

# **Implementation of Guidance and Counseling Services in the Society Through FGD (Focus Group Discussion)**

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*This study aims to assist pupils who drop out of college for a range of factors, include financial hardship, educational history in the family, the COVID-19 pandemic, and others. The scope of this research is the community with a high dropout rate, as determined by statistics on the level of continuing studies in Duren Village 2021/2022. The descriptive qualitative approach is used during the research process, which includes surveys and interviews with the research subjects. Furthermore, these results are analyzed on a percentage level, to be used as data to provide guidance and counseling services in FGD (Focus Group Discussion). The results of surveys based on questionnaires and FGDs revealed a low interest in each indicator of interest within society. Hence, a departure from this result, the researchers recommended that it is crucial for guidance and counselling services to come into society by cooperating with the education authorities, universities, and education care societies.*

*Keywords: guidance and counseling, FGD, community, education, continuing education*

## **INTRODUCTION**

Children dropping out of school is a worldwide problem caused by a variety of factors. The California Dropout Research Project team from the University of California, Santa Barbara reports on a 25-year study of why youngsters drop out of school. The research review identified two types of factors that predict whether students drop out or graduate from high school: factors associated with individual characteristics of students, and factors associated with the institutional characteristics of their families, schools, and communities. (Rumberger & Lim, 2008)

Furthermore, the results of a research of teenage dropouts in Asturias (Spain) revealed that the cause was a result of individual factors, parental supervision, and school environmental factors. (Fernández-Suárez et al., 2016) This was followed by the problem of the covid 19 global crisis, which affected all that activities, including in the field of education. Pedro A. Willging and Scott D. Johnson presented their study

on the reasons that contributed to school dropouts during the COVID-19 pandemic era, specifically demographic factors, network connectivity, and technological issues. (Willging & Johnson, n.d.)

Indonesia, as from Sabang to Maroke, has the same number of out-of-school children as the rest of the nation, owing to the same causes, including individual traits, family conditions, and geographical location. Using information from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology, in the 2020/2021 school year, over 83.7 thousand children have dropped out of school in Indonesia. This data includes children from both public and private schools who dropped out of elementary, junior high, high school, and vocational school. The number of out-of-school children in Indonesia as of the 2020/2021 academic year, based on their primary level, is as follows: 44,516 people, SMP 11,378 people, SMA 13,879 people, and SMK 13,950 people. (Ahdiat, 2022).

Guidance and Counseling is a science that is multi-setting and multi-referenced, which means this science is an applied science that can be merged at the level of formal education, education, non-formal, and informal education, such as in the family or community. A society with heterogeneous educational backgrounds, and shallow economic and social classes, will be very vulnerable to problems, especially in the sustainability of their children's education. Finance is the main reason some low-income people send or do not send their children to school. Another reason why they do not choose to continue their studies is because of the stigma that "women return to the kitchen even though they have a high level of education." Other inconvenient pessimistic questions include, "why did you persist in your studies even though there was no guarantee that you would become an employee?" and many reasons why they do not continue their studies.

There is also the fact that many people are not invested in their children's educations, especially when it comes to higher education for children from various causes or societal backgrounds.

The education issue in the earlier paragraph seems to be a general pattern of annoyance in Indonesian society, specifically those in rural areas, who have a diminutive motivation to continue their education to a higher level (Utaminingsih, 2021). To boost society's view about the importance of continuing education, inserting positive thoughts that "education is a benchmark for a nation's progress (Vinanda, 2020)" is a must. Based on the education index released by Human Development Reports in 2017, Indonesia ranks fifth in the lower middle class with an index of 0.622. The low education index in Indonesia causes various problems, such as high poverty rates, unemployment, slow economic development, and even society easily influenced by hoax news (Vinandha, 2020; & Widayati, 2019).

As mentioned earlier, facts are related to the need for design to support the continuity of good education so that people know about the need for education. (Locke, as quoted in Sutirna, 2013) refer to *Tabula rasa's* theory; education is essential to individual development and growth for the future.

Edris Zamroni, et.al in research *Trends and Research Implications of Guidance and Counseling Services in Indonesia From 2010 to 2020: A Bibliometric Analysis* the result this research map show that researchers are still working partially in their respective institutions, cultures, and religions. (Zamroni et al., 2022)

Then many research results on guidance and counseling in the world are still dominated in scope in the world of formal education (schools), while for guidance and counseling services in the community there are still not many research results. In Malaysia, most school counselors have been trained in a special counseling training program. Generally, guidance and counseling services provided in schools will promote the personal, educational, and career development of all students. (Amat, 2018). Paul C. Ondima, Henry Mokogi, Samson Ombaba & Gladys Nyaboke Osoro, It was recommended that guidance and counselling programme be implemented and fully supported as a matter of priority in all secondary schools to equip all students with necessary academic, career and personal competencies. (Paul C. Ondima, Henry Mokogi, 2013).

Linking to the previous education issue in the last section, the researchers' interest in describing education issues in Karawang district, Indonesia. Based on short history, Karawang district is the city of the battle in designing the declaration of Indonesian sovereignty. On one side, the Karawang regency is a robust protector of the nation's capital, and the land has the opportunity for its people to partake in developing the country. Continuing education development does not provide optimum, and many potential

students prefer to choose industrial workers after graduating from junior high school or Senior high school or equivalent (Antar Jabar News, 2010). In a more specific case, Karawang District has a location called Karang Anyar Village, Karang Sari, where the society's engagement to persist in education is low, especially the origins around the village. The head of Duren village, Abdul Halim Sukhaeri, on May 12, 2022, admitted the educational situation in his town when the researchers and volunteers arrived at the village to assist society in better comprehending continuing study at a higher education level.

Considering the educational situation in this village, the researchers endeavour to merge Guidance and Counseling as a panacea to increase society's attention to continuing study into a higher level of education to be more robust. During weekly meetings in the village hall, Guidance and Counseling service activities are carried out through Focus Group Discussions (FGDs). The gap in this research is the implementation of Guidance and Counseling to motivate and strengthen society's cognition around vigorous continuing study for their future.

This research aims to elucidate society's level of interest and motivation towards continuing education to a higher level. The findings of this research should instead offer some suggestions for introducing Guidance and Counseling programs for society.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

The research approach utilised in this investigation is a survey on education, especially on the interest in continuing education for children to a higher level. The researchers also employed forum group discussions in a seminar or home visit mode. The research object is the society of Karanganyar, Duren, Klari, Karawang District, West Java province, Indonesia. This district's total population of society is 120 Families comprising 6 Neighborhoods. The research coverage is the implementation of Guidance and Counseling assistance through FGDs. The instrument of collection through a survey was in the form of an open questionnaire about the interest in continuing education for their sons and daughters, while the data analysis technique from the questionnaire used the percentage technique with the following formula:

$$\text{Value percentage} = \frac{n}{f} \times 100\%$$

Details: n = the total number of respondents' answers;

f = number of respondents;

100% is a constant percentage

After calculating the numbers, those numbers can be arranged in a table. This technique simplifies the process. These benefits make it easier not only for researchers but also for readers. The benefit for the reader is assisting readers in interpreting this survey's results. The table is characterised as follows:

**TABLE 1**  
**INTERPRETATION OF RESPONDENT PERCENTAGE**

No	Percentage	Interpretation
1.	0% - 20%	Very low
2.	21% - 40%	Below average
3.	41% - 60%	Average
4.	61% - 80%	Above average
5.	81% - 100%	Very high

It was adopted from (Sugiono 2013) & (Arikunto, 1998)

### Respondents Descriptive Analysis

Descriptive analysis aims to describe the responses or perceptions of respondents to all questions or statements given in the questionnaire. Additional information, the questionnaire is also given to respondents to recognize the characteristics of respondents to the interest or interest in their children's education in continuing education...

#### *Questionnaire Data Analysis*

The time used in this survey research is from July 1, 2022, to August 16, 2022.

**TABLE 2**  
**NUMBER OF SAMPLES COLLECTED**

No	Information	Amount	Percentage
1.	Shared Questionnaire	120	100%
2.	Returning Questionnaire	120	100%
3.	Processed Questionnaire	120	100%
	Amount	120	100%

Table 2 shows that all respondents have returned all questionnaires to the researchers. So that researchers can process all of the data from questionnaires by following the research processing data procedures.

#### *Characteristics of Respondents*

Respondents' characteristics can be seen from the data in the questionnaire that respondents filled out, namely by gender, education level, and the number of families still in school.

**TABLE 3**  
**GENDER CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS**

No	Sample Name	Amount	
		Man	Woman
1.	Nh 33 H 19	18	2
2.	Nh 34 H 19	16	4
3.	Nh 68 H 19	17	3
4.	Nh 69 H 19	19	1
5.	Nh 70 H 19	19	1
6.	Nh 84 H 19	19	1
	Amount	108	12
	Percentage (%)	90%	10%

As illustrated in table 3, there are six Neighborhoods (Nh) and one Hamlet (H). The gender perspective in table 3 shows that males are the highest number of respondents, with 90%, and females, as respondents, are only 10%. The Male is still dominant as the someone in charge of the family regarding education.

#### *Respondent's Education*

Researchers elucidate the education status of the respondents level as in Table 4 below:

**TABLE 4**  
**THE LEVEL OF RESPONDENT'S EDUCATION**

No	Respondent	ES/ IES	JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL/ IJS	SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL/ VS/ ISHC	Univ.	QS
1	Nh 33 H 19	15	1	4	0	0
2	Nh 34 H 19	0	8	12	0	0
3	Nh 68 H 19	0	0	11	8	1
4	Nh 69 H 19	2	0	8	10	0
5	Nh 70 H 19	0	0	20	0	0
6	Nh 84 H 19	1	1	16	2	0
	Amount	18	10	71	20	1
	Percentage (%)	15	8.33	59.16	16.66	0.83

ES = Elementary School  
 IES = Islamic Elementary School  
 IJS = Islamic Junior High School  
 VS = Vocational School  
 ISHC = Islamic Senior High School  
 Univ. = University  
 QS = Quit school

Table 4 exhibits that the respondents' education level is dominated by a reasonably high educational background, as shown by the 59.16% of senior high school or equivalent. In general, respondents comprehended the significance of education for their children. Although there are still respondents who quit school, this is a leftover from before the arrival of the immigrant population who occupied nearby houses.

*Respondent's Occupation*

Below is table 5 contains information about the respondents' occupations.

**TABLE 5**  
**RESPONDENT'S OCCUPATION**

No	Respondent	Laborer	Private sector employee	Businessman	civil servant	Etc
1	Nh 33 H 19	3	17	0	0	0
2	Nh 34 H 19	9	6	5	0	0
3	Nh 68 H 19	0	9	1	6	4
4	Nh 69 H 19	0	8	5	6	1
5	Nh 70 H 19	6	10	3	0	1
6	Nh 84 H 19	1	16	3	0	0
	Amount	19	66	17	12	6
	Percentage (%)	15.8	55	14.1	10	5

Based on data in table 5, located in the previous section, it can be established that a significantly large percentage, precisely 55%, of their employment status is as private sector workers (company workers, industrial workers, factory workers). The various professions here would greatly facilitate the improvement of educational opportunities in the future, especially for prospective entrants and residents of housing estates with civil servant personal circumstances. The level of respondent's education.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Descriptive Questionnaire Results

The distribution of questionnaires to respondents in Karanganyar, Duren, Klari, in Karawang districts, to measure the level of public interest in their children's education. This was accomplished following three meetings of FGD (Focus Group Discussion) in which the society was educated about the significance of education:

**TABLE 6**  
**FGD ACTIVITIES (FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS)**

No.	Date	Theory	The place
1.	July 26, 2022	Education For All	Duren Village Hall, Klari, Karawang district.
2.	August 29, 2022	The Significance of Education for Humans	The importance of Education for Humans Junior High School Integrated Islamics <i>Al Istiqomah</i> , Duren, Klari, Karawang district.
3.	September 2, 2022	Opportunity to pursue Higher Education at Duren Village Hall, Klari Karawang	Duren Village Hall, Klari, Karawang district.
4	September 2, 2022	Giving Questionnaire on Interest in Continuing Education	Duren Village Hall, Klari Karawang

After the FGD activities and distribution of questionnaires, as listed in Table 6, the researchers analysed the questionnaire responses. Thus, the results of perceptions or responses of respondents will be presented progressively according to the indicators of interest.

#### *An Indicator of a Happy Feeling*

How do you feel when your children express a desire for further education? The subsequent responses would be described in the following:

**TABLE 7**  
**RECAPITULATION OF RESPONDENTS' RESPONSES REGARDING HOW PARENTS FEEL**  
**WHEN THEIR CHILDREN WANT TO KEEP LEARNING TO A HIGHER LEVEL**

Question	Answer Recapitulation				
	E	S	QH	UH	D
How do you feel when your children want to continue their education to a higher level?	68	50	2	0	0
Amount	68	50	2	0	0
Percentage (%)	57	42	1.7	0	0

E = ecstatic; D = delighted; QH = quite happy; UH = Unhappy; D = Depressed.

As shown in Table 7, most respondents chose ecstatic (57%) and delighted (42%) evolved the most frequent responses among parents whose children desired to continue their studies at a higher level. In this case, the respondent's level of emotion belongs to the comparatively elevated category. Hence, this sensation of happiness cannot be left to its own devices, so it is vital to continuously provide education on various linked factors so that feelings of pleasure remain ingrained in the area.

The researchers validated the data with specific questions, such as: "Are you interested in offering assistance when your children want to continue their education?" Researchers put the result in table 8 below:

**TABLE 8**  
**RECAPITULATION OF RESPONDENTS' ANSWERS ABOUT WHETHER YOU (PARENTS)**  
**ARE INTERESTED IN PROVIDING SUPPORT WHEN THEIR CHILDREN WANT TO**  
**CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION**

Question	Answer Recapitulation				
	SF	F	SWF	SWO	SO
Are you (as the parent) interested in providing support when your children want to continue their education?	100	19	1	0	0
Amount	100	19	1	0	0
Percentage (%)	83	16	0.8	0	0

SF = strongly favor; F= Favor, SWF = somewhat favor; SWO= somewhat oppose; SO = strongly oppose

In light of table 8 around "indicator of pleasure", based on the findings indicate that their children want to continue their education. From the respondents' consideration, it was determined that 83% of the results showed that they were strongly supportive of continuing education. Consequently, the respondents (parents) strongly favour if their children intend to pursue a higher level of education.

Generally, respondents from internal factors have overwhelmingly positive perceptions of continuing education. However, to strengthen internal results, the following question is viewed from external factors: "Are you interested in giving support when your children want to continue their education?" The results can be seen based on the table below:

**TABLE 9**  
**RECAPITULATION OF RESPONDENTS' ANSWERS ABOUT THE ATTITUDE OF THE PARENT'S ENVIRONMENT, ABOUT THE INTEREST IN CONTINUING EDUCATION**

Question	Answer Recapitulation				
	VH	AA	A	BA	VL
What is the attitude of your (parents) neighbourhood toward continuing education?	57	38	22	3	0
Amount	57	38	22	3	0
Percentage (%)	48	32	18	2.5	0

VH = very high; AA = above average; A = average; BA= below average; VL = very low

Table 9 illustrates how the respondents' environmental factors pieces were very high at 48%. Still, as many as three respondents (2.5% of the total) indicated or explained that their perception of their desire to pursue a higher education degree was relatively poor. However, the neighbourhood within society must have Guidance and Counseling, as the environment will significantly impact the growth and development of the next generations. The earlier statement aligns with Locke's thought about the Tabularasa hypothesis; children are analogous to blank sheets of paper, and their environment will determine their development (Locke as cited in Sutirna, 2013) & (Dawkins, 2009).

To boost the interest of these respondents, the researchers explore the following questions regarding external factors.

**TABLE 10**  
**RECAPITULATION OF RESPONDENTS' ANSWERS ABOUT HOW ARE THE INTERESTS OF FATHERS AND MOTHERS TO ENCOURAGE THEIR CHILDREN TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION**

Question	Answer Recapitulation				
	VH	AA	A	BL	VL
How are the interests of fathers and mothers to encourage their children to continue their education	84	27	8	1	0
Amount	84	27	8	1	0
Percentage (%)	70	23	6.7	0.8	0

VH = very high; AA = Above Average; A = Average; BL = Below average; VL = very low

As illustrated in Table 10, the encouragement of parents to continue higher education for their children is different: very high (70%), low (23%), average (6.7%), and below average (0.8%). These percentages are in line with the previous question about environmental factors. Motivation fluctuates for an individual; Therefore, Guidance and Counseling are needed by every human to always have high self-confidence, especially in education. Someone can be motivated or unmotivated depending on the cognitive process in the form of perception. One's perception of oneself will encourage and direct one's behaviour to act;

*Interest Indicator*

Views of the indicators of interest held by respondents in response to the question, "How are parents interested in continuing their children's education?" The end outcome is as described below:



**TABLE 11**  
**RECAPITULATION OF RESPONDENTS' ANSWERS ABOUT HOW INTERESTED YOU ARE**  
**IN CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR THEIR SONS AND DAUGHTERS**

Question	Answer Recapitulation				
	VH	AV	A	BA	VL
How are parents interested in continuing their children's education?	85	28	7	0	0
Amount	85	28	7	0	0
Percentage (%)	71	23	5.8	0	0

VH = very high; H = above average; A = average; BA = below average; VL= very low.

Table 11 here revealed that the respondents' interest in continuing their children's education is various: very high (71%), above average (23%), and average (5.8%), indicating that the perception of continuing education for their children is far from ideal. Based on the data, guidance and counselling services are needed in society to motivate parents and children who are still pessimistic about the vital of school. Therefore, the following question asks how the respondent perceives their children's interests.

**TABLE 12**  
**RECAPITULATION OF RESPONDENTS' ANSWERS ABOUT HOW DO PARENTS SEE**  
**THEIR SONS AND DAUGHTERS ABOUT THEIR INTEREST IN CONTINUING EDUCATION**

Question	Answer Recapitulation				
	VH	AA	A	BA	VL
How do fathers and mothers see their sons and daughters about their interest in continuing education	76	32	11	1	0
Amount	76	32	11	1	0
Percentage (%)	63	27	9.2	0.8	0

VH = very high; AA = Above Average; A = average; BA = below average; VL = very low

Table 12, as in the previous section, shows that it turns out that only 0.8% of their sons and daughters have a below average in continuing education. Thus, this seems to be the respondents' task to be able to provide information about education to their children. The last number percentage in table 12 proves that the learning situation in society is not entirely delightful. There are still children who have a low level of interest in education. Therefore, Guidance and Counseling are needed to strengthen children's interest in education.

*Attention Indicator*

Attention is the most critical factor in preparing sons and daughters for success; many studies on children with problems lack attention from their parents due to busyness. Therefore, the content of this questionnaire asks respondents how much attention they have to their children's education (achievements, attitudes, et cetera).

**TABLE 13**  
**ORIGINAL RECAPITULATION OF RESPONDENTS' RESPONSES ABOUT FATHER'S OR MOTHER'S CONCERN FOR THEIR CHILDREN TO EDUCATION OR SCHOOL (ACHIEVEMENTS, ATTITUDES, ET CETERA.)**

Question	Answer Recapitulation				
	VH	AV	A	BL	VL
How does the father's or mother's attention to the children's education or school (achievements, attitudes, et cetera.)?	68	40	12	0	0
Amount	68	40	12	0	0
Percentage (%)	57	33	10	0	0

VH = very high; AV = above average; A= average; BA= below average; VL = very low

Table 13 showed that there were many responses. Based on these data, respondents chose: very high (57%), above average (33%), and average (10%). It turns out, however, that some respondents think that the attention factor is not the foremost thing. Lack of parental attention causes most cases of students in schools; Therefore, society must provide Guidance and Counseling services to parents so that they can appreciate the attention of parents for their children.

With the aim of bolstering these findings, Please read the table below to determine how parental involvement at home affects children's school performance.

**TABLE 14**  
**A RECAPITULATION OF THE ANSWERS GIVEN BY RESPONDENTS ABOUT THE AMOUNT OF ATTENTION PAID BY PARENTS AT HOME TO THEIR CHILDREN'S ACADEMIC PROGRESS AT SCHOOL**

Question	Answer Recapitulation				
	VH	H	AV	A	VL
How do you, as a parent, ensure that you pay attention to your children while in school?	68	40	12	0	0
Amount	68	40	12	0	0
Percentage (%)	57	33	10	0	0

VH = very high; H = high; AV = above average; A = average; VL = very low

Based on table 14, Respondents delivered various answers. Respondents' attention to their children in school is very significant, with a percentage is 57%; above average is 33%, and the average is 10%. Paying attention to respondents' answers about respondents' attention to their children's learning at home has a reasonably high correlation. Parents' perception authenticates that the perception results are the same as the results of attention to their children in achievements, attitudes and others. Based on information from print and electronic media, children who are successful in education are dominated by very high attention factors by not covering poor and wealthy families. As an illustration, a pedicab driver's performance in Central Java brought his daughter to high school. His daughter even studied overseas to get a postgraduate degree in master and doctoral programs.

Therefore, compulsory legal Guidance and Counseling can be implemented in all environments, both in society and in schools, because without Guidance, humans cannot reach success.

*Metrics of Participation and Engagement*

It is impossible to have a successful educational experience without the participation of both parents and society. Therefore, bringing attention to this matter for parents is quite essential. To what extent do you, as parents, involve yourself in your children’s academic life (from when they initiate school to when they graduate)?

**TABLE 15**  
**A RECAPITULATION OF THE RESPONSES RECEIVED FROM RESPONDENTS**  
**REGARDING HOW THE FATHER OR THE MOTHER IS ACTIVE IN THE**  
**ACTIVITIES THAT TAKE PLACE AT THE CHILDREN’S SCHOOL**  
**(E.G. FROM ENTERING SCHOOL TO FINISHING SCHOOL)**

Question	Answer Recapitulation				
	VH	AA	A	BA	VL
To what extent do you, as parents, involve yourself in your children’s academic life (from when they initiate school to when they graduate)?	79	27	14	0	0
Amount	79	27	14	0	0
Percentage (%)	66	22	12	0	0

VH = very high; H = high; AT = average; BA = below average; VL= very low

Table 15 shows that the involvement of parents in their children’s education is very high, or around 66%. Meanwhile, some respondents (22%) are in the above-average category, while others (12%) are in the average sort. As in table 15, this percentage proves that parental involvement can significantly contribute to their children’s educational performance. By and large, none of us can ignore the contribution of others to one’s accomplishments. Therefore, Guidance and Counseling are a means for better development so as not to become arrogant when others achieve success.

The next question concerns the respondent’s involvement in school attendance on the attendance of their children at school. How many times a year do you visit your child’s school?

**TABLE 16**  
**A RECAPITULATION OF THE ANSWERS THAT RESPONDENTS PROVIDED REGARDING**  
**THE NUMBER OF TIMES PER YEAR THAT THEY VISIT THEIR CHILDREN’S SCHOOLS**

Question	Answer Recapitulation				
	1 time	2 times	3 times	4 times	0 times
How often do you attend your children’s school during the school year?	6	46	14	28	26
Amount	6	46	14	28	26
Percentage (%)	5	38	12	23	22

As shown in Table 16, it turns out that there are parents who have never visited their child’s school at all, namely 22% and this is included in the very low category. Meanwhile, some parental visits are very often, namely 23%. Therefore, this information becomes valuable for parents to pay attention to their involvement in providing education for their children.

The Law on the National Education System (20/2003) stipulates that education is a shared obligation among the government, schools, and community. Hence, visiting our children's schools indicates a sense of responsibility for their future education.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the results and discussion in the earlier section, the researchers concluded that guidance and counselling services are indispensable for parents and their children in pursuing higher education. The implication and recommendation of this research are for related parties to implement program guidance and counselling services in society with various efforts from the coordination result among the education authorities, universities, and all volunteers who care about education.

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