

The Application of Social Story to Increase Social Initiation, Perspective Taking, and Non-verbal Communication in Middle Childhood Autism

Angela Raffi

Pembimbing I: Prof. Dr. Ediasri Toto Atmodiwirjo

Pembimbing II: Agustina, M.Psi

Universitas Tarumanagara

Abstract

The purpose of this research is to see the results of *social story* application in increasing social initiation, perspective taking, and non-verbal communication especially for middle childhood autism. There are two variables in this research. The first variable is the *social story* as an independent variable and social skills as a dependent variable. *Social story* is a short narrative story that includes 20-150 words to describe specific characteristic of a situation. Social initiation is defined as the targeted child approaching peers or other people, emitting any verbal or gestural behavior, perspective taking is defined as an understanding of other people's mental states, and non-verbal communication is defined as the targeted child has the ability to read and understand the nonverbal cues of others and to clearly express thoughts, feelings, and intentions. This research use *single case experimental design* (N=1) to observe subject's behavior change in a detail way. The sampling technique in this research is *purposive sampling*. The assessment tool that is used in this reasearch is ASSP (*Autism Social Skills Profile*). ASSP was designed to measure six aspects of social skills that includes social intiation, perspective taking, and non-verbal communication. The results indicate that *social story* is useful for autism children to increase social skills especially in social initiation such as saying "hello", perspective taking such as learning to help others. Nevertheless, *social story* intervention is not quite effective to increase the non-verbal communication aspect such as giving proper behavior when looking at somebody who is sad

Keywords : *Social story, Social Initiation, Perspective Taking, Non-verbal Communication, Autism, ASSP (Autism Social Skills Profile).*