive, using the phenomenological approach method through observation techniques, and interviews. Data sources used are primary data sourced from direct observation to the location of the study by observation and interview. While other sources are documentation when conducting interviews. This study uses data from interviews with homeless people on the streets to get more real results. Data retrieval is carried out in the city of Medan especially on Nibung and Darussalam streets. The results of this study indicate that poverty is one of the most important factors that makes them choose to live as homeless people. And another factor that makes homeless people survive in the Nibung and Darussalam areas is the number of people who often share food in the area. And there are various reason that cause a person to become homelessness, such education, age, termination of employment poverty and urbanitation, etc.*

**Keywords:** Homeless, Reason to be Homelessness, Poverty

### 1. INTRODUCTION

In social life, we often find strange or unusual phenomena. However, there are a lot point of views from each individual so as to produce different actions or responses to the unusual phenomena they were encounters. This is also supported by the lack of information that an individual has about the unusual phenomena that he encounters, which affects the actions taken by an individual regarding these unusual phenomena. Social problems such as homelessness, homelessness and beggars are social phenomena that cannot be avoided in people's lives, especially those in urban areas. One of the dominant factors influencing the development of this problem is poverty.

One of the problems of poverty is the large number of beggars and homeless people scattered across big cities. Homeless and beggars are sometimes used as benchmarks for a country whether the country is classified as a developed country or a developing country. aNot onlyapoverity is a factor in the number of homeless and beggars but urbanization is also a fairly influential factor, because the number of homeless people in a city does not come from the city itself, but are people from the village who try their luck in the city to find a bite of rice but with education and experience minimal work and in them becoming homeless in the city. This has in higher poverty rates, especially in big cities in Indonesia. Many of us see homeless people in cities who sleep only on cardboard or newspapers every night and covered in the worn clothes they often wear. Very many homeless people are found with the following jobs, as scavengers, as beggars, as street singers, as hawkers, and as prostitutes.

Competition of life also make the homelessa not having sufficient skills and education, and they will lose the opportunity to get the decent life they want. Not only because of fierce competition, but homelessness also occurs due to culture and heritage. The factor referred to is if in an area where the majority of work in that area are homeless, then in that area the profession of being a beggar or homeless person becomes common. The inheritance factor is defined as if the parents have a homeless or beggar profession, they will tend to invite their children to join the profession on the grounds that "so that people who see it will feel more pity". Several reasons have also made homelessness increasingly prevalent in Indonesia, be it from the level of education, family problems, layoffs or due to urbanization.

Medan city as the provincial capital of North Sumatra is known as the 3<sup>rd</sup> most populous population in Indonesia, of course inviting very many people from the village to urbanize in order to get a more adequate economy than in the village. However, due to lack of competition to get work, the migrants from the village become homeless, and are reluctant to return to their hometowns due to various things such as prestige and shame.

## 2. RESEARCH METHOD

The scope of research discussed in this study is about how the phenomenon occurs when someone has a reason to be homeless, beggars, or vagrant in Medan City, especially in Medan Petisah Nibung Streets and Darussalam. This type of research is descriptive qualitative, using phenomenological approach method through data collection observation, interview, and documentation. Phenomenological research aims to explain the meaning or concept of an experiential phenomenon which is based on the awareness that occurs between individuals in their daily lives.

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

From the results of research and interviews with all informants who are on Jalan Nibung and Darussalam Medan City, there are homeless people, beggars, and vagrant who do not come from the city of Medan, some come from villages, and some come from outside the island of Sumatra. Apart from the reasons for the difficult economic background, there are other findings in the field, which are education, due to layoffs, and wanting to be independent without have to bother people around them or their family.

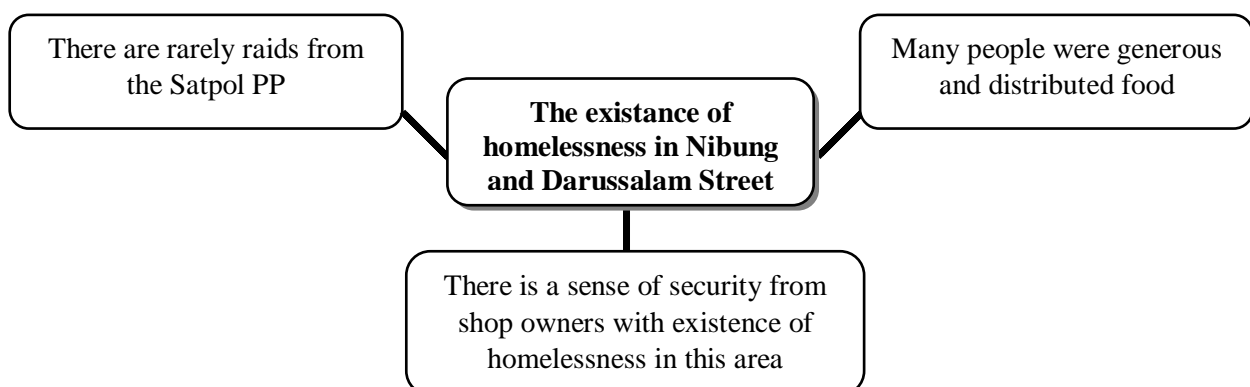
More details are presented in table1 below.

**Table 1. Causes of Homelessness**

No	Factor	Cause
1	Internal	Family Physical disability Lack of Skills
2	External	Low education Poverty Social environment Urbanization Work termination

Source: Processed Data

From the results of interviews, we could examine that there was a "protection" from the police in the Nibung and Darussalam area to the existing homeless people. The homelessness also maintains order at there and seems to be maintaining security in this area. This is due to the excuse, so they can sleep and rest in front of the shop where they are currently. Here are the reasons why there are so many homeless on Nibung and Darussalam street in Medan city.



**Figure 1. The Reason of Existance Homelessness in Nibung & Darussalam Street**

Source: Processed Data

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS

Based on the results of research that has been carried out, the authors conclude that homelessness cannot be separated from the scope of poverty. When viewed from a homeless point of view, it is the economic conditions that greatly affect the state of being homeless. Behind the economic conditions there are also conditions that cause them to prefer to live as a vagrant and become a prostitute due to internal problems, such as problems with their family, boyfriend and others. Things that make someone homeless also cannot be separated from education, urbanization and life skills, because when people from the village go to a big city like Medan without having adequate education or lifeskill, it will make them homeless.

In addition, not all beggars and homeless people are people who does not have a home, from some of the data found in the field that homeless people prefer to live on the streets because of several factors such as the house that they own has memories with families who have already died or because homeless people who have professions such as parking attendants or scavengers are afraid to go home, because they do not bring enough money for their families and choose to go home after they get enough money. This is somewhat contradictory with Clause number 1 of the Government Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia, Number 31 of 1980 (Pasal 1 Nomor 31 Tahun 1980 UUD RI) concerning the prevention of homeless people and beggars, which written: "Homeless people are people who live in a situation that is not in accordance with the norms of proper living norms in the local community, and does not have permanent residence and work in certain areas, and live wandering in public places." The results of this study prove that not all who live in homelessness do not have a home, but they choose to live on the streets for certain reasons. From the results of the field, also known that homelessness and beggar are different. A beggar is not always a homeless person but a homeless person is definitely a beggar.

From this research, the authors suggests that there should be a more complex handling provided by the social service in eradicating the problems of homelessness, beggars, and vagrant in Medan. In addition, the Medan city government should reinforce the sanctions given to homeless people in Medan City Government Regulation No. 6 of 2003, in order to reduce the number of homeless people who still roam Medan.

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