

The Other Side of The Fence

(The Life of Orphans)

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1.0 Introduction:

For my personal project, I have decided to write an essay concerning the life of orphans in an orphanage in Jakarta, Indonesia. I've resolved to do this as my project due to the fact that in Jakarta, the poverty level is quite high, and the sight of homeless children living on the street has become a common one, in fact, the prospect is so customary now that we generally don't notice them anymore. Very often, when I'm coming home from school, or when I'm going somewhere else, I always see children either playing or working on the streets. I often feel sorry them and wondered whether they would be better off living in an orphanage.

However, what inspired me the most into doing this project was the fact that during the last two years, many natural disasters have occurred and I have often wondered what happened to the children who were orphaned by the disasters. Disasters such as the 2004 Tsunami and Hurricane Katrina had taken many lives and bereft many children of their parents and/or family members. For these children, the most probable thing that might happen to them is being admitted into an orphanage, and I was curious as to how they will adapt. It was these queries of mine that had motivated me into writing my essay on the topic I have chosen, as I felt it would answer my queries and open my eyes to the real conditions being faced by orphans in Jakarta.

My goal is to bring about an awareness regarding the issue of orphans by writing an essay on the life of orphans in an orphanage, and hopefully, make people more charitable towards orphanages. Through this project, I feel that I am doing my share of work and am contributing to the social community.

This personal project which I am doing touches upon both the AOIs of Community and Service (CAS) and Health and Social Education (HSE), as CAS stresses upon contributing to the community and HSE concerns social issues. Nonetheless, if I was required to choose only one AOI, it would definitely be HSE. This is because, as much as it is CAS, my project is principally regarding a significant social issue in Jakarta. My project is also essentially based on human relationships and the human psyche, which deals with the experiences and traumas faced by an abandoned or orphaned child, including the state of their mental health/well-being. Also, my Personal Project revolves around the three questions of HSE:

- How do I think and act?
- How am I changing?
- How can I look after myself and others?

In order to complete my personal project on time and achieve the objectives I've set to accomplish with my undertaking, I made an activity schedule for myself which I tried to adhere to. This was to improve my time management and organization skills.

1.01 Activity Schedule:

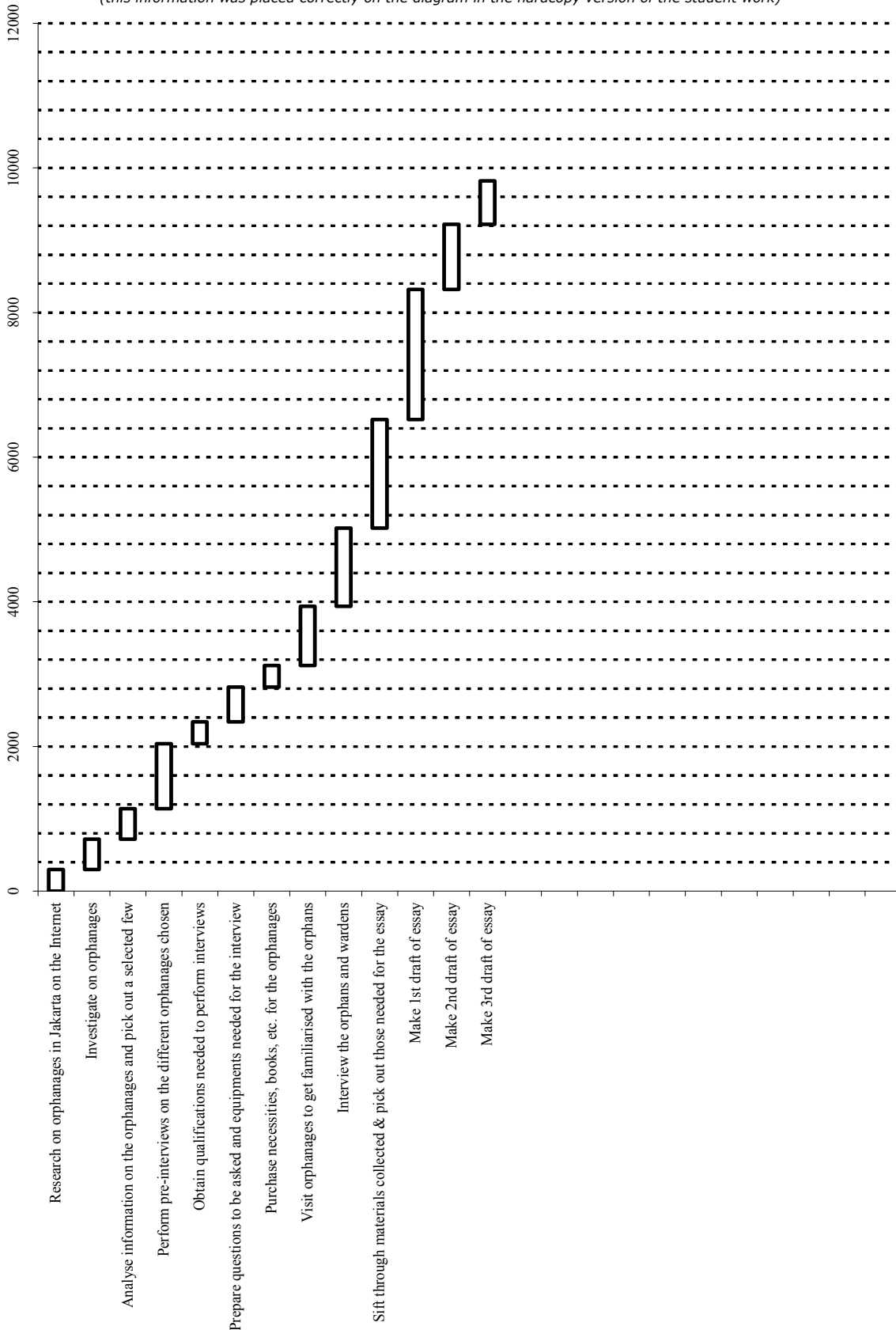
| | Task name | Time in minutes |
|---------|--|-----------------|
| Task 1 | Research on orphanages in Jakarta on the Internet | 300 |
| Task 2 | Investigate on orphanages | 420 |
| Task 3 | Analyse information on the orphanages and pick out a selected few | 420 |
| Task 4 | Perform pre-interviews on the different orphanages chosen | 900 |
| Task 5 | Obtain qualifications needed to perform interviews | 300 |
| Task 6 | Prepare questions to be asked and equipments needed for the interview | 480 |
| Task 7 | Purchase necessities, books, etc. for the orphanages | 300 |
| Task 8 | Visit orphanages to get familiarised with the orphans | 820 |
| Task 9 | Interview the orphans and wardens | 1080 |
| Task 10 | Sift through materials collected & pick out those needed for the essay | 1500 |
| Task 11 | Make 1st draft of essay | 1800 |
| Task 12 | Make 2nd draft of essay | 900 |
| Task 13 | Make 3rd draft of essay | 600 |

1.02 Project Creation Timeline:

Time allotted in minutes (horizontal data)

Tasks to be done (vertical data)

(this information was placed correctly on the diagram in the hardcopy version of the student work)



2.0 Description of Techniques Used:

After deciding my Personal Project and identifying my goal, I started planning on how to bring about the achievement of the goals which I had set for myself and the completion of my Personal Project, which should be carried out competently, if not better.

In order to start off, I began looking for information via the Internet, in the hope of acquiring some information which might help me write my essay. I chose to use the Internet instead of researching in books since the Internet is much more efficient and is usually the best resource for almost all subject matter, as it is the combination of resources collected all around the world.

When it came to searching for an orphanage, I decided that the best way to go around doing it was by asking people, as I was not able to find listings of the orphanages present in Jakarta on the internet. I inquired from my family members and friends, along with several other people, querying them on the subject of orphanages and whether they know of any in Jakarta which I can pay a visit to. This process took quite a long time as I was asking quite a lot of people. Thus, while waiting for a response, I resolved to make questionnaires beforehand for both the orphans and wardens by first listing all the things which I needed and/or wanted to know. I did this so as to prevent the omission of any important questions which I wanted to ask while interviewing the wardens and orphans. I had done so because I believe that if preparations are done in advance, the final outcome would be much better than those which were done without previous groundwork whatsoever.

A short while after I had completed my basic preparations, I started receiving feedbacks from my human resources. I was recommended a handful of orphanages, a total of 11, most of them by H. J. R., L. S., A. N., and M. S. (See Bibliography 6.011-4). At first, I found it quite hard to sieve through all these orphanages and select one out of eleven. However, I came up with the idea of doing a preliminary interview which I will conduct in all the eleven orphanages. I would question the superintendents or wardens regarding their orphanages, the nature of their orphans, the history of the orphanage, its mission statement, and last, but far from the least, the terms and conditions which I must meet if I were to perform an interview with their orphans. From the answers which I obtained through these 'pre-interviews', I found it much easier and was able to select the most appropriate orphanage for my project with greater facility than before.

3.0 Description of Process:

I had started my Personal Project on the 8th of April, as I had previously planned. I embarked on my task by researching about orphanages in general, and then more specifically on the orphanages found in Jakarta, through the Internet. However, after realizing that the Internet isn't a very reliable resource to find the information I needed, I decided to try another approach; asking around and gathering information from human resources.

The first orphanage which I went to survey was recommended to me by my father's colleague, H. J. R. (See Bibliography 6.022). Around 10 other orphanages were also suggested and were considered. To determine which orphanage was the appropriate one for me, I went to all the orphanages proposed and conducted a 'pre-interview' during the first two weeks of July, where I asked the superintendents some general questions regarding their orphanages and the terms and conditions to be met if I was to interview their orphans. In order to conduct my pre-interviews, I arranged my time and schedule so I would be able to visit all the orphanages in a fairly short amount of time without extending the time limit for more than necessary. After drawing up a rough schedule indicating when I would visit each orphanage, I called up all the orphanages one by one to arrange the meeting. At the end, the previous schedule which I had drafted was modified and altered in order to suit the activities of each orphanage. I then followed my schedule and held my pre-interviews in the respective orphanages, noting down all the vital points obtained from each interview. It took about two weeks to finish the pre-interviews and once I had finished, I collected all the materials which I had acquired and began sifting through the orphanages, cancelling out those which did not seem appropriate or whose terms and conditions didn't allow me to achieve my set goals.

Towards the end I was left with only two remaining options; P.A.K. and P.A.K.K. Before visiting these orphanages and interviewing the orphans, I knew that in order to get honest answers, I would have to gain their trust, and the best way to do that was by befriending them. Once I reached a certain level of familiarity with both the warden and the orphans, I decided to conduct my interview. For the interview, I used the questionnaires (See Appendix A 1.01-1.02) that I had previously made as a guideline while adding more questions of my own while conducting the interviews. For the interviews, however, I had brought along a companion, M. S., who at times helped me in Bahasa Indonesia when I get stuck; although I live in Indonesia, my Bahasa isn't considered to be very fluent. After the interview, I spent time teaching them some English and simple French, and helped them with their school work. Overall, I had visited P.A. K. about 4-5 times

After I was done with P.A.K., I visited P.A.K.K.. Like my first visit to P.A.K., I also brought along with me some necessities and books for the orphans on my first day at P.A.K.K. (See Appendix B 3.21). I then came to the orphanage on a regular basis and taught the orphans some basic English and helped them with their school homework. After we were all familiarized with each other, I started conducting my interviews, collecting information.

Before writing my essay, I did a survey in school asking students regarding the matter of orphanages; I handed out questionnaires for them to fill (See Appendix A 2.01). After I received all the feed-backs (See Appendices C & D), I sifted through all the information that I had obtained and picked out those which I need and will include in my essay. As all of my interviews were recorded on a tape, it was easy for me to extract information from the previous interviews without missing anything out. I then used some information from the net provided by Wikipedia¹, which was related to the historical backgrounds of orphanages in general, to be used in the beginning of my essay.

Once I had all the information I needed, I started writing my essay. Once finished, I had it reviewed for any linguistic errors by my supervisor, Ms. N. K., whom I had also been consulting on a regular basis for counselling (See Appendix B 5.01). After being reviewed, I distributed copies of my essay to friends and the library. The distribution of my essay (product) for review by the students and friends is in keeping with the AOI of Health & Social Education (HSE), as it will help spread awareness about the orphanages and help me fulfil the aim of my research. I then gave out questionnaires (See Appendix A 2.02) to the people who I gave copies of my essays to in order to find out whether I have achieved my objective of raising awareness regarding the issue of orphans in orphanages.

¹ "Orphanage." [Wikipedia: The Free Encyclopaedia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orphanages). 26 June 2006. Wikimedia Foundation, Inc. 27 June 2006 <<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orphanages>>.

4.0 Analysis:

While pursuing my Personal Project, I found out that finding information on orphanages in Jakarta on the Internet was quite surprisingly a difficult job. Information regarding orphanages, on the whole, was pretty easy to locate, but then, the information was mostly on American orphanages. For the most part, I was only able to find around two to three websites which had information on orphanages in Indonesia, but none regarding those found in Jakarta. In truth, this occurrence wasn't really that surprising as child abandonment and orphanages are just one of those issues in Jakarta that happens almost everywhere but isn't really talked about.

I also found it rather tough to find an orphanage that would suit my needs. None of my family members could help me regarding this matter either, and thus, I had to widen my prospect and reach out to people outside my network, i.e. parents' colleagues, parents' friends, aunts' friends, cousins' friends, etc.

My difficulty with finding orphanages may be because I grew up in a very 'sheltered' environment. In my whole life, I think I had visited only one orphanage, and that, only once. It was back when I was around three years old, and now, I can hardly manage to recollect the events which had happened on that day. All I can remember is a little girl who was around my age. She showed us her room and I recall thinking to myself that I would never want to stay in an orphanage as the place had seemed pretty terrible to me. My family can be said to have taken great care so as not to expose me to "trivial" issues like poverty, abuse, and violence. It may be due to these reasons that I found my Personal Project to be a mind-opening experience as it required me to venture to unfamiliar environments that I had never been in before.

As the subject matter of orphanages is really 'covered' in Jakarta, it was really hard for me to quickly find the right orphanage, taking much longer for me to find an orphanage than I had anticipated; a month to be exact. This was because after I had conducted the pre-interviews, I found that there were many aspects which made most of the orphanages unsuitable for my project. First off, most of the orphanages didn't allow their orphans to be interviewed. This condition was put forth by around six of the orphanages, and thus, I could not write my project on them as I believe that the wards and/or superintendents would not reveal the absolute truth about their orphanages and would try to cover up the bad aspects of their institutions. I was also surprised when certain rules like "no cameras" and "no video-recordings" were imposed on me when I mentioned that I was interested in interviewing their orphans. This also provided another obstacle as I understand that for my MYP Personal Project, I would need proof in the form of pictures and other such visual attestations to prove that I had really done my project.

The latter impediment which was mentioned also caused me to alter and change some of my plans for my Personal Project. The biggest change was the cancellation of the fund-raising which I had planned to do for the orphanages I was to visit. Previously, after deciding my Personal Project and my goals, I developed an idea and thought that it would be nice to generate some money for the orphanages which I was going to interview. I was planning to sell DVDs which documented the life of an orphan within an orphanage in Jakarta. It would detail the hardships he/she might have faced before being admitted into the orphanage and the ways in which he/she has adjusted to life inside an orphanage. The proceeds obtained from the selling of these DVDs would go to the orphanages, serving two purposes; to improve the living conditions of the orphanages and to show my gratitude for allowing me to interview and interact with their orphans, thus, helping me achieve and complete my Personal Project.

It was then that I decided to do two orphanages instead of one. This was because P.A.K. (See Appendix B 1.01-2.02) and P.A.K.K. (See Appendix B 3.01-3.20) were completely different and run on different management systems. They were also of different class as it can be said that the orphans living in P.A.K. were much better off than those in P.A.K.K. This fact is shown through the condition and size of the orphanage's living compartments. Therefore, as these two orphanages are quite different, I thought it would be a good idea to put in some contrast in my essay and show my readers two different types of orphanages, enlarging their view of orphanages. I chose to do this as I find that most people have very restricted views when it comes to issue like orphanages. They seem to think of orphanages as places of bad conditions where the orphans are treated very badly and are not taken care of. This is, of course, a very superficial outlook. By taking up two orphanages, I can show people the different sides and 'classes' of orphanages; those which are of above-average quality (P.A.K.) and those which are regarded as average in Jakarta (P.A.K.K.), though they may be

considered as poorly when compared to other orphanages in more developed countries such as the U.S.A and the U.K.

While interviewing the wardens of both orphanages, I faced similar problems; they were both quite 'rigid' and weren't very keen on revealing the truth. Most of what the wardens say doesn't tally with the things the orphans told me. Examples would be that the warden in P.A.K. said that the children in the orphanage were hardly ever punished; which is completely false, and that the orphanage has a doctor who treats orphans who fall sick; which is again untrue.

4.01 What I liked best while doing my Personal Project:

While conducting an interview at P.A.K.K., I met a girl name Y. (See Appendix B 3.06), who was nicknamed "C.". C. is an eleven-year-old, and is very friendly and genial. Interviewing her was one of the most enlightening experiences of my life, as I had learnt a lot from the interview; I was honestly awed by her answers as they contained so much wisdom. She seems really content with herself and where she is in life, and that's what I really liked about her. We became very close friends, and until now, we still keep in close contact.

I also liked attending Bazaar Day (See Appendix B 4.01-4.16) at P.A.K., which was held only once a year, all the orphans were having so much fun, mingling with other children and buying items with "Koyins", which was a type of 'fake money' which the wardens give the children; the amount depends on how well-behaved the children had been all year and how often they study and memorize the Bible.

4.02 What I realized about orphans:

Before I did my Personal Project, I had always thought of orphans as children who were lesser and, in a way, more 'inferior' to us. However, after conducting my interviews and learning more about the life of orphans, I've come to realize that my preconceptions were completely wrong; they are all truly the same as everyone else.

However, I had also come to know, through the interviews and intimate talks I had with the children (orphans) that although these orphanages take care of the orphans' physical state and provide for their academics, they seldom do much for their psychological well-being. One could see that the children are distraught and very often cry at night, remembering their parents. Also, as I had mentioned in my essay (product), most orphanages today still practice physical chastisement, and it was evident, through the timorous fashion the children had confided to me, that it was strictly prohibited for the children to tell this small fact to 'outsiders'.

The fact that these children living in orphanages entered the institution as illiterates lowers their self-esteem severely. This is as, although now they are being educated, they are still far behind in academics when compared to other children like my friends and I. M., one of the boys in P.A.K., was so embarrassed by the fact that he is already 15 but is still in fourth grade that he had lied to me about being in grade 9. It was only after he became familiar with me that he confessed he was actually in grade four, and told me that the only reason that he had lied to me was that he didn't want me to look down on him "... like all the other people do".

4.03 Health and Social Education:

Visiting the two orphanages has completely altered my whole outlook on life. This experience has changed me and made me more appreciative of life, causing me to pay more attention to the little 'trivial' things in life which I used to take for granted. I also addressed many social aspects in the orphanages and took into account how living in an orphanage can have an impact on a child's physical and mental health. So, basically, through doing my Personal Project, I have learnt to think about the impact of my actions, and I have also learnt to care for others and cherish myself more as I realize now that I am indeed a very lucky person. Hence, apart from spreading awareness about the plight of the orphans, and hopefully, a love for the lesser privileged, all these answer the three fundamental questions of Health and Social Education:

- How do I think and act?
- How am I changing?
- How can I look after myself and others?

5.0 Conclusion:

My Personal Project deals with the AOI of Health and Social Education and this area of interaction has definitely been involved in every aspect of my project. This is as, while doing my project, I had interacted with many people, especially the orphans. I also dealt with issues concerning mental and physical health when it came to interviewing the orphans and wardens. The topic I am dealing with is also a social issue, and so, my project is very much on social education.

However, my Personal Project is slightly linked to Community and Service as I am, in a way, contributing my small sum to the society/community by helping raise awareness on one of the major issue in Jakarta. Another AOI which my project can be linked to is Homo Faber, as I had created an essay of my own, which is, in a way, a literary piece. Nevertheless, despite the many AOIs my project is connected to, the main one is HSE (Health and Social Education).

Now, thinking back, I found a lot of flaws in the way I had done things. First of all, as I had mentioned, I'm not a very gregarious person and I'm not very good at talking to people, and so, the way I had approached people might be considered as 'stiff'. Also, my decision to give out questionnaires to students might not have been a fruitful one as the answers written down may not be the truth. On the whole, I have learnt a lot about how to interact people and how to manage my time. I also learnt how to quickly sieve through information to pick out only the ones I need.

I believe that I have grown a lot from this experience as it has opened up my eyes to some of the harsh realities in this world, seeing the world from the other side of the fence for the first time. I definitely feel motivated to make a difference in the two orphanages I have visited. I periodically visit the two orphanages and I am glad to say that I will continue to do so for as long as possible. Despite of all the things that I may be able to teach the orphans, I do believe that they can teach me a whole lot more to life.

When I showed the copies of my essay to my friends to read, they were very impressed and most said that it had made a big impact on their outlook regarding orphans and orphanages. All of those who had read my essay had said that they will definitely visit at least one of the orphanages mentioned in my essay and would try to find an orphanage in their district which they can visit regularly. Thus, from the reactions of people who have read my essay, I would say that I have achieved my goal, as I have brought about awareness regarding the issue of orphans living in orphanages. However, to increase my scope of reach, I have put several copies of my essays in the library so that more people can read my essay and more awareness will be brought about. I am really hoping that after reading my essay, people would start visiting orphanages and 'bond' with the orphans, touching and filling their lives with sunshine, letting them know that they're not alone. My ultimate dream is that one day, these unwanted waifs will be adopted and embraced into a family filled with love, experiencing the happiness that they truly deserve.

Help me make the little daisies bloom into dazzling pink roses, and let the children find warmth in your tender embrace.

*“Heal the world----
If you care enough for the living
Make a better place
For you and for me”².*

“To love and be loved is to feel the sun from both sides”³

- David Viscott

² "Michael Jackson Lyrics - Heal the world." Complete Album Lyrics. 2006. 4 October 2006
<<http://www.completealbumlyrics.com/lyric/27281/Michael+Jackson+-+Heal+the+world.html>>.

³ Moncur, Michael. "Love Quotes." The Quotations Page. 2005. 4 October 2006
<<http://www.quotationspage.com/subjects/love/>>.

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6.01 Web pages:

"Orphanage." Wikipedia: The Free Encyclopaedia. 26 June 2006. Wikimedia Foundation, Inc. 27 June 2006 <<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orphanages>>.

"Patricia Hope." Books and Authors. 2005. 23 July 2006 <<http://www.booksandauthors.net/Interviews/PHope.html>>.

"Stolen Babies (1993) (TV)." IMDb. 2006. Internet Movie Database, Inc. 23 July 2006 <<http://us.imdb.com/title/tt0108225/combined>>.

"Tennessee Black Market Adoption Information." Tennessee Black Market Adoption Information. 23 July 2006 <<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Bluffs/3592/TNBMA.html>>.

6.02 Interviews:

Sources:

1. N., A.. Personal interview.
2. R., H. J.. Personal interview.
3. S., L.. Personal interview.
4. S., M.. Personal interview.

P.A.K.:

(Address not reproduced here)

5. B.. Personal interview. 13 June.
6. E.. Personal interview. 13 June.
7. J.. Personal interview. 13 June.
8. L., N.. Personal interview. 12 June.
9. L.. Personal interview. 13 June.
10. M.. Personal interview. 12 June.
11. N.. Personal interview. 13 June.
12. R.. Personal interview. 13 June.
13. Y.. Personal interview. 13 June.

P.A.K.K.:

(Address not reproduced here)

14. A.. Personal interview. 15 June.
15. D.. Personal interview. 15 June.
16. L.. Personal interview. 15 June.
17. L.. Personal interview. 15 June.
18. M.. Personal interview. 15 June.
19. Y.. Personal interview. 15 June.

Appendix A

Questionnaires

1.01: Questionnaire for wardens (English/Bahasa Indonesia)

H.O.D.s (Head Of Department) or P.I.C.s (Person In Charge):

1. Who had set up this orphanage?

(Siapa yang telah mendirikan rumah yatim piatu ini?)

2. What is the main mission statement of this institution?

(Apa tujuan utama dari institusi ini?)

3. How do children get admitted into these orphanages?

(Bagaimana anak-anak diterimadie dalam rumah yatim piatu ini?)

- What are the procedures that need to be done?
(Prosedur apa saja yang perlu dilakukan?)
- How long does it normally take to admit a child?
(Berapa lama biasanya dibutuhkan untuk menerima seorang anak?)
- Is there a minimum age requirement?
(Apakah ada persyaratan batas umur?)

4. Is this orphanage selective, meaning that it receives only children of certain religion, race, or area?

(Apakah rumah yatim piatu ini selektif, maksudnya hanya menerima anak-anak dari agama tertentu, ras, atau daerah?)

- (If yes) What are the conditions or qualifications a child must possess in order to be able to seek refuge within this orphanage?
{(jika iya) Kondisi dan kualifikasi apa yang harus dimiliki seorang anak supaya dapat ditampung dalam rumah yatim piatu ini?}
- Why is this so?
(Mengapa demikian?)

5. At what age do the children leave this orphanage?

(Pada usia berapa anak-anak meninggalkan rumah yatim piatu ini?)

- Under what other circumstances do children get released?
(Di bawah kondisi apa anak-anak dibebaskan?)
- When released, where do they usually go?
(Ketika bebas, kemana biasanya mereka pergi?)
- Do you check on them regularly after they've left to make sure they're doing fine?
(Apakah anda memeriksa mereka secara teratur setelah mereka pergi untuk memastikan mereka baik-baik saja?)
- Do you give anything to the children who are leaving? What and why?
(Apakah anda memberikan sesuatu kepada anak-anak yang akan meninggalkan rumah yatim piatu ini? Apa dan mengapa?)

6. How or what are the procedures needed to be performed when a child is adopted?

(Bagaimana atau prosedur apa yang perlu di lakukan ketika seorang anak di adopsi?)

- What are the requirements of a family in order to be qualified to adopt a children from you orphanage?
(Apa persyaratan yang dibutuhkan dari sebuah keluarga supaya bisa mengadopsi seorang anak dari rumah yatim piatu anda?)
- Is there any rule in this orphanage regarding the adoption of a child?
(Apakah ada peraturan dalam rumah yatim piatu ini mengenai pengadopsian seorang anak?)

7. Do you send your children into foster homes?

(Apakah anda mengirim anak anda kerumah pengasuhan?)

- How or what are the procedures needed to be performed when a child is admitted into a foster family?
(Bagaimana atau prosedur apa yang perlu dilakukan ketika seorang anak dimasukkan kedalam sebuah keluarga asuh?)
- When these children are welcomed into a foster home, does the foster family get any sort of compensation?
(Ketika anak-anak ini diterima didalam rumah asuh, apakah keluarga asuh ini mendapatkan kompensasi?)

8. What are the children's daily agenda?

(Apa kegiatan sehari-hari anak-anak di sini?)

9. What subjects or fields of studies are being taught to the children here?

(Pelajaran atau bidang studi apa yang diajarkan kepada anak-anak disini?)

10. When it comes to food, what does their usual meal consist of?

(Mengenai makanan, apakah makanan yang biasanya mereka makan?)

11. Have there ever been times when you are faced with a decision where you have to choose between food and education for the children due to lack of funding or any other reasons?

(Apakah pernah anda temui suatu kondisi ketika harus memutuskan antara makanan dan pendidikan untuk anak-anak di saat kekurangan dana atau alasan yang lain?)

12. How does this orphanage deal with health issues?

(Bagaimana rumah yatim piatu ini menghadapi masalah kesehatan?)

13. From where does this orphanage receive its funds?

(Dari manakah rumah yatim piatu ini menerima dana?)

14. Are the finances received from your source(s) usually sufficient to cover for the expenses incurred?

(Apakah dana yang diperoleh dari sumber anda biasanya cukup untuk menutup biaya-biaya yang ada?)

15. What is generally done when funds run short in supply and more money is needed to cover up the expenses?

(Apa yang umumnya dilakukan ketika dana mulai menipis dan masih dibutuhkan uang lebih untuk menutupi biaya-biaya tersebut?)

16. What are the difficulties that have been faced in this orphanage in the past few years or during the time you have been working here?

(Apakah kesulitan yang dihadapi dalam rumah yatim piatu ini dalam beberapa tahun yang lalu atau selama anda bekerja disini?)

17. Do you think that there are several aspects of the Indonesian government which makes the setting up or the maintaining of orphanages harder to do?

(Apakah anda berpikir bahwa ada beberapa aspek dari pemerintah Indonesia yang mempersulit anda dalam mendirikan atau mengatur rumah yatim piatu ini?)

18. What do you think that the Indonesian government can do to improve the conditions of orphanages throughout Indonesia other than increasing its funding?

(Apa menurut anda yang bisa dilakukan oleh pemerintah Indonesia untuk memperbaiki kondisi rumah yatim piatu diseluruh Indonesia selain penambahan dana?)

19. According to you, is the issue of the conditions faced by orphans in orphanages throughout Jakarta or Indonesia being heeded seriously by the general public, or so to say, the inhabitants of Indonesia?

(Menurut anda, masalah yang dihadapi oleh anak-anak yatim piatu di dalam rumah yatim piatu diseluruh Jakarta atau Indonesia diperhatikan secara serius oleh kebalayak umum atau penduduk Indonesia?)

20. Do you agree that the subject of orphanages isn't so much publicized or brought out to awareness in the Indonesian community? Why?

(Apakah anda setuju bahwa hal yatim piatu tidak begitu banyak dipublikasikan atau muncul ke permukaan terhadap kesadaran dalam komunitas Indonesia? Mengapa?)

21. In what ways do you think we can bring about awareness to the civilians living in this very country regarding the harsh conditions some orphanages have to face in order to survive?

(Dalam hal apa menurut anda kita dapat menyadarkan penduduk yang tinggal di dalam negeri ini mengenai kondisi buruk yang di hadapi oleh anak-anak yatim piatu dalam berjuang untuk hidup?)

22. How do you think the Indonesian population can help improve the conditions of orphanages in Jakarta?

(Bagaimana menurut anda populasi Indonesia dapat membantu memperbaiki kondisi anak-anak yatim piatu di Jakarta?)

23. What do you feel is the general picture of an orphanage to the majority of the people living in Indonesia today? Is it true?

(Apa yang anda rasakan yang merupakan gambaran umum dari seorang anak yatim piatu terhadap sebagian besar orang-orang yang tinggal di dalam Indonesia sekarang ini? Apakah itu benar?)

24. According to you, what is it that most people don't know about orphanages?

(Menurut anda, apa yang tidak di ketahui oleh orang-rang mengenai anak-anak yatim piatu?)

25. What are the preconceptions about orphanages do you often find amongst our people today?

(Prasangka apa mengenai anak-anak yatim piatu yang sering anda dengar diantara penduduk kita sekarang ini?)

- Are they usually true?
(Apakah itu selalu benar?)
- Do they customarily have a positive or negative impact towards the idea or the image of orphanages?
(Apakah ada dampak positif atau negative terhadap ide atau gambaran anak-anak yatim piatu?)

26. What is it that you would like most people to know about orphanages today?

(Apa yang ingin anda sampaikan kepada orang-orang mengenai anak-anak yatim piatu sekarang ini?)

1.02: Questionnaire for the orphans (English/Bahasa Indonesia)

O.C.s (Orphaned Children):

1. At what age were you accepted into this orphanage?

(Pada umur berapa anda diterima didalam rumah yatim piatu ini?)

2. How old are you now?

(Berapa umur anda sekarang?)

3. How did you feel the first time you came here?

(Bagaimana perasaan anda pertama kali anda masuk kedalam sini?)

4. When you were first admitted into this orphanage, were there any certain formalities you had to go through? What were they?

(Ketika anda pertama kali diterima didalam rumah yatim piatu ini, apakah ada formalitas/kebiasaan tertentu yang harus di lalui? Apa saja?)

5. How did the other orphans react to you when you first came?

(Bagaimana reaksi anak-anak yatim piatu yang lain ketika pertama kali anda masuk?)

6. Is it hard to make friends here?

(Apakah sulit untuk berteman disini?)

7. Do you know anyone or were you friends with anyone who has already left the orphanage?

(Anda mengenal seseorang atau berteman dengan mereka yang telah meninggal rumah yatim piatu ini?)

- How did they feel when they learnt that they were leaving?
(Bagaimana persaraan mereka ketika meninggalkan tempat ini?)
- Did you and your friends do anything special together before s/he left?
(Apakah anda dan teman-teman anda melakukan sesuatu yang istimewa sebelum meninggalkan tempat ini?)

8. What do you usually do everyday?

(Apa yang biasanya kamu lakukan setiap hari?)

9. Can you tell me of any special occasion which you all celebrate?

(Dapatkah anda menceritakan kepada saya peristiwa istimewa apa saja yang dirayakan kalian semua disini?)

- Which one is your favourite and why?
(Manakah yang paling disukai dan mengapa?)

10. What's your favourite food?

(Apa makanan kesukaan anda?)

- Do you get to eat it often?
(Apakah anda sering makan makanan itu?)
- What do you usually eat? Do you like it?
(Apa yang biasanya anda makan? Anda menyukainya?)

11. Are birthdays celebrated in this orphanage?

(Apakah ulang tahun di rayakan di rumah yatim piatu ini?)

12. Do you like living here?

(Apakah anda suka tinggal disini?)

- What are the things that you like being here?
(Hal apa yang anda suka disini?)
- What are the things you don't like?
(Hal apa yang tidak anda suka disini?)
- What are the things you think should be improved around here?
(Menurut anda, hal apa yang harus diperbaiki disekitar sini?)

13. What hardships do you face here?

(Keadaan sulit apa yang anda hadapi disini?)

14. Do you receive punishment or experience child abuse in this orphanage?

(Apakah anda menreima hukuman atau mengalami kekerasan anak dalam rumah yatim piatu ini?)

- Have you ever seen an adult abuse or harass an orphan in this orphanage?

(Apakah anda pernah melihat kekerasan orang dewasa or hal yang membahayakan anak-anak yatim di dalam rumah yatim piatu ini?)

- Under what circumstances is punishment given in this orphanage?
(Dibawah keadaan apa hukuman diberikan didalam rumah yatim piatu ini?)
- What sort of punishments?
(Hukuman yang seperti apa?)

15. Do fights between orphans happen frequently?

(Apakah perkelahian sering terjadi disini diantara anak-anak yatim piatu?)

- Usually, what is the cause of these conflicts?
(Biasanya, apa penyebabnya?)
- What other matters may bring about divergence or disagreement and cause disputes?
(Hal apa yang biasanya menyebabkan perbedaan atau ketidak cocokan yang akhirnya muncul permusuhan?)

16. What subjects do you learn in this orphanage?

(Pelajaran apa yang anda pelajari dalam rumah yatim piatu ini?)

17. What is it you want to become when you grow up?

(Anda ingin menjadi apa setelah besar?)

18. Do you believe you can achieve your dreams? Why?

(Apakah anda percaya bahwa anda dapat mencapai apa yang anda impikan? Mengapa?)

19. Do you think being in this orphanage has taught you a valuable lesson?

(Menurut anda berada di dalam rumah yatim piatu ini telah mengajarkan anda pelajaran yang berharga?)

- What impact do you think living in an orphanage will have on your life?
(Dampak apa yang anda peroleh di dalam rumah yatim piatu ini dalam hidup anda?)
- Being in an orphanage, do you think of yourself as different from other children?
(Sebagai seorang anak yatim, apakah anda merasa berbeda dari anak-anak yang lain?)
- Does being in an orphanage lower your self-esteem and make you think less of yourself?
(Apakah berada di dalam rumah yatim ini membuat anda rendah diri dan membuat anda berpikir rendah terhadap diri sendiri?)
- So far, how do you think life in an orphanage has affected you?
(Sejauh ini, bagaimana pendapat anda kehidupan di dalam sebuah rumah yatim piatu telah mempengaruhi anda?)

20. When times get hard what do you always hang on to to get through?

(Ketika keadaan sedang susah, apa yang membuat anda bertahan?)

- What is its significance?
(Apakah keistimewaannya?)
- Why is it so important to you?
(Mengapa itu sangat berharga bagimu?)

21. What is the most important thing you have in this world? Why?

(Hal terpenting apa yang anda peroleh didunia ini? Mengapa?)

- What does it represent?
(Melambangkan apa?)

22. What do you think is the most important thing a person could possess? Why?

(Menurut anda, hal penting apa yang harus dimiliki oleh seseorang? Mengapa?)

23. What is the most special or memorable event in your life?

(Event apa yang paling special atau berkesan di dalam hidup anda?)

- Why is it so important to you?
(Mengapa itu begitu penting untuk anda?)

24. What are your hopes for your future?

(Apa harapan anda untuk masa depan anda?)

25. According to you, what is the worst mistake you have ever made?

(Menurut anda, kesalahan terbesar apa yang pernah lakukan?)

- Why is this so?
(Mengapa demikian?)
- What were its consequences?
(Bagaimana kejadiannya?)

26. Looking back, do you have any regrets about what you've done in your life?

(Melihat ke masa lalu, apakah anda menyesal terhadap apa yang anda pernah lakukan?)

27. What is it do you feel people should know about the life of an orphan in an orphanage located right here in Jakarta?

(Apa yang anda rasakan orang-orang sebarusnya tahu mengenai kehidupan seorang anak yatim piatu didalam rumah yatim piatu yang berada di Jakarta?)

2.01: Survey questionnaire given to students & friends prior to writing the essay

Date: _____

Survey

Name: _____

Grade: _____

1. Have you ever been to an orphanage?

2. Have you ever thought about visiting an orphanage?

3. How do you picture an orphan?

4. What is your personal perspective on orphanages?

5. Are you and/or your family involved in any charitable work? If so, of what kind?

6. How much do you think you know about the life of orphans in orphanages?

7. What would you like to know about the life of an orphan in orphanages?

2.02: Follow-up questionnaire given to students & friends who have read my essay (product)

Name: _____ Grade: _____ Date: _____

Follow-up:

1. What preconceptions regarding orphans have changed after reading the essay?

2. Will you visit one of the two orphanages in the near future? Why?

3. Has the essay made any impact on your outlook on orphanages? If so, in what way?

4. Was there any information that you wanted to know about but couldn't find in the essay? If so, what was it?

5. Has reading the essay made you more aware regarding the issue of orphanages in Jakarta?

6. What are your comments on the essay?

Appendix B

Photographs



1.01: A portion of the girls' room



1.02: All the orphans sleep on bunk beds



3.03: The orphans have to wash their clothes by hand and hang them dry



3.04: Each orphan has an assigned shelf to put their books and other school belongings in

Appendix C

Answers to Surveys

Date: 15/6/Survey

Name: _____

Grade: 10-D

1. Have you ever been to an orphanage?

Yes, I have.

2. Have you ever thought about visiting an orphanage?

Yes, I have.

3. How do you picture an orphan?

An orphan always reminds of ~~of~~ Oliver Twist. Sad, lonely and not cared for. Torn clothes, overworked and unloved, that is my interpretation of an orphan.

4. What is your personal perspective on orphanages?

Orphanages can be of 2 types, either well managed or not. In well-managed orphanages, the children are treated well and are given basic schooling, whereas in cheap orphanages kids are badly treated, overworked and they live in unsuitable conditions.

5. Are you and/or your family involved in any charitable work? If so, of what kind?

Yes, we are involved in charity work. We donate money to temple institutions, we donate money for school, and we donate old belongings to the villagers in the remote parts of Indonesia through charity organisations.

6. How much do you think you know about the life of orphans in orphanages?

Life of an orphan in an orphanage is simple and lonely. They probably don't have school to go to, they do not have good books to read or quality toys to play with.

7. What would you like to know about the life of an orphan in orphanages?

Firstly, I would like to know about the daily routine of an orphan. Secondly, I would like to know whether the fact that orphans are treated badly is a fact or a myth.

Date: 11/June/**Survey**

Name: _____

Grade: 10c

1. Have you ever been to an orphanage?

Yes, once.

2. Have you ever thought about visiting an orphanage?

Actually, we all had to go to an orphanage for CAS. It was mandatory for my class.

3. How do you picture an orphan?

I pictured an orphan to be a small, undernourished pickpocket. Rude, ill-mannered and miserly.

4. What is your personal perspective on orphanages?

I think orphanages are like a sanctuary for all homeless children. The orphans should be grateful for this haven and for all the wardens who dedicated their lives, taking care of them.

5. Are you and/or your family involved in any charitable work? If so, of what kind?

No.

6. How much do you think you know about the life of orphans in orphanages?

I don't think I know all that much about orphans in orphanages.

7. What would you like to know about the life of an orphan in orphanages?

I would like to know about the trials and hardships in an orphan's life, how they live and what we can do to help them.

Appendix D

Answers to Follow-ups

Name: _____ Grade: 10-D Date: 28/9

Follow-up:

1. What preconceptions regarding orphans have changed after reading the essay?

Orphans are clearly not treated well as per my previous misconception. In fact they are roughly treated and unloved, yet most of them don't complain and are content.

2. Will you visit one of the two orphanages in the near future? Why?

Yes, I will. I would like to donate some cash and other goods and food which would be of good use to them. I would also like to donate books.

3. Has the essay made any impact on your outlook on orphanages? If so, in what way?

Orphanages are very vile places. Kids are given basic education, but are treated very cruelly. I was shocked to learn this.

4. Was there any information that you wanted to know about but couldn't find in the essay? If so, what was it?

No, I acquired all the information I wanted.

5. Has reading the essay made you more aware regarding the issue of orphanages in Jakarta?

The orphans are very badly treated and not cared for. The living conditions are unclean and unhygienic.

6. What are your comments on the essay?

The essay is very informative and analytical. It has the perfect perspective of the life of the orphans and it has a frank opinion of the life of the orphans. Well written!

Name: _____

Grade: 10CDate: 29/September/**Follow-up:**

1. What preconceptions regarding orphans have changed after reading the essay?

I guess my preconception about how a typical orphan would be like. Now I have learned that orphans are just like us, without a chance of fortune. They too, are ambitious and want to learn.

2. Will you visit one of the two orphanages in the near future? Why?

I am planning to because this essay made me realise the importance of showing those poor, abandoned children that at least someone cares.

3. Has the essay made any impact on your outlook on orphanages? If so, in what way?

Yes, this essay enlightened me and opened my eyes to all the going-ons in an orphan

4. Was there any information that you wanted to know about but couldn't find in the essay? If so, what was it?

No, I found all the information I was looking for

5. Has reading the essay made you more aware regarding the issue of orphanages in Jakarta?

Yes, it has really opened my eyes to the misery and hardships the orphans face in these orphanages. I learned the bitter truth that an orphanage is generally the orphan's worst nightmare.

6. What are your comments on the essay?

I think this is an ~~extra~~ brilliant piece of work and very-well researched.