

Introduction them to  
the rehabilitation  
center because punk



Introduction Indonesia is one of the country which has largest muslim population in the world. Within Indonesian society, conservative norms circulating in its system and institutions for example, religions practices and traditional culture seen as important part that rule its society. Within this social composition, Punk exist as community that being seen as social disturbance and by some government and even seen as social "disease". For Example, in Aceh 2011 punk community there were holding a concert and in the middle of the concert law enforcer interrupting the concert to detain punk community member and send them to the rehabilitation center because punk lifestyle was seen as practices that against the Islamic values (The Guardian 2011). Another arrest by law enforcer was also happen in Bali were punk being chased out.

The "hunt" by law enforcer and shunned out by the government has happen around Indonesia. Because of the stigma and prejudices, they are creating misrecognition which then hamper punk member socio-economic life.

This essay will talk about punk community who experiencing social injustice through the stigma and label by the government, citizens, and law enforcer and how the experience brings injustice to the Indonesian youth especially punk community member. Punk history, Ideology and its Indonesian Context Punk are flourished in the underground music scene since early 1980s and it becomes lifestyles who are becoming the counter-culture of current established order or values.

According to Little (2011) In New York America, the music began with the bands such as The Ramones, Blondie, and Talking Heads enter the

American music scene and with the socio-economic condition where similar

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with condition in London with Sex Pistols band as one of the famous music band in the front of this community. The condition that little were talking about is where there is huge unemployment and dissatisfied experience that youth in those area experience. White (2011) also referring to Tricia Henry about punk members as the middle-class youth who are rejecting the middle-class values in America gathering together to participate and creating punk, similar to what happen in London where punk representing the working-class youth ideas against the established order. This economic and social environment create comfortable growth for punk idealism to spread among youth especially with the music as the center attraction. The fashion style of the bands began influencing youth in those cities as they become the symbol of those who rejects the current establishment of society. Jon Savage in his *England's Dreaming: Anarchy, Sex Pistols, Punk Rock, and Beyond* tries to define punk as youth, street life and rebellion is important part of being a punk and also strong individuality which later Craig O' Hara in his book *Philosophy of Punk* defines individuality as Do It Yourself system (Gumilang and Ferry). In the practices of these ideologies, punk community mainly created their own way to sustain their everyday life and holding community events similarly to what Do It Yourself system which stems for self-sustenance way of surviving, for example creating their own fashion shop, clothing, and recording label to support local punk community. For the youth who enter the punk community, freedom become the main attraction for them because they can express themselves through music and fashion without the constraint of norms.

This is similar to Prasetyo (2017) argues on punk as global phenomenon which affects and being accessible to youth through those channels which can create their own empowerment and symbols on political grounds. These youths created their identities which Winker and Degele (2011: 54) stated that "Individuals constitute their identities in delineation from others, while at the same time creating a sense of belonging". Particular situation also happen to Indonesia during the years of Soeharto Presidency where there are youths that is voicing their concern of the current regime and claim that there is injustice and were against the political choice of the current regime which gives disadvantage to the society.

Consequently, Indonesian underground music scene was introduced of Punk by the famous band such as Sex Pistols and The Ramones this is also resulted from the increased interrelatedness by the characteristics of globalization. During this time Punk were spread among Indonesian youth through underground music scene. In Indonesia, the music, culture, and fashion of Punk are flourished throughout the country. According to Pickles (2000): "United by the desire to reclaim artistic creativity, the underground movement (punk) offers musicians an escape from the clutches of commercial culture.

Hollers, screams and growls are let loose. Unlike the mainstream music world which is engineered by profit-oriented major label corporations, expression is not restricted." As they flourished in the underground scene followers of punk were spread across Indonesia and active in creating their own system in the society. This is particularly one of the reason why punk community getting bigger because they are directly in touch with youth which living under poverty line which largely the one of the biggest category <https://assignbuster.com/introduction-them-to-the-rehabilitation-center-because-punk/>

In Indonesia who has almost half of its population live under poverty line according to World Bank (2017). As also happen with other punk community in other countries Indonesian punk community created their own identities among Indonesian youth and living under the poverty line. Negative Stigma Punk in Indonesia and its Implications The freedom that this community has become the main source of problem in Indonesian context. Getting tattoo, piercing, and their fashion style also music are considered as negative and less appealing in any other style in Indonesia. Especially Punk always being accused to relate in to crime by the government and even local people where they live in.

for example one of the police chief inspector in Aceh statements as cited by Balowski (2012), " How dirty would Indonesian society be if it was filled with homeless punks in every corner of the city?" this shows that punk are seen as disturbance in the society and several stakeholders in the society wants to normalize them in order to discipline them into a better member of the society. This particular notion was not only belonged to the police itself it is also belong to the government who sees them as an aberrance in the society and need to be re-educated. In particular there is a certain attached label of punk that being created through this process. This stigma is a creation of norms that created spread into the Indonesian society.

These norms then justified what the police and governments speech and action toward the community. This is based on the conservative that majority Indonesian society has which also government included in it. Through the perpetuation of this negativity in the media, government, and law enforcer created a secluded punk in the society in their everyday life. Norms were <https://assignbuster.com/introduction-them-to-the-rehabilitation-center-because-punk/>

incorporated into institutions such as government and police department in Indonesia which created statement or policy that drives away punk or normalize them into the society. This is similar of what Spade (2015: 5) that “this incorporation of norms into institution created security and vulnerability toward certain groups”. Surely, the dominant norms that circulated through Indonesian Society created negative prejudice and stigma for punk.

in 2011, in Banda Aceh punk concert were stormed by police and punk members being detained by the police and sent to re-education facility. Aceh’s governor said that these were done to ensure the future of these youth punk and to civilize them (Liu 2011). Similar sentiment also shared among Indonesian regional government throughout the countries. Most of them work with local law enforcer to discipline the punk in the street and either send them back to their parents or send them to the re-education facility similar to what happen in Aceh.

The perception of punishment and re-education from the governments shown that through institutions called governments and local values injustice were created which being punk symbolizes uncivilized behaviour and poor future. Because of they are still young they need to be re-educated for their future so they can be youth that symbolizes good citizen as shown in Aceh where the youth were sent to be normalized and leave punk lifestyle. Not only these stigmas and prejudices comes from the governments and law enforcer it is also come from local organization and their neighbourhood. They were stigmatized by the neighbourhood mainly because of their fashion style which is consider abnormal and related to criminality. As an example, punk members group who live in Jakarta were getting negative sentiments and <https://assignbuster.com/introduction-them-to-the-rehabilitation-center-because-punk/>

become the neighbourhood talks and the people of their neighbourhood hold meeting to discuss them and they were decided to throw them out because they consider them as "criminal youth" (Haska 2008).

The experience of this group of community member shows that these punk members were not accepted into their society because they recognize them as a threat to their society. Sen and Nussbaum argues that all human should be able to exercise their capabilities without consideration of where they live (as cited in Thom Brooks 2013: 517). In this term, Punk members were denied place to live and being a member of the society. This case also shows a status injury that Fraser (1998: 3) argues as a matter of injustice which entrenched in the social relations because of misrecognition. Consequently, she also stated that "the institutionalized patterns of cultural value resulting a denied of status in social interaction and participation in everyday social life". Because of this status injury punk members are being treated as social disturbance which makes them secluded in the society in their everyday life.

Conclusions Punk with its music, culture, ideology has become main attraction for youth especially for those who are under the poverty line as the way out from the current established order. Indonesian youth become enticed with this community as they see punk is viable option for them in the current society. Nevertheless, because of their ideology and appearance which do not fit within the established institution in Indonesia they became secluded through government policy, law enforcer action, and the people who give prejudice upon them. This circulation of treatment and prejudice obstruct their social interaction and made them suffer in the everyday life as they being hunted and send to re-education facility to normalize them. As the <https://assignbuster.com/introduction-them-to-the-rehabilitation-center-because-punk/>

norms that permeates into the layers of institutions which made them as social disturbance and being perceived as people who are deviant and need to be treated with punishment and re-education. The cases in Aceh where punk concert being stormed by police shows that because of this stigma and prejudice it hampers their way of actualization and social interaction towards their peers.