

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

From 28th July 2015 until 25th August 2015, I had my internship in TKK TRIMULIA HITS. My position was as a teacher assistant. My duties were to help the teachers in the class, accompany the pupils, and help the teachers to prepare the material. I helped the Nursery Fantastic Fish (NFF) class, which has 24 pupils and 2 home teachers.

The pupils in the NFF class are three to four years old. For most of them, NFF class is their first experience to go to school, so they are not ready enough to be in the new environment which they have not known before. This condition can make them feel anxious. Based on the article *Don't send children to school at four, warn experts* (n.d.), it is stated that four years old children "... may not be ready for the environment they encounter in the reception class, which will include having to deal not only with a curriculum that may not be tailored to their needs but also with a number of social and emotional adjustments. These factors may cause stress and anxiety (para. 7). When doing my internship, the pupils were anxious about going to school. Most of the pupils were crying and some even had tantrum. Based on Akdağ

and Haser (n.d.), it is said that on the first day many children cried “...First week passed with crying children and separation anxiety” (para. 25). I believe this topic is important to be discussed because according to Akdağ and Haser (n.d.), “The first day of the class has long lasting effect on students. When students experience a positive first day, they have positive attitude towards both the course and the instructor, feel more motivated, and even have higher grades. On the contrary, students with negative first day experience feel less motivated even when the instructor behave kindly throughout the course” (para. 2). The quotation made me concerned about this problem because this problem is usually should be handled by all the teachers. The same condition happened during my internship. The pupils in NFF class did not want to go to school and felt afraid to be separated from their parents. Therefore, in order to make this problem easier to be handled, I chose this problem to be discussed in my paper.

B. Identification of the Problem

1. Why did the pupils have separation anxiety in their first week of school in TKK TRIMULIA HITS?
2. How did the separation anxiety affect the pupils?
3. How can this problem be solved?

C. Objectives and Benefits of the Study

By doing this study, I want to find out the causes and effects of my problem in handling pupils with separation anxiety during their first week of

school in TKK TRIMULIA HITS. I will try to find the best solution to handle the pupils with separation anxiety. Therefore, not only I but also the teachers in TKK TRIMULIA HITS and the readers of this paper (people who want to do an internship, students who want to be a teacher) will know how to solve this kind of problem. I hope this paper can inspire those who have the same problem I have experienced.

D. Description of the Institution

Based on Trimulia's Website (n.d), it is said that *Sekolah Kristen Trimulia* was founded by Rev. Caleb Tong on June 1st, 1972. This school's vision is to become an excellent Christian educational institution, which prioritizes Faith, Integrity and Knowledge. The mission of this school is to provide Christian based education which is holistic, integrative, and transformative, through the development of professional sources and current facilities. *Sekolah Kristen Trimulia* has Love, Integrity, Responsibility, Discipline, and Hope as its values.

This school held the first teaching and learning activities for preschool and elementary school level on the ground floor of the church building, GII Hok Im Tong, which is located on Jalan Gardujati number 51. Since the number of students was increasing, the elementary class was moved to a new location on Jalan Kebonjati number 145. The location of the kindergarten was then moved to Jalan Sudirman number 208. In 1978, they began to establish a Junior High School because the first generation had entered the 6th grade. The location of the Junior High School was together with the elementary school building. After

that they established the Senior High School on Jalan Gardujati number 51. Because of the increasing number of students, in 1988 the location of the Junior and Senior High School was moved again to Jalan Dr. Djunjunan No. 105. Nowadays, *Sekolah Trimulia* has changed their school program to become a “HITS” program (Holistic Integrative Transformative School) which uses English as the language of instruction.

At the moment, TKK TRIMULIA HITS has 8 classes, 2 pre nursery classes, 3 nursery classes, 3 kindergarten-1 classes and 3 kindergarten-2 classes with 2 homeroom teachers. Therefore, it has 35 teachers who are led by Ms. Santy as the principle.

E. Method of the Study

I did both library and field research for doing the study. I collected theories from reference books and electronic sources. As for the field research, I observed the pupils in the school and I put the observation data in my daily internship journal.

F. Limitation of the Study

The subject of my analysis is 24 pupils in NFF class. I focus on the three to four-year-old pupils who have separation anxiety during their first week of school in TKK TRIMULIA HITS.

G. Organization of the Term Paper

This paper begins with an Abstract, a summary of the paper in Indonesian. It is followed by Declaration of Originality, Acknowledgements, and Table of Contents. The main content of this paper consists of four chapters. Chapter One is the Introduction and is divided into seven parts. The first part is Background of the Study, which describes why I want to discuss the problem. The second part is Identification of the Problem. This part consists of three questions that I should answer in the next chapter. The third part is Objectives and Benefits of the Study, explaining the purpose of the study and some benefits, not only for me but also for the readers. The fourth part is Description of the Institution, which describes TKK TRIMULIA HITS. In the fifth part, Method of the Study, I mention how the study was done. The sixth part is Limitation of the Study; presenting how I limit the subject of discussion. The last part is Organization of the Term Paper. This part is a summary of the content of my Term Paper. Chapter Two explains the cause and the effects of my problem. Then, Chapter Three describes three potential solutions, with the analysis of the potential positive and negative effects of them. Furthermore, the last chapter is Conclusion, in which I discuss the best solutions to solve the problem. The term paper ends with References and Appendices.