

# HOW DRUGS CONTROL YOUR LIFE AND COMMUNITY: A CRIMINOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

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# Background (1)

- All countries, including on Southeast Asia, have serious threat on drug abuse problem. Table 1 shows Indonesia experiences
- Difficulty to solve the problem effectively
- Indonesia, for instance, during the last three years (since 2005), grown up fast in map of international illegal drug market and distribution

# Table 1

**Drugs Related Crime Based on Drugs Classification**

No	Cases	Year						Total Amount
		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	
1	Narcotics	1,907	2,040	3,929	3,874	8,171	9,422	29,343
2	Psychotropic	1,648	1,632	2,590	3,887	6,733	5,658	22,148
3	Other Substance	62	79	621	648	1,348	2,275	5,033
	<b>Amount</b>	<b>3,617</b>	<b>3,751</b>	<b>7,140</b>	<b>8,409</b>	<b>16,252</b>	<b>17,355</b>	<b>56,524</b>
	<b>% of increase</b>	-	3.7	90.3	17.8	93.3	6.8	

Data Source: Dit IV /Narkoba, December 2006

# Background (2)

- Indonesia National Narcotics Board estimated 1.5% of total Indonesian population or approximately 3.26 million people are drug user.
- It becomes more apprehensive that the victims of the network come especially from young generation and productive age group. Table 2 shows Indonesia experiences

# Table 2

**Drugs Related Crime According to Age**

No	Age	Year						Amount
		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	
1	< 16	25	23	87	71	127	175	508
2	16-19	501	494	500	763	1,668	2,447	6,373
3	20-24	1,428	1,755	2,457	2,879	5,503	8,383	22,405
4	25-29	1,366	1,386	2,417	2,888	6,442	8,105	22,604
5	> 29	1,804	1,652	4,256	4,722	9,040	12,525	33,799
<b>Amount</b>		4,924	5,310	9,717	11,323	22,780	31,635	85,689

Data Source: Dit. IV /Narkoba, December 2006

# Background (3)

- The consequence of drug abuse prevalence is increasing number of victims caused by drug use and dependency, which especially comes from young generation
- In addition, drugs abuse also creates very serious problem in society, which is increasing number of crimes committed by users with serious dependency
- It relates to difficulty of drug users, who have immersed themselves in the crime, to live normally in society.
- It just exactly makes them keeping a distance from society by forming certain subculture which is resistant with society value and norm

# **Drug Abuse (use) and Its Dependency: the first stage**

- Further concern of criminology is toward social or sociological consequence of drug abuse
- Criminology considers that drug abuse (use) is the first stage of crime, as an alternative to fulfill needs of drug dependency
- Main concern on involvement of young age group in this drugs abuse is basically related to long term consequence when they commit narcotics and psychotropics abuses
- Once they become user and addicted, it is difficult to release their life from the situation. Drugs will really control their individual and social life

## ....the first stage (2)

- Criminologically, dependency created by drug abuse is very potential to encourage them to more serious crime, so it develops criminal culture (criminal career) and retreatism culture
- There are two main reasons why drug abuse in young age needs special concern. First, the dependency of drug will make the next generation lose their future
- Second, drug dependency causes the next generation having limited choice in enduring life. This limited choice will usually indicate to new crime and development of crime and retreatism subculture

# Drugs Abuse and Criminal Behavior: the next stage

- Drug abuse on criminological perspective is emphasized on the sociological impact
- There are many analyses to find tendency of correlation between drugs abuse and crime, especially in the context of Juvenile Delinquency
- Common question which is occurred related to correlation between drug abuse and crime is about the way of it, whether the delinquency leads to drug abuse, or even the drug abuse leads to the delinquency
- However, the question becomes not too crucial because those possibilities are still related to drugs abuse

## ....the next stage (2)

- As mention before, drugs abuse and its dependency is the first stage for appearance of more serious problems. Dependency is not only a logic consequence of narcotics and psychotropics user but also a condition between drug using and occurrence of crime as an adaptation choice toward the dependency situation

## ....the next stage (3)

- (Welte,2001) there are three classes of causal connection between drug/substance use and crime. First, the short or long term effect of the drugs causes proneness to criminal behavior. Second, remunerative crimes are commonly committed to get money for drugs. Third, violent conflict and robbery are commonly among those involves with the drug trade.

# **Criminal Culture and Retreatism: Control over Society**

- Criminologically, the appearance of delinquency is the second stage of how drug control over individual and society. It is categorized as second stage since, in this stage, crime is committed to fulfill individual need because of drug dependency (as the first stage)
- The final stage of drug control over society occurs in the form of criminal culture and retreatism

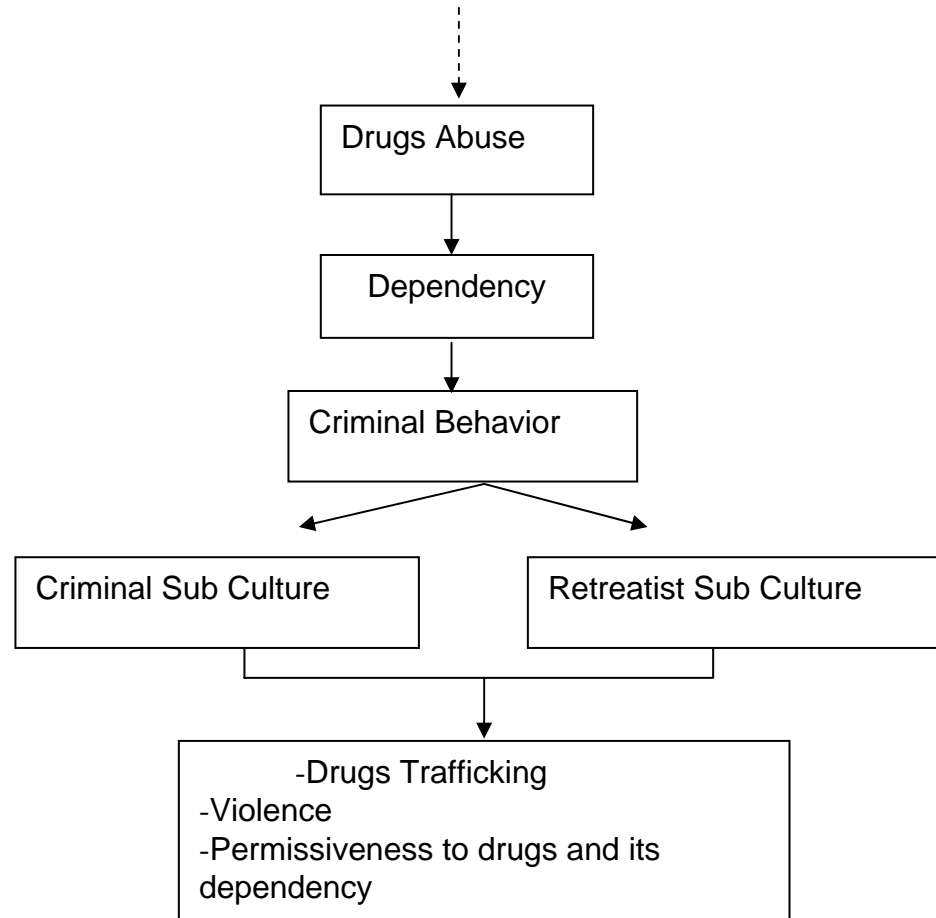
# ....control over society (2)

- Criminal culture is a condition where crimes in certain society are committed as a career. Conflict and violence become a common value and, even, a necessity as symbolization for control over a society
- It is simply that crime is a part of society normal life
- This criminal culture can be considered as a collective adaptation of society toward needs occurred from their own behavior, such as drug abuse.
- Therefore, drug use behavior is usually followed by involvement in drug trade business.

# ....control over society (3)

- Culture retreatism is a final condition of a society under drug control
- A society with massive disorientation and indifference of a normal life's goals because of their defeat competes again in criminal culture
- In this retreatism culture, drug abuse exactly becomes a retreat of general normal life, as the to escape from reality
- Establishments of criminal and retreatism culture cause difficulty for law enforcement and prevention to drug abuse

# Figure



# Criminal Policy

- General of United Nations, through his message on commemoration of International Day Against Drugs Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, June 26 2007, said that Drug Abuse is a problem which is preventable with two main approaches; that are reducing supply with law enforcement and decreasing demand so that incentive of drugs trafficking is also decreased

# Criminal Policy (2)

UN secretary General:

“Our mission is to enable them to take control of their lives, rather than allowing their lives to be controlled by drugs. That means giving young people sound guidance, employment opportunities, and the chance to be involved in activities that help organize life and give it meaning and value. It means supporting parents’ efforts to provide love and leadership. It means reaching out to marginalized groups and ensuring they receive the care they need to cope with behavioral, psychological or medical problems. It means providing reasons to hope.”

# Criminal Policy (3)

- The complexity of drug abuse causes criminal policy can not be handed over country instruments
- Active collaboration among government institutions and non governmental organization (NGO), which has capability to prevent drugs abuse, is needed

# Criminal Policy (4)

- In addition to develop intensive cooperation between government instruments and NGOs, criminal policy on drug abuse needs to concern on some structural problems as the background
- A structural factor getting main concern is government investment in human development.
- World Development Report 2007 still indicates future threat of the next generation if government does not pay serious concern in human development, especially investment in poverty alleviation

# Criminal Policy (5)

- How to make young people are able to control themselves and be free from drug very depend on how big or small chances they have.
- As explained by Amartya Sen (1999), development is the way to create freedom that means expanding human choices. Therefore, government needs to prioritize social investment for young people, especially in education and health.
- Poverty is one of important studies in criminology. It is not only as a factor causing someone chooses to commit crime, but poverty is also the crime itself when country cannot implement its responsibility in creating welfare.