

# CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

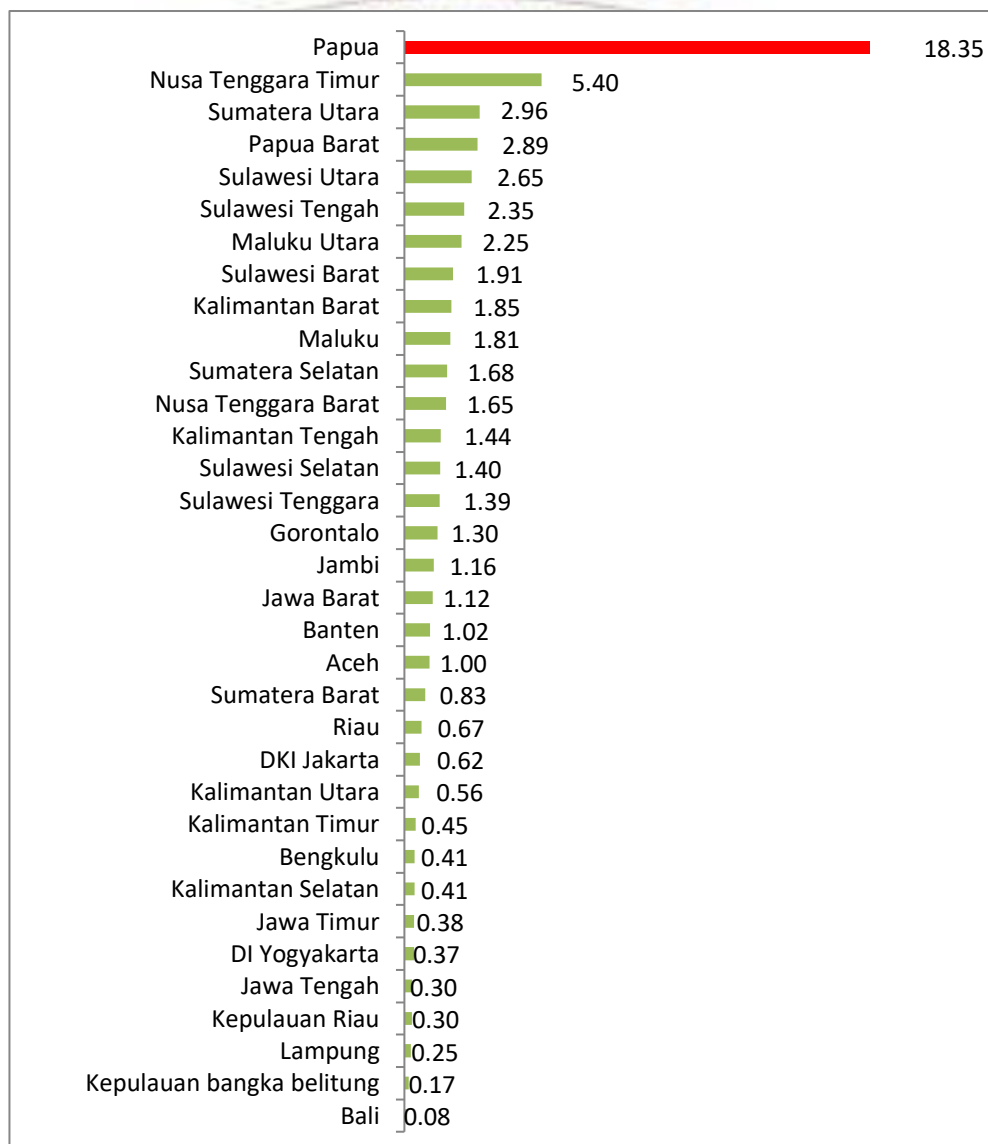
## 1.1 Background

The problem of child neglect is a global issue that has reached a certain point. Children are heirs, successors and assets of the nation in the future. It is even dramatically said that children constitute a nation's social and economic capital. In an individual sense, children for parents have a particular value that is also important, namely as successors to offspring. It is expected that children can grow and develop as well as possible so that later they will become adults who are healthy physically, mentally and as human resources.

Child neglect is one of the most common forms of violence against children and is often associated with other forms. Child neglect differs from other forms of understanding because child neglect refers to neglect in meeting the child's basic needs. In developed countries, child maltreatment is generally defined as acts that include violence and appeasement, usually carried out by parents and can cause adverse effects, potential harm, or threats that can harm children regardless of the parent's intentions (Gilbert et al., 2009).

Child neglect is a strategic issue in Indonesia, a priority social problem, and neglected children are one of the scope of Persons with Social Welfare Problems (PMKS) related to the neglect problem. PMKS are individuals, families, groups, and communities who, due to obstacles, difficulties, or disturbances, cannot carry out their social functions so that their physical, spiritual, and social needs cannot be met adequately and reasonably.

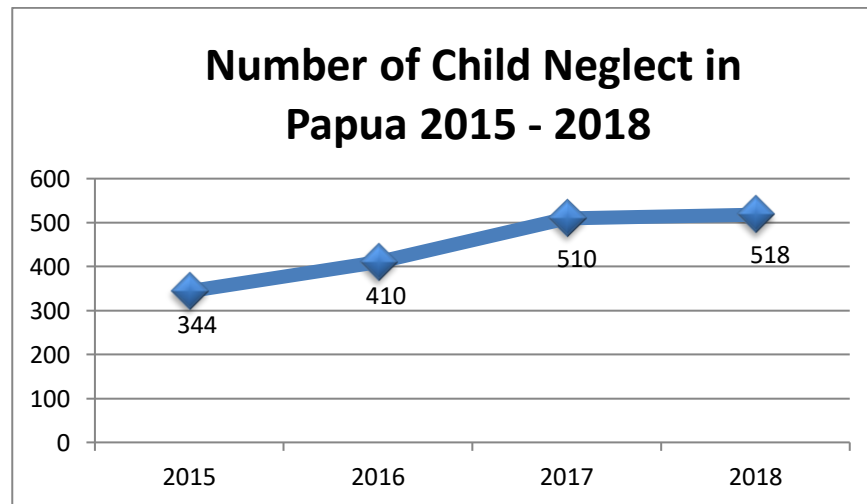
Papua Province is one of the provinces in Indonesia located in the eastern part, which in 2019 had a population of 3,379,302 people. Of this population, there are still people in Papua categorized as child neglect. In 2019, it showed that Papua Province has the highest number of child neglect cases in Indonesia, with a percentage of 18.35 percent. Given the magnitude of the impact of child neglect on their future lives, it is necessary to detect the causes or factors at risk of child neglect.



**Figure 1. 1 Percentage of Child Neglect in Indonesia**

Source: (Indeks Perlindungan Anak Indonesia, 2020)

The problem of child neglect in Papua Province is becoming increasingly complex with the number of child neglect increasing every year. In 2015 the number of neglected children in Papua Province was 344 people, in 2016 it increased with 410 child neglect and in 2017 with child neglect and continued to increase until 2018 to 518 people (Bappeda Papua, 2020).



**Figure 1. 2 Number of Child Neglect in Papua**

Source : (Bappeda Papua, 2020)

The criteria for determining who is said to be a neglected child is the lack of meeting the needs of healthy and nutritious food, children who do not continue their education or have never attended school, do not have a fixed bed and work to earn a family income (Profil Anak Indonesia, 2018) . According to (Abbasi et al., 2015), the characteristics of children based on the gender of the child are a particular factor that tends to be more vulnerable to certain types of neglect. Boys are more vulnerable to physical neglect, while girls are more vulnerable to sexual abuse.

The factor that causes the problem of child neglect in Papua Province is economic problems, especially poverty, which is the main factor for children to experience neglect because family conditions cannot meet their needs. Papua is

the province with the highest population poverty rate in Indonesia. Factors causing Papua Province to have the highest poverty rate are a lack of education, health and community welfare infrastructure.

According to (Braham et al., 2018) they are revealed that socioeconomic conditions are one of the most common factors associated with child neglect. Poor households will have difficulty meeting children's basic needs, such as food, child care, education and other facilities, thus increasing the risk of child neglect.

The next contributing factor to child neglect is the employment status of the head of the household. Parents who do not work have a higher risk of child neglect. Paxson & Waldfogel, (2002) found that children whose parents did not work had a higher risk of child neglect.

Supporting factors causing child neglect are the education status of the head of household. According to research from (Mehnaz et al., 2014), most parents, in this case, fathers and mothers of children who experienced nutritional neglect, had a low level of education. According to (Sedlak et al., 2010), the education level of the household head is strongly associated with child neglect. Child neglect tends to be higher in families with a low-educated head of household.

Furthermore, the factor of child neglect is family size, which is related to the household's ability to meet all household members' needs. The more the number of household members, the greater the income spent on living expenses. So, poor people with many household members will experience child neglect. According to (AlFarhan et al., 2022), children living in households with more than four household members are more likely to experience child neglect than households with fewer household members.

In addition, residential areas with very low affordability make it difficult for a place to develop. Residential areas are associated with the availability and ease of access to relevant facilities to meet children's needs, such as schools and health facilities. The easier it is to reach the area, the easier it is to develop. Households living in rural areas are more vulnerable to poverty than households living in urban areas, which can lead to child neglect.

Children in the household have a strategic role in creating household prosperity in the future. The family environment influences the family's lifestyle, including family needs. Families with good economic status and educational background will plan better investments in human resources. On the other hand, parents with low income and educational backgrounds tend to rarely plan investments for their children so that the quality of their children will also be low.

Social welfare development in Papua Province is one of the strategic development issues, along with the growing complexity of the problem of neglect. Efforts to organize social welfare carried out by the local government have been unable to optimally overcome the problem of Persons with Social Welfare Problems (PMKS) in Papua Province. The high number of child neglect indicates this.

This study has several differences from previous studies, namely in the data type, how to categorize child neglect status, variables and locations used. This study uses the 2019 Papua susenas data, household poverty variables based on household expenditure, child gender, education level of the head of household, employment status of the head of household, family size, and residential area and chooses Papua as the research location. This study also classifies child neglect

status based on children's basic needs in terms of healthy and nutritious food aged 5-17 years. This research is quantitative data using a logistic regression analysis model.

This study aims to determine the effect of household poverty, child gender, education level of the head of household, employment status of the head of household, family size and residential area on child neglect.

Based on the above background, the author is interested in researching and discussing child neglect in Papua. For this reason, the author titled this research **"THE DETERMINANT OF CHILD NEGLECT IN PAPUA"**.

## **1.2 Problem Statement**

The impact of child neglect may not be immediately apparent unless the neglect is extreme. However, it is hazardous and can be long-term for the child, affecting their health, physical, intellectual, cognitive, emotional, psychological, social and behavioral development. They are sourced from the Bappeda Publication in 2020, which presents the results of the number of neglected children in Papua increasing continuously yearly. Seeing the magnitude of neglect's impact on children, it is necessary to detect the causes of child neglect in Papua.

Indicators of child neglect in this study can be seen in terms of healthy and nutritious food. Based on the background that has been described, several factors affecting child neglect, such as household poverty, child gender, education level of the head of household, employment status of the head of household, family size, and residential area, can determine how the influence of child neglect occurs. This is based on previous research by (Zhang et al., 2022).

Based on these problems, the formulation of the problem in this research are:

1. How is the effect of household poverty, child gender, education level of the head of household, employment status of the head of household, family size and residential area on child neglect in Papua?

### **1.3 General Research Objectives**

1. To determine the effect of household poverty, child gender, education level of the head of household, employment status of the head of household, family size and residential area on child neglect in Papua.

### **1.4 Research Advantage**

1. As an academic requirement to obtain a bachelor's degree in economics from the Faculty of Economics, Universitas Andalas and add insight into the causes of child neglect.
2. For the Government as a policy maker, it is hoped that the government will obtain useful information to determine the right policy in overcoming child neglect, especially in Papua.
3. For the development of science, the results of this study can be a guide for researchers and can increase research on the influence of child neglect in Papua.

## **1.5 Writing System**

### **CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION**

This chapter contains the background of the problem, problem statement, general research objectives, and systematics of writing.

### **CHAPTER 2 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

This chapter contains the theories that support this research and also contains previous research. This chapter also contains research hypotheses as well as literature review.

### **CHAPTER 3 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This chapter contains research methods along with explanations about variables, samples, data sources, and how to process data.

### **CHAPTER 4 RESULTS and DISCUSSION**

This chapter contains the results of the research conducted. After presenting the results, this chapter will explain the explanation of the results obtained by the researcher.

### **CHAPTER 5 CLOSING**

This chapter contains conclusions from all research and relevant suggestions on the basis of the research.

