



Overview of Environmental Sanitation and Socio-Cultural of Coastal Communities in Fishing Village, Medan Belawan District, Indonesia

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ABSTRACT

An overview of environmental and socio-cultural sanitation is very interesting to explore. Environmental sanitation and the social culture of coastal communities in fishing villages are inseparable aspects of their daily lives. This study aimed to understand the description of environmental sanitation and socio-culture of the coastal community of fishing village, Medan Belawan District, Indonesia, in order to create sustainable and equitable solutions for them. This study is a descriptive observational study. A total of 100 informants were included in this study. Data analysis was carried out univariately to present environmental sanitation and socio-cultural data. Waste processing in the environment is still very bad, where garbage is generally just piled up, and no waste management efforts are carried out. The community also does not have healthy latrines, which shows that sanitation conditions are still not a good report. The majority report also does not have refrigerators as food storage, and the community, in general, has not implemented a clean and healthy lifestyle. The source of clean water and processed drinking water treatment also still show things that are not good. Water sources and processing that are not optimal make the majority of people experience skin problems. The overview of environmental sanitation and the socio-culture of coastal communities in fishing villages shows how important it is to increase efforts to keep the environment clean and maintain cultural values in their daily lives.

1. Introduction

The coast of the fishing village is a place that is rich in culture and the lives of coastal communities who live by making a living from the sea. In this area, there is an overview of environmental sanitation and socio-culture, which is very interesting to explore. Environmental sanitation and the social culture of coastal communities in fishing villages are inseparable aspects of their daily lives. In terms of environmental sanitation, coastal communities in fishing villages have a close relationship with the surrounding natural environment, especially the sea. They rely on the natural resources around them to meet their daily needs, such as fish and other marine products.

Therefore, maintaining environmental cleanliness and sanitation is very important for them. The coastal communities of fishing villages realize that keeping the environment clean is the main key to maintaining the health and sustainability of the natural resources they rely on. They try to keep the beach clean, dispose of trash properly, and maintain the quality of seawater to keep it clean. Coastal fishing villages often have a waste management system that suits their needs, such as separate bins and organic waste treatment.¹⁻⁵

In addition to environmental sanitation, socio-cultural aspects also play an important role in the lives of coastal communities in fishing villages. Their culture and traditions have developed over the years

and become a strong identity for them. The existence of this culture and tradition influences the way they interact with the environment and with each other. The coastal communities of fishing villages have strong values related to togetherness, mutual cooperation, and kinship. They help each other in various activities, be it fishing, boat repair, or other socio-cultural activities. This reflects the spirit of togetherness and mutual support in maintaining their lives as coastal fishermen.⁶⁻⁹

However, social and environmental changes also affect the coastal communities of fishing villages. Globalization, urbanization, and climate change bring new challenges in terms of environmental sanitation and socio-culture. Environmental changes, such as water pollution and damage to ecosystems, can affect their health and livelihoods. In addition, social change can change the lifestyle and traditional values of coastal communities in fishing villages. Therefore, it is important for us to understand the overview of environmental sanitation and socio-culture of the coastal community of fishing village, Medan Belawan District, Indonesia, in order to create sustainable and equitable solutions for them.

2. Methods

This study is a descriptive observational study. This study uses primary data obtained from interviews with informants. A total of 100 informants were included in this study, and the informants met the inclusion criteria. The inclusion criteria in this study were that the people of fishing village, Belawan I Sub District, Medan Belawan District, North Sumatra Province, Indonesia, were over 17 years old and willing to participate in the study. This study was approved by the medical and health research ethics committee at the Universitas Islam Negeri Sumatera Utara.

This study was conducted using interview techniques with a questionnaire online by utilizing the Google form feature. The informant's e-mail address and contact were obtained legally while taking into account the ethical aspects and confidentiality of

digital information. The questionnaire contains related questions, socio-demographics informants, questions related to the description of the sanitation environment as well as the situation of social informant culture. Data analysis was carried out using SPSS software version 25 in univariate. The univariate analysis aims to present the frequency distribution of each data variable test.

3. Results and Discussion

Table 1 presents that the majority of informants are women and are between 31-45 years old. Data shows that the informants are generally housewives who belong to the millennial generation and are quite familiar with the use of digital technology. Table 1 shows that waste management in the environment is still very bad, where garbage is generally just piled up, and no waste management efforts are carried out. The community also does not have healthy latrines, which shows that sanitation conditions are still not a good report. The majority report also does not have refrigerators as food storage, and the community, in general, has not implemented a clean and healthy lifestyle. The source of clean water and processed drinking water treatment also still show things that are not good. Water sources and processing that are not optimal make the majority of people experience skin problems. Table 1 also shows that the relationship between the community is relatively good and harmonious.

Good environmental sanitation and healthy, clean living behavior have a very important role in maintaining health and preventing disease. Good environmental sanitation, including adequate access to clean water, proper sanitation, and effective waste management, can prevent the spread of water and sewage-related diseases. Diseases such as diarrhea, cholera, hepatitis A, and respiratory infections can be prevented by maintaining clean drinking water, good sanitation, and proper waste management. Many diseases can be prevented through good environmental sanitation and healthy hygiene habits.

Table 1. Distribution of sociodemographic descriptions, environmental sanitation, and socio-cultural conditions of the informants.

Variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Gender:		
Female	73	73
Male	27	27
Age:		
15-30 years	23	23
31-45 years	36	36
46-59 years	25	25
≥ 60 years	16	16
Household waste management:		
Good	8	8
Not good	25	25
Bad	67	67
Ownership of healthy latrines:		
Yes	28	28
No	72	72
Food storage:		
Refrigerator	38	38
Dining cabinet	17	17
On the dining table	45	45
Clean and healthy living behavior (PHBS):		
Do	43	43
Just suggesting	51	51
Do not do	6	6
Drinking water treatment:		
Boiled	94	94
Immediately drink	6	6
Water sources:		
Well	86	86
Sea water	14	14
Diseases that are often experienced:		
Skin disease	72	72
Diarrhea	18	18
Fever	10	10
Relations between local community members:		
Harmonious	46	46
Good	44	44
Indifferent	10	10

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that around 842,000 people die each year from diseases related to poor water, sanitation, and hygiene. By improving sanitation and healthy hygiene behavior, the death rate can be reduced significantly.¹⁰⁻¹⁴

Poor sanitation and unhealthy living habits can cause various health problems such as infections, skin diseases, digestive disorders, and others. By maintaining good environmental sanitation and adopting a healthy, clean lifestyle, the quality of life

can be improved. Individuals will be healthier, more productive, and able to focus on daily activities without being distracted by illness. Good sanitation and healthy hygiene behavior play an important role in the growth and development of a country. When people have adequate access to sanitation and adopt healthy hygiene behaviors, they are better able to concentrate on education, employment, and contributing to sustainable economic development.¹⁵⁻

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Good environmental sanitation also involves protecting the environment. Effective waste management and the sustainable use of water resources help prevent water and soil pollution and maintain biodiversity. By maintaining good environmental sanitation, we can preserve the natural environment and ensure the survival of all beings on this planet. To achieve good environmental sanitation and healthy, clean living behavior, cooperation from individuals, the government, and the community is required. Education on the importance of sanitation and hygiene needs to be disseminated, adequate sanitation infrastructure must be built, and policies that support environmental protection must be implemented. In doing so, we can achieve a healthier, more sustainable, and more prosperous society.¹⁸⁻²⁰

4. Conclusion

The overview of environmental sanitation and the socio-culture of coastal communities in fishing villages shows how important it is to increase efforts to keep the environment clean and maintain cultural values in their daily lives. In facing social and environmental changes, good cooperation and understanding between coastal communities of fishing villages and related parties are very important to achieve sustainability and prosperity for them. Thus, the protection and development of environmental sanitation as well as the socio-cultural preservation of coastal communities in fishing villages, are goals that must be fought for together.

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