

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk memahami dinamika komunikasi interpersonal dalam pelayanan rohani Nasrani di Lapas Kembang Kuning dengan menggunakan perspektif Teori Dialektika Relasional Baxter dan Montgomery yang menekankan empat asumsi dasar: kontradiksi, perubahan, totalitas, dan praksis. Fokus penelitian ini adalah pada cara warga binaan mengelola kontradiksi batin antara rasa bersalah dan pengampunan, serta keterbukaan dan kerahasiaan diri; bagaimana perubahan komunikasi antara pembina rohani dan warga binaan berkembang dari pola formal menuju empatik dan reflektif; bagaimana totalitas relasi sosial, emosional, dan spiritual membentuk kesatuan pengalaman transformasi; serta bagaimana praktik komunikasi rohani dijalankan sebagai bentuk praksis iman. Metode yang digunakan adalah kualitatif deskriptif dengan teknik pengumpulan data melalui wawancara, observasi, dan dokumentasi. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa komunikasi rohani berlangsung sebagai relasi dialektis yang terbentuk oleh batas institusional dan kebutuhan spiritual warga binaan. Strategi komunikasi “merangkul” menjadi kunci dalam menciptakan kedekatan dan rasa aman psikologis. Perubahan spiritual warga binaan terlihat dari peningkatan disiplin ibadah, pengendalian emosi, dan kebiasaan menyelesaikan konflik melalui doa, meskipun pertumbuhan tersebut tidak merata karena perbedaan kesiapan batin dan pengawasan lapas. Penelitian ini menegaskan bahwa komunikasi rohani merupakan praktik iman yang berfungsi sebagai ruang negosiasi makna dan transformasi spiritual di tengah sistem kontrol pemyarakatan.

Kata kunci: Dialektika Relasional, komunikasi interpersonal, warga binaan, pelayanan rohani, transformasi spiritual.

ABSTRACT

This study examines the dynamics of interpersonal communication in Christian spiritual ministry at Kembang Kuning Correctional Facility using Baxter and Montgomery's Relational Dialectics Theory (RDT), which emphasizes four core assumptions: contradiction, change, totality, and praxis. The study focuses on how inmates manage inner contradictions between guilt and forgiveness as well as openness and self-privacy; how communication between the spiritual minister and inmates shifts from formal interaction toward empathetic and reflective engagement during spiritual transformation; how social, emotional, and spiritual dimensions interweave into a unified lived experience; and how spiritual communication is enacted as faith praxis in everyday prison life. Employing a qualitative descriptive approach, data were collected through interviews, observation, and documentation, and were analyzed thematically through an RDT lens. The findings indicate that spiritual ministry operates as a dialectical relationship shaped by institutional boundaries and inmates' spiritual needs. A prominent communication strategy is an "embracing" approach, acceptance without stigma, friendship, attentive listening, and non-coercive guidance, which supports psychological safety and dialogue. Inmates' spiritual changes are reflected in inner calm, emotional regulation, increased worship discipline, and new habits for coping with anger and conflict through prayer and spiritual activities. However, spiritual growth is uneven due to differences in readiness and the constraints of institutional surveillance, which encourage selective disclosure and peer-to-peer sharing. This study highlights spiritual communication as a site of meaning negotiation and gradual transformation within the correctional system's control framework.

Keywords: interpersonal communication, spiritual ministry, inmates, relational dialectics theory, spiritual transformation.