

CHAPTER V CONCLUSIONS & SUGGESTIONS

5.1 Conclusions

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 results of data processing, it shows that the number of children aged 5-17 years is 16,269 children, and there are 3,343 cases of child neglect in Papua. Child neglect is seen in the ability to consume healthy and nutritious food between the ages of 5-17. The results of this study show that the independent variables, namely household poverty, employment status of the head of household, family size, and residential area on child neglect, have a positive effect on the chances of children becoming neglected in Papua. At the same time, the variables of child gender and education level of the head of household do not have a significant effect on child neglect.

5.2 Policy Implications

Based on the research results obtained, there are several suggestions as policy implications that can be made regarding child neglect in order to reduce the number of child neglect cases, namely as follows:

1. The optimization of poverty alleviation programs, such as the Family Hope Program, Smart Indonesia Card, Healthy Indonesia Card, and similar initiatives, is a crucial area of focus. There is an optimistic expectation that implementing these measures will lead to a decrease in the poverty rate and an enhancement of the community's overall well-being.
2. Lack of equitable development between regions is one of the factors causing child neglect. This is related to the availability and ease of access, especially

to health and education facilities that children need. Therefore, improving the distribution of education and health infrastructure to rural areas is very important. In addition, access to transportation that can connect rural and urban areas also needs to be improved so that ease of access can also be felt by rural communities.

5.3 Suggestions

The author realizes some of the limitations of this study related to the measurement indicators of child neglect. Future researchers are expected to use indicators that are more in line with current conditions to obtain a more accurate total unit of analysis regarding the number of neglected children. In addition, future researchers are expected to use variables related to parental characteristics. Parental characteristics are one of the main factors that influence the occurrence of child neglect.

