



PERMISSIVE PARENTING AND PEER CONFORMITY WITH JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

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Abstract

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The purpose of this study was to determine and analyze the relationship between permissive parenting and peer conformity with juvenile delinquency in SMP Negeri 5 Medan. The method used is a quantitative research method. The population in this study was 735 students. The sample used in this study was 205 students. The sampling technique used in this study used a purposive sampling technique. There is a significant positive relationship between peer conformity and juvenile delinquency from the coefficient value (R_{xy}) = 0.534, $p = 0.000 < 0.050$. The coefficient of determinant (R^2) value has a value of 0.286, the conformity of students' peers in the school contributes 28.6% to juvenile delinquency in SMP Negeri 5 Medan. From the results of multiple regression analysis, it is known that there is a relationship between permissive parenting and peer conformity with juvenile delinquency. This is indicated by the coefficient $F_{reg} = 46.194$ with $p < 0.05$, and the correlation coefficient $R = 0.560$ with $p < 0.05$ and $R^2 = 0.314$; the contribution of permissive parenting and peer conformity in causing juvenile delinquency is 31.4%.

Keywords: Permissive Parenting; Peer Conformity; Juvenile Delinquency; Students

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INTRODUCTION

The term "adolescent" refers to someone who is undergoing a transition period between the ages of 12 and 22. This stage is marked by significant changes in physical, emotional, cognitive, and social aspects. According to Santrock (2003), adolescence is a transitional period in human life that connects childhood to adulthood, including changes in various aspects. During this transition period, adolescents often face various challenges in every change they experience. They also enter a phase of searching for self-identity, so they cannot avoid problems that also affect their growth and development process. Udampo & Bataha (2017) explain that adolescence is a stage where individuals begin to search for self-identity. At this stage, adolescents are not yet fully able to control their psychological aspects, but they really need recognition from their surroundings. They want to be appreciated as individuals who are independent, able to carry out adult tasks, and are trusted to be responsible for their actions. Adolescents often show various attitudes, such as anxiety, conflict, imagination, group activities, and the desire to try new things (Ali, 2018). Generally, high curiosity drives them to experiment, imagine, and sometimes be restless, and tend to dare to fight if they feel belittled or ignored. In addition, teenagers not only make friends with those in the surrounding environment, but also start looking for peers in a wider circle to play.

Friendships formed by teenagers tend not to go through a strict selection process; they will befriend anyone of the same age to find a playmate, a hangout, a conversation partner, and a friend to share joys and sorrows with. Unwittingly, these friendships can influence their behavior. In friendship groups, teenagers often try new things, although sometimes risky, including antisocial behavior or delinquent acts that can violate the law or are called crimes (Zaidatul, 2023). Teenagers who are involved in juvenile delinquency activities usually include things like stealing, brawling, mugging, playing truant, being reckless, smoking, and other things that violate the law. Currently, the problem of juvenile delinquency is getting worse and needs to be considered, not only in big cities but also in small towns, to remote villages.

News on social media about juvenile delinquency is increasingly disturbing the public and even causing concern. Various forms of juvenile delinquency that are often seen in the field include smoking, skipping school, joining brawls, to actions that are close to criminal such as joining motorcycle gangs, abusing friends (such as teasing, bullying weak friends, or blackmailing), sniffing glue, and using drugs. According to Katono (2013), juvenile delinquent behavior includes speeding, stealing, skipping school, fights between individuals or gangs, extortion, drunkenness, and drug abuse. Santrock (2007) identified a number of factors that influence adolescent behavior, including identity, self-control, age, gender, educational expectations, school values, parenting patterns, peer influence, socioeconomic status, and quality of the surrounding environment. On the other hand, Jansen (Sarwono, 2020) categorizes juvenile delinquency into several groups: material loss, loss that causes, continuous victimless social delinquency, and delinquency that hinders children's learning abilities.

Cases of juvenile delinquency are often found in schools and reported in the mass media, especially in big cities. One example reviewed by researchers in the media on February 24, 2023, was the case of a teenager who raped and killed a toddler after watching a pornographic film in Deli Serdang (StrategiNews.com). Another case also occurred with a teenager who molested an elementary school student in Cipete, allegedly due to frequently watching pornographic videos on November 22, 2022 (Kompas.com). These cases highlight the importance of community action in providing proper care. Proper parenting patterns can encourage positive behavior in children. In addition, parents serve as themes for children, especially during adolescence, by providing them with the means to learn about the environment in which they live.

Children tend to learn and imitate the behavior of their parents, because parents are the closest figures who are role models. If a child observes their parents' positive behavior, they will immediately follow it; conversely, negative behavior can also be seen. Parenting patterns reflect the interaction between parents and children, explaining how parents set rules, teach values, provide attention and affection, and demonstrate positive attitudes and behaviors as role models for children (Damanik et al., 2025; Habibi, 2019). Parenting patterns can be interpreted as parents' efforts to help children face or overcome life's challenges, which ultimately lead to well-being. According to Khon's view (Thoha, 1996), parenting patterns are a person's ability to interact and communicate with their children.

According to Baumrind (Santrock, 2003), there are three types of parenting styles: democratic, authoritarian, indulgent permissive, and non-caring permissive. This study focuses on the parenting style that is permissible but not caring. According to Agoes (2011), parenting is characterized by the attitude of parents who are not too caring, giving them a lot of freedom, and helping them understand their own rules and standards of behavior through strict discipline. Permissible people may be cold, warm, or may not be as friendly as usual. In this parenting style, people pay more attention to their own

privacy, let the children's personalities grow, and fail to understand their daily activities. Hurlock (2004) stated that this permissible parenting has three aspects, namely the degree of supervision of the child, the child's decision, the age of the parents, and the continued freedom of the educational pattern.

To understand the parenting patterns and the implementation of permissive parenting patterns in parents of students at SMP NEGERI 5 Medan, an interview was conducted with one of the parents of a student who uploaded daring photos and videos to TikTok and WhatsApp status. In the interview, the parent of the student revealed, "Yes, about a month ago I was called to school because my child posted daring photos and videos on TikTok. At home, he is very quiet and rarely talks about his social life with me. I also never check the contents of my child's cellphone. When I was called to school, I was quite surprised, because so far I have let him do whatever he wants so that he does not feel constrained. I also never limit his cellphone use. I just want my child to feel comfortable at home because I can't always be by his side all the time. That's why I don't apply many rules at home. Moreover, my work lasts from morning to evening, and sometimes I come home late at night. When my child comes home from school, I am still working, and he spends more time outside the house. Every time he makes a mistake, I never scold him or punish him. I just forgive him and hope he will change. I have been called to school so often that my shame in front of the teachers has slowly disappeared" (S, personal interview, 02-24-2023, 18.00 WIB).

Based on the interview results, it can be seen that one of the students of SMP NEGERI 5 Medan named S has a permissible parenting pattern. In this parenting pattern, parents do not punish their children when they cause problems and do not obey the rules at home. Parents encourage their children to explore and do not give sanctions when they succeed in overcoming obstacles. However, the disadvantage of this permissible parenting pattern is that children become less disciplined in obeying existing social norms. According to Isnasari's research (Isnasari, 2014), the more permissive the parenting pattern, the higher the delinquency that occurs in adolescents.

In addition to permitted parenting patterns, peer conformity also has an impact on juvenile delinquency. According to Morgan, King, & Robinson (Rizawati, 2018), conformity is an individual's willingness to adjust to the social norms that are being followed. The influence of peer conformity on juvenile delinquency is quite significant, especially because of the many problems that arise as a result of association, high curiosity, and conflict with laws and social norms in the adolescent environment. Lack of unity among participants, the desire to be part of a group, or lack of self-identity can cause problems when a teenager wants to choose peers. Peer pressure, which sometimes conflicts with applicable laws or social norms, is a group that often provides advice or pressure to its members in an effort to increase loyalty. Fighting, smoking, skipping school, scribbling on walls, using cosmetics at school, using drugs, participating in sexual activities, or discussing sensitive topics can all be considered coercion. All of these pressures are known as peer conformity themes.

Peer conformity can have both positive and negative effects. Teenagers often engage in some negative conformity behaviors, such as using inappropriate Gallic language, being arrogant, being disruptive, and treating elders and teachers badly. However, there are also many positive forms of peer conformity that are more akin to a desire to belong to a group that is similar to their own (Santrock, 2007). Peer conformity has significant advantages in describing the lifestyle of adolescents. If an adolescent is in an environment characterized by "negative energy," as mentioned earlier, then their attitudes, behaviors, and life goals will be less positive. Conversely, if an adolescent is in an environment that consistently provides "positive energy," namely a group that

provides encouragement, support, and the ability to change themselves in a positive direction, then the adolescent will also develop positive attitudes.

Harold in Myers (2014) asserts that when an individual becomes a member of a group, they stop trying to fit in with themselves. This is due to the inability of adolescents to evaluate the results and obtain positive feedback so that it can be used by the participants (normative influence). In addition, after joining a group, adolescents often mention new interesting things and become excited to participate in the activity (informational influence). As a result, adolescents try to be their peers, both in the way they talk, dress, behave, or think.

Conformity carried out by adolescents can have a negative impact if they focus on topics that deviate from the norm. This is due to people's reluctance to view their own actions as serious actions. This is supported by Santrock (2003) who stated that conformity arises when someone engages in other attitudes or behaviors that are the result of pressure, either real or imagined. Peer pressure to participate is quite popular during adolescence. The development of conformity attitudes and adolescents can have positive and negative impacts on them. According to Taylor et al. (2006), there are three aspects of conformity in the context of friendship: obedience, agreement, and compactness.

METHODS

The research method used is a quantitative method with a correlational approach. According to Azwar (2017) this correlation method aims to investigate the extent to which variations in one variable are related to variations in one or more other variables, which are based on correlation variables. This research was conducted at SMP Negeri 5 Medan. The research population was 735 students in grades VIII and IX. The sampling method used purposive sampling with the following criteria: (1) students aged 13-15 years; (2) Students from different backgrounds; (3) Students in grades VIII and IX who have a permissive parenting pattern; (4) Students who have criteria for juvenile delinquency such as playing truant, using vape, watching pornographic videos, spreading vulgar photos and videos to the media. The number of research samples was 205 students taken from data from BK teachers from the ranking of the results of the permissive parenting pattern screening of 340 students.

In this study, the scale used to measure the Juvenile Delinquency variable is a modified Likert scale with four alternative answers: Very Appropriate (SS), Appropriate (S), Not Appropriate (TS), and Very Not Appropriate (STS). This scale includes statements that are favorable (positive) and unfavorable (negative), with a score of 4-1 for favorable and 1-4 for unfavorable. Based on Hurlock's theory (2004), this scale has a reliability of 0.845 from 30 items, which are reduced to 22 items (7 favorable and 15 unfavorable). To measure the permissive parenting variable, the same Likert scale is used, adapted from Rizkyanto (2018) and based on three aspects of conformity from Sear, et al. (2006). The validity test shows a value between 0.522 and 0.741, with a reliability of 0.809 from 25 items which are reduced to 14 items. The descriptive results show a mean value of 51.79, median 52, mode 52, and standard deviation 6.55. Furthermore, the scale to measure the peer conformity variable also uses the same Likert scale, with favorable and unfavorable statements. The descriptive results show a hypothetical mean value of 42, standard deviation 9.33, minimum 14, and maximum 70, while the empirical value shows a mean of 50.82, standard deviation 11.22, minimum 28, and maximum 70. These three scales are designed to measure different variables but use a similar approach in measuring and analyzing data.

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

Results

The respondents studied were 205 students in grades VIII and IX at SMP Negeri 5 Medan.

Permissive Parenting Scale Trial

Based on the trial data of the Permissive Parenting Scale shows that out of 43 statements, there are 39 valid items with a Corrected Item-Total Correlation score (discrimination index) > 0.3 ; and there are 4 items that are dropped, because the dropped items have a Corrected Item-Total Correlation score (discrimination index) < 0.3 .

Scale Trial Results Peer conformity

Based on the trial data of the Peer Conformity scale shows that out of 35 statement items, there are 31 valid items with a Corrected Item-Total Correlation score (discrimination index) > 0.3 ; and there are 4 items that are dropped, because the dropped items have a Corrected Item-Total Correlation score (discrimination index) < 0.3 .

Juvenile Delinquency Scale Trial Results

Based on the trial data of the Juvenile Delinquency scale, it shows that out of 54 statement items, there are 48 valid items with a Corrected Item-Total Correlation score (discrimination index) > 0.3 ; and there are 6 items that are dropped, because the dropped items have a Corrected Item-Total Correlation score (discrimination index) < 0.3 .

Normality Test

The main purpose of this distribution normality test is to make the data from the study look attractive after being examined using the principle of normality. The analysis of the distribution normality test was carried out using the Kolmogorov-Smirnov Goodness-of-Fit Test technique. Based on the analysis, it can be shown that acceptable parenting, peer conformity, and juvenile delinquency all contribute to a normal distribution that follows the principle of the normal curve. According to this criterion, if $p > 0.05$, the data is considered normal; conversely, if $p < 0.05$, the data is considered abnormal (Sujarweni, 2014).

Table 1.
 Summary of Normality Test Calculation Results

Variables	KS	P	Caption
Permissive Parenting Style	0.174	0.113	Normal
Peer Conformity	0.195	0.093	Normal
Juvenile delinquency	0.133	0.106	Normal

Information :

KS = Kolmogorov-Smirnov coefficient

P = Significance

Description = Description

It is clear from the results of the normality assumption test of the distribution of the dependent variable data (Juvenile Delinquency) that the data distribution is normal. This is indicated by the normality coefficient of the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test of 0.133 with $p = 0.106$ or $p > 0.05$. It is clear from the results of the normality assumption test of the

distribution of the independent variable data (Permissive Parenting Patterns) that the data points have a normal distribution. This is indicated by the normality coefficient of the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test of 0.174 with $p = 0.113$ or $p > 0.05$. It is clear from the results of the normality assumption test of the distribution of the independent variable data (Peer Conformity) that the data points have a normal distribution. This is indicated by the normality coefficient of the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test of 0.195 with $p = 0.093$ or $p > 0.05$.

Linearity Test

The purpose of the linearity test is to determine whether juvenile delinquency and peer themes can affect permissible parenting patterns. Specifically, this test aims to increase or decrease the X1 and X2 axes (Permissive Parenting Pattern and Peer Conformity) sequentially in relation to the increase or decrease in the Y axis (Juvenile Delinquency). To determine whether the independent and dependent variables can be analyzed regressively based on their linearity. The results of the analysis show that variables X1 and X2 (Permissive Parenting Pattern and Peer Conformity) have a linear relationship with the dependent variable (Juvenile Delinquency). Based on these criteria, it is said that there is a linear relationship if $p > 0.05$ (Riadi, 2016). This relationship can be seen in the table below:

Table 2.
Summary of Linearity Test Calculation Results

CORRELATIONAL	F	P	INFORMATION
X1 – Y	17,027	0.171	Linear
X2 – Y	14,682	0.110	Linear

Information:

X1 = Permissive Parenting Pattern
 F count = Data output value
 X2 = Peer Conformity
 P = Significance
 Y = Juvenile Delinquency

From the results of the linearity test between the variables of Permissive Parenting Pattern and Juvenile Delinquency, it is known that there is a linear correlation between these variables. This is indicated by the linearity coefficient $F = 17.027$ with $p > 0.05$. From the results of the linearity test between the variables of Peer Conformity and Juvenile Delinquency, it can be concluded that there is a linear relationship between the two. This is supported by the linearity coefficient $F = 14.682$ with $p > 0.05$.

Hypothesis Test Results

Based on the results of the correlational analysis, it can be seen that there is a significant positive correlation between permissible parenting and adolescents wearing it, which is indicated by the coefficient value $(R_{xy}) = 0.546$ with $p = 0.000 < 0.050$, meaning that there is a positive correlation between permissible parenting and juvenile delinquency with the assumption. The higher the permissible parenting pattern, the higher the juvenile delinquency in SMP Negeri 5 Medan. Finally, there is a significant positive correlation between the suitability of the theme and juvenile delinquency as indicated by the coefficient value $(R_{xy}) = 0.534$ with $p = 0.000 < 0.050$. This shows that there is a positive correlation between the suitability of the theme and juvenile delinquency; the

higher the suitability of the theme, the higher the juvenile delinquency of students at SMP Negeri 5 Medan.

Based on the results of the regression analysis, there is a relationship between permissible parenting with peer conformity of the subject and juvenile delinquency. This is supported by the coefficient $F_{reg} = 46.194$ with $p < 0.05$ and the correlation coefficient $R = 0.560$ with $p < 0.05$ and $R^2 = 0.314$. Based on these findings, it can be concluded that there is a positive correlation between permissible parenting and non-permitted parenting as well as non-permitted parenting and non-permitted parenting and non-permitted parenting in adolescent students of SMP Negeri 5 Medan. The following is a summary of the findings of the Hypothesis Testing study.

Table 3.
Hypothesis Test Calculations

Statistics	Coefficient (R_{xy})	Coef. Det. (R^2)	P	BE%	Note
X1 – Y	0.546	0.299	0.000	9.9%	Sig
X2 – Y	0.534	0.286	0.000	8.6 %	Sig
X1.X2 – Y	0.560	0.314	0.000	1.4%	Sig

Information:

X1 = Permissive Parenting Style

X2 = Peer Conformity

Y = Juvenile Delinquency

R_{xy} = Coefficient of relationship between X1, X2 and Y

R^2 = Coefficient of determinant X1, X2 against Y

p = Significance

BE% = Effective contribution weight of X1, X2 to Y in percent

Note = Significance information

Results of Calculation of Hypothetical Mean and Empirical Mean Hypothetical Mean

The number of acceptable items for the permissive parenting variable is about 39 items formatted using a Likert scale in four response columns; thus, the hypothetical mean is $\{(39 \times 1) + (39 \times 4)\} : 2 = 97.5$. Consequently, the hypothetical mean is $\{(31 \times 1) + (31 \times 4)\} : 2 = 77.5$. The peer conformity variable, the number of valid items is 31 items formatted using a Likert scale in 4 response options. Then, for the juvenile delinquency variable, the number of valid items is about 48 items formatted using a Likert scale in 4 response options, so the hypothetical mean is $\{(558 \times 1) + (48 \times 4)\} : 2 = 120$.

Empirical Mean

Based on data analysis, seen from the descriptive analysis of multiple regression tests, the empirical mean value of the permissive parenting variable was 109.34, the empirical mean value of the peer conformity variable was 89.38, and the empirical mean value of the juvenile delinquency variable was 130.12.

Criteria

To understand the condition of the category of permissible parenting, peers, and adolescents, it is necessary to compare the empirical mean/average value with the hypothetical mean/average value, taking into account the significance of the SD of each

variable. The SD variable of permissive parenting is 9.540, the SD variable of peer conformity is 10.379, and the SD variable of juvenile delinquency is 9.194.

Based on the SD above, the permissive parenting pattern can be said to be a variable if the hypothetical mean/average value < empirical mean/average value, then the results indicate a high parenting pattern, and if the hypothetical mean/average value > empirical mean/average value, then the results indicate that the parenting pattern is acceptable. Furthermore, the peer theme suitability variable states that if the hypothetical mean/average value < empirical mean/average value, then the theme suitability is classified as high, and if the hypothetical mean/average value > empirical mean/average value, then the theme suitability is classified as low. Regarding the juvenile delinquency variable, if the hypothetical mean/average value < empirical mean/average value, then it can be concluded that juvenile delinquency is high, and if the hypothetical mean/average value > empirical mean/average value, then it can be concluded that juvenile delinquency is low.

A summary of the comparison of the hypothetical mean/average value and the empirical mean/average value, as well as their standard deviations, can be seen in the table below.

Table 4.
 Results of Calculation of Hypothetical Average Value and Empirical Average Value

Variables	SD	Average value		Note
		Hypothetical	Empirical	
Permissive Parenting Style	9,540	7.5	109.34	Tall
Peer Conformity	10,379	7.5	89.38	Tall
Juvenile delinquency	9.194	20	130.12	Tall

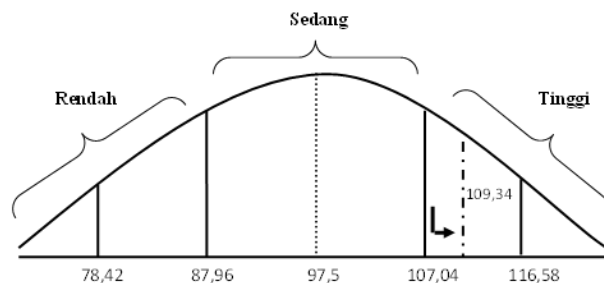


Figure 1.
 Normal Curve of Permissive Parenting Pattern Variable

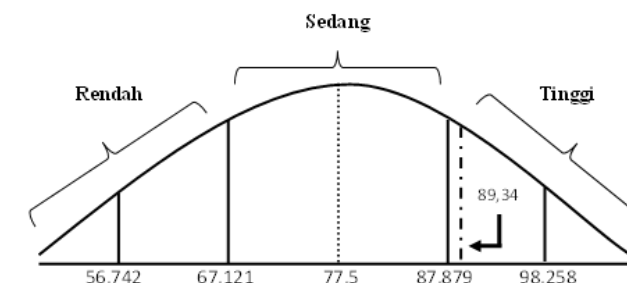


Figure 2.
 Normal Curve of Peer Conformity Variable

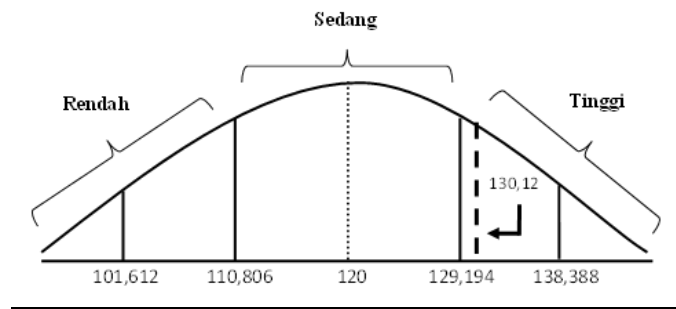


Figure 3.
 Normal Curve of Juvenile Delinquency Variable

Discussion

Permissive Parenting Patterns with Juvenile Delinquency

Based on the results of the correlation analysis, it can be seen that there is a significant positive relationship between permissible parenting and adolescents who are subject to it, which is indicated by the coefficient value (R_{xy}) = 0.546 with $p = 0.000 < 0.050$, meaning that there is a positive relationship between permissible parenting and juvenile delinquency with the assumption. As the permissible parenting pattern increases, the number of adolescent students at SMP Negeri 5 Medan also increases. In addition, based on the coefficient of determination (R^2) which is 0.299, the contribution of permissible parenting to juvenile delinquency in SMP Negeri 5 Medan is around 29.9%. However, when viewed from the standard deviation of the permissible parenting pattern of 9,540 and the hypothetical mean of 97.5, the empirical mean value of 109.34 shows that the permissible parenting pattern is in the high category, meaning that the permissible parenting pattern of students at SMP Negeri 5 Medan is classified as high.

Research conducted by Isnasari (2014) also showed that there was a significant positive relationship between students' permissible behavior and juvenile delinquency in the Semarang Class 1 Correctional Center. In line with that, when the permissible parenting pattern of parents increases, then juvenile delinquency also increases. Conversely, when parenting becomes more acceptable to parents, then the level of juvenile delinquency will also increase. The coefficient of determination (R square) ranges from 0.225 which shows that permissible parenting patterns affect the level of adolescents by 22.5 percent, while other factors not included in this study affect by 77.5 percent. Based on the description above, the relationship between permissible parenting patterns and juvenile delinquency is very significant in the theory put forward by (Santrock, 2003) about the nine determining factors of juvenile delinquency. One of these factors is the process in a group where there is a lack of interaction between both parents and children, a lack of effective discipline, and a lack of attention from both parents which can affect juvenile delinquency.

The Relationship between Peer Conformity and Juvenile Delinquency

As can be seen from the coefficient value (R_{xy}) = 0.534 with $p = 0.000 < 0.050$, there is a significant positive correlation between theme conformity and juvenile delinquency. In other words, the higher the theme conformity, the higher the juvenile delinquency in students of SMP Negeri 5 Medan. In addition, based on the coefficient of determination (R^2) value of 0.286, the condition of students at the school contributed 28.6% to the juvenile delinquency of students of SMP Negeri 5 Medan. However, based on the standard deviation of theme conformity of 10.379 and the hypothetical mean value

of 77.5, the empirical mean of 89.38 indicates that theme conformity is generally high, meaning that the theme conformity of students of SMP Negeri 5 Medan is high.

The results of the study above are in line with Fatimah's (2017) study which examined the relationship between juvenile delinquency and peer themes at SMP N 1 Ciwidey Bandung. The results of the study support the hypothesis that the suitability of the theme is related to juvenile delinquency. Based on the results of the regression analysis, the coefficient of determination (R^2) = 0.088, F count = 18.905, and $p = 0.000$ were obtained as follows: correlation coefficient (R) = 0.297. Because the probability is 0.000, it can also be stated that there is a strong correlation between the research theme and juvenile delinquency. Thus, the hypothesis in this study is that there is a correlation between juvenile delinquency and the suitability of the research theme in students aged 13-15 years at SMP Negeri 1 Ciwidey Bandung.

Permissive Parenting and Peer Conformity with Juvenile Delinquency

The results of multiple regression analysis show that there is a relationship between permissible parenting with peer conformity of subjects and juvenile delinquency. This is indicated by the coefficient $F_{reg} = 46.194$ with $p < 0.05$ and correlation $R = 0.560$ with $p < 0.05$ and $R^2 = 0.314$. Based on these findings, it can be concluded that there is a positive correlation between permissive and non-permissive parenting patterns and peer parenting patterns, which means that the high juvenile delinquency of students at SMP Negeri 5 Medan is increasing.

CONCLUSION

The conclusion of this study is that there is a significant positive relationship between permissive parenting and peer conformity with juvenile delinquency. Permissive parenting contributes significantly to juvenile delinquency, indicating that the more permissive the parenting applied, the higher the level of delinquency shown by adolescents. In addition, peer conformity also has a significant effect on juvenile delinquency, where adolescents who are more likely to conform to peer groups have a higher tendency to engage in delinquent behavior. Overall, permissive parenting and peer conformity together have a significant effect on juvenile delinquency. These findings indicate the importance of parental attention and supervision as well as the influence of the social environment in shaping adolescent behavior.

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