Interpersonal Communication Attribution of Prisoner Companion (PRICO) Hygiene at the State Detention Center Class I Depok

Ari Afriyansyah¹, Marlinda Irwanti²

¹Master of Communication Science, University of Sahid ²LSPR Postgraduate

Article Info ABSTRACT Article history: The complexity of the problems that occur in Rumah Tahanan Negara (Rutan) Kelas I Depok, is one of the problems that continues. The Received Jun, 2025 relationship between officers and tahanan pendamping (tamping) that Revised Jun, 2025 looks good, becomes a false picture with the discovery of Accepted Jun, 2025 communication devices in the prison cells, plans to smuggle narcotics into the prison environment, and conflicts in communication between prisoners and prisoners. The hidden motive behind the behavior and Keywords: interpersonal communication that is well established between officers Attribution Theory; and companions, is an aspect that needs to be explored. This research, Detention Center; focuses on aspects of interpersonal communication and attribution in Interpersonal Communication; tamping. This research uses a post-positivisme paradigm with a Prisoners' Companion

communication devices a faise picture with the discovery of communication devices in the prison cells, plans to smuggle narcotics into the prison environment, and conflicts in communication between prisoners and prisoners. The hidden motive behind the behavior and interpersonal communication that is well established between officers and companions, is an aspect that needs to be explored. This research, focuses on aspects of interpersonal communication and attribution in tamping. This research uses a post-positivisme paradigm with a descriptive qualitative method, which refers to the theory of interpersonal communication and attribution with the Coding Color Analysis Procedure (CCAP) analysis method. Data collection was carried out by means of observation, interviews and literature documents. The results of this research see a more intense interpersonal communication process between tamping and officers outside of duty hours with the context of the conversation more about personal life. Internal attribution of tamping different behavior, will be good with officers and will be conflict if with other prisoners. The tamping motive of getting benefits and convenience from closeness to officers is one of the causes of differences in internal attribution of tamping behavior.

This is an open access article under the <u>CC BY-SA</u> license.



Corresponding Author:

(Tamping)

Name: Ari Afriyansyah Institution: Master of Communication Science, University of Sahid Email: afriyansyah.ari@gmail.com

1. INTRODUCTION

The organizing field of law and human rights in Indonesia, which is under the auspices of the ministry, is the main person responsible for overcoming the excess capacity in Lembaga Pemasyarakatan (Lapas). Excess prison capacity in Indonesia is influenced by the large number of narcotics cases that occur. The website [1] reported that there were only 130,512 prisoners imprisoned there. However, there are now 269,775 inmates living in these facilities. These figures show that 129,820 of them are imprisoned for drug-related offenses.

An attempt to smuggle class I drugs, namely crystal methamphetamine and marijuana disguised as garbage, was successfully thwarted by Rumah Tahanan Negara (Rutan) Class I Depok. Although the existence of these drugs is outside the Rumah Tahanan, the existence of a cleaning assistant who also has the task of cleaning the location outside the detention cell will have access as a bridge to smuggle the narcotics package into the detention cell. This possibility could have happened if the detention officers did not find the narcotics evidence first. One indication of the causes of narcotics trafficking in detention centers and prisons is the lack of supervision from prison officers, which can facilitate the entry of drugs into the prison [2]. There is also overcapacity, and due to the communication established in detention from prisoner actors who have previously had extensive networks outside of detention.

The relationship between prisoners and police officers has historically been contentious, persisting since antiquity. This divide is perpetuated by prison officials who perceive themselves as the "ruling elite," fostering a totalitarian environment rooted in insecurity regarding potential threats. The demeanor of correctional staff towards inmates is consistently "on standby" and characterized by heightened suspicion of each individual prisoner [3].

The situation will get more perilous if the demeanor of officials overseeing inmates is excessively familiar with those in their care. All interactions and dynamics in human relationships present the potential for deviant behavior and criminality [4]. Proximity in communication may lead to reasons associated with unequal treatment, unfair competition, and social envy, which facilitate bribery through the welfare of officers and the prisoners' strong desire for release or mercy.

Observations indicate that certain were acquired bv treatments the housekeeping staff at the Depok Class I Detention Center. Tamping is an inmate who has completed half of his sentence in the assimilation process and is seeking assistance with employment in the detention facility [3]. Tamping occupies a vital role within the hierarchy of inmates in detention centers and prisons. The role of a tamping prisoner, who aids the warden, affords more access both within and beyond the jail facility. Serving as tamping can facilitate a prisoner's а management of their rights [5]. This prompts officers to deliver a commensurate amount of communication and involvement while offering counsel to inmates, particularly companions. The conduct of a partner who is a criminal suspect requires specialized intervention to mitigate their propensity to reoffend.

Understanding the interaction and conduct of assistants through the lens of interpersonal communication is a strategy to mitigate issues in detention centers, particularly by identifying certain elements of the interpersonal communication process of selected assistants. Interpersonal communication theory is regarded as the most effective kind of communication due to its direct nature between the communicator and the communicant, allowing for mutual impact [6]. Interpersonal communication is defined as the exchange that occurs between two individuals that share a stable and welldefined connection [7]. In addition to examining interpersonal communication, as a of communication method interaction analysis. McDougall underscores the significance of personal variables in influencing social and communal interactions that shape persons [8].

Understanding tamping requires a personal investigation; this study aims to elucidate individual behavioral motives through attribution. Baron and Byrne define attribution in communication psychology as the process of deducing the motives, intents, and traits of others based on their observable behavior patterns [8]. According to Kelley, attribution is the process of recognizing inherent dispositional properties in entities within an environment [9].

Attribution encompasses the judgments or conclusions drawn bv individuals concerning the causation of an event or conduct, whether pertaining to others or oneself [10]. Prisoners awaiting a legal verdict or those detained post-verdict possess distinct and varied traits. The outcomes of the attribution analysis can be presented, and these perceptions can serve as a foundational reference for selecting an individual to act as a companion.

Previous research is used as a reference due to similarities in the problems

and methods used. The first study is titled "Communication Attribution in Self-Disclosure of Broken-Home Family Children to Parents at SMAN 7 Surakarta" [11]. This study shares similarities in approach, paradigm, and one of the theories used. This study's approach combines qualitative methods with an interpretive paradigm based attribution theory. Meanwhile, on the difference with this study is the context of the research location, which was conducted at school with research subjects who had experienced their parents' divorce at home. The attribution theory in this study is more closely related to the theory of a student's selfdisclosure at school.

"Sensemaking and Crisis Second, Communication: School How Leaders Communicate During Times of Crisis" [12]. There are similarities between this research and Kara Grasser's research, specifically in the approach, paradigm, and one of the theories used. The qualitative approach, interpretive paradigm, and attribution theory are all aspects of research that will be conducted. In terms of differences, Kara Grasser chose a research location in a school by selecting the research subject School Leader (Principal) in taking action when a disaster occurs while the teaching and learning program at school is underway.

Third, Arizona Chief Fire Officers' Views on Firefighter Behavioral Health Issues: Causes and Treatment Strategies [13]. This research employs the same theory. This research is distinguished by the use of quantitative methods, with firefighters serving as both the subject and object of study. The purpose of this study is to determine firefighters' opinions on the causes of firefighter behavioral health problems, as well as their opinions on how to help firefighters who are experiencing behavioral health problems.

According to previous research, a person's behavior and attitude cannot be

judged solely based on what they display. Assessing behavior necessitates investigating a person from multiple perspectives, particularly when individuals engage in interpersonal communication. Competence, interference, and communication effects will be examined, as well as internal or external motives derived from the concept of attribution. Attribution theory, primarily studied through the framework developed by Harold Kelley, assists us in understanding the causes of our own and others' behavior [10].

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This study employs a descriptive qualitative methodology. Qualitative research aims to comprehend phenomena related to the experiences of subjects, including behavior, perceptions, motivations, and actions, in a holistic manner through descriptive language, within a specific natural context, employing diverse natural methodologies [14].

The employed data analysis method is the Coding Color Analysis Procedure (CCAP) model, which aids researchers in comprehending the significance of each colorcoded word and brief phrase. This method emphasizes that a code, as Saldana articulated, is a word or concise phrase that symbolically encapsulates and highlights the message, capturing the essence of a segment of data, regardless of whether it is linguistic or visual in nature. Coding refers to a term or brief expression that encapsulates the core of a data segment [15]. The CCAP process encompasses note preparation, research transcription, coding of words and phrases, color-coding, categorization, and the formulation of themes and memos [15]. This study will analyze categorization themes based on Harold Kelley's Covariation attribution theory following the examination of interpersonal communication.

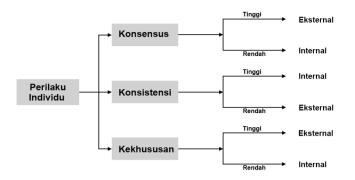


Figure 1. Harold Kelley Attribution Process Chart

The covariation principle asserts that an effect is linked to one of the most probable and prominent causes. This indicates that specific behaviors correlate with potential causes that manifest concurrently [10].

The research focuses on the relationship between assistants and officers, with the researcher selecting two cleaning assistants responsible for maintaining the cleanliness of the detention center, both inside and outside the detention cell, and one officer who serves as a coach. Data collection was conducted through observation, interviews, and literature reviews of prior research.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Interpersonal Communication with Officers and other prisoners

Communication is a crucial element in interpersonal relationships, including those within the State Detention Center Class I Depok. The implementation of the coaching program for prisoners is significantly influenced by communication, as it is a critical determinant of success in executing the program at the Detention Center [16]. Officers and prisoners, now designated as prisoners, exist within the same environmental context, ensuring regular interaction and communication in their daily lives. The relationship between the two parties with differing statuses in the detention center remains unresolved in certain instances.

The initial phase of research involved analyzing interview transcripts with assistants to identify codes or phrases, which were subsequently organized according to thematic categories. Six categorization themes were chosen, and corresponding theme sheets and memos were created.

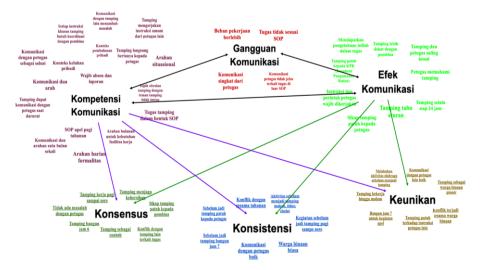


Figure 2. Theme and Memos

The study's results indicated that the communication process between tamping and officers was effective and seamless in the context of personal discussion communication competence. Interpersonal communication is said to progress when there exists an attitude of mutual understanding and acceptance [16]. Discussions regarding personal life with officers typically take place outside of duty hours, during lunch breaks or following the evening roll call of assistants other and inmates. Communication in a personal context exerts a significant affective influence, fostering emotional intimacy and mutual understanding between the companion and the officer. In this communicative context, there is no interference during the process, thereby establishing an effective communication process. Effective communication fosters healthy relationships, cultivates emotional intimacy, and facilitates constructive conflict resolution [17].

Varied outcomes emerged regarding communication competence in relation to daily task directives, indicating that communication was neither wellestablished nor effective. This results from various disturbances or impediments that occur during the communication process. The primary disruption observed arises from officers' constraints in delivering instructions to assistants, primarily due to incomplete task directives, which often results in semantic disturbances. Semantics is defined as the study of concepts related to comprehension, articulated through language. Words facilitate the reciprocal exchange of meaning and comprehension between the communicator and the communicant; however, the interpretation process is frequently flawed. The lack of correlation between the symbol (word) and its referent (meaning or interpretation) may lead to the word being understood in a manner significantly divergent from its intended significance [18].

Alongside daily directives, situational task directives also suffer from ineffective communication processes. Both methods of message delivery in these activities are regarded by tamping merely as a procedural formality for officers. Conversely, the monthly direction is deemed significant tamping, as communication during this period is predominantly focused on tamping to articulate the requirements for auxiliary tools necessary for cleaning tamping duties.

Tamping is assigned a function primarily to facilitate convenience for fellow inmates and to collaborate with detention center personnel [19]. Nonetheless, the companion's communicative interactions with fellow were ineffective, inmates as they that such exchanges perceived exacerbated their difficulties.

3.2 Pricom Attribution

A person's behavior can be judged as good or bad based on what they do in the current situation, but not on their intent or motive. Whether the good behavior is a person's true character or a character that appears in specific situations or circumstances. Kelley's attribution theory also emphasizes the role of context and available information in the attribution process, as well as how social norms and expectations shape how we explain behavior [10]. It is difficult for officers to understand the characteristics of their prisoners in the environment of Class I Depok Detention Center, where various types of prisoners are housed together. This is required not only for daily tasks, but also when officers select Companion Prisoners (tamping) to assist.

No	Behavioral Situation	Consensus	Consistency	Uniqueness	Attribution
1	Relationship with Officers	There are no problems with officers (coaches) communication is good when being pricom	Sebelum jadi tamping komunikasi dengan petugas baik	Komunikasi dengan petugas lain juga baik	Internal
COREALITY		HIGH	HIGH	LOW	
2	Relationship with other prisoners	Conflict with other caseworkers regarding duties	Before becoming a companion Conflict with other Prisoners (not the same person)	Conflict with other prisoners in the detention cell	Internal
	•	LOW	HIGH	LOW	
3	Compliance	Pricom attitude is obedient to the coach (officer)	Before becoming a pricom, obey the officer	Obey the instructions of other officers	Internal
	1	HIGH	HIGH	LOW	
4	Waking Hours Activity	Pricom wakes up at 6 to do activities	Sebelum jadi tamping bangun jam 7 untuk beraktivitas	Bangun jam 7 untuk kegiatan apel warga binaan	External
	•	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	
5	Task	Pricom activities to keep the detention center clean	Activities before becoming a pricom, eating, sleeping, praying in the detention center	Engaging in sports activities before pricom	External
		HIGH	LOW	HIGH	
6	Time Activity	Pricom does the work of pricom work morning to evening	Before being a tamping doing morning to afternoon activities	Tamping pernah bekerja hingga malam	External
COREALITY		HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	
7	Pricom Position	When being a pricom as an example (for other prisoners)	Before becoming a companion, only ordinary prisoners	Pricom is used as a pioneer foster citizen officer	External
COREALITY		HIGH	LOW	LOW	

Table 1. Theme of Pricom Attribution

The attribution derived from the communication process among officers and other prisoners at Class I Depok Detention Center is illustrated in the Kelley's previously analyzed table. attribution how theory elucidates individuals interpret behavior by attributing causes to internal factors (e.g., personality) and external factors (e.g., situational influences) [10]. The comprehensive attribution analysis reveals conducted three internal behavioral themes and four external behavioral themes. Behavioral attributions indicating internal factors typically manifest when the stimulus of the attribution theme pertains to an individual's relationship. The companion's internal character positively correlates with the officer, while inversely correlating with the companion's relationship with other prisoners. Attribution is evident in cultivating relationships with individuals deemed profitable, specifically the officer. External attribution behavior manifests during routine work activities that do not involve interpersonal interaction, with behavioral changes prompted by stimuli from a colleague's task activities.

3.3 Relationship between Interpersonal Communication and Pricom Attribution

Attribution Theory in Communication Science is a theory categorized within interpersonal communication and aligned with the sociopsychological tradition theories. Attribution is a specific form of cognition and a theory of information processing. Information processing theories elucidate the mechanisms underlying thought, the organization and storage of information, and the influence of cognition on behavior. Certain theories of consciousness hold significant relevance in communication literature, namely attribution theory, social judgment theory, and probability parsing theory [20].

The research illustrates the connection between interpersonal communication and attribution as represented in the theme sheet and memos (Picture 1), which have been analyzed from the interview transcripts and categorized accordingly. The theme of communication competence, highlighted in purple, is associated with tamping behavior, which pertains to the theme of consensus attribution. Consensus refers to the behavior of individuals in comparable situations [10]. The communication proficiency of assistants and officers is heightened during personal discussions, which correlates directly with the degree of relational intimacy and the compliance of assistants towards officers. Similarly, increased intensity personal in discussions enhances the consistency of attribution, as communication with officers is well established. The theme of uniqueness is also shaped by the intensity of the communication context addressing personal issues, as the companion's conduct towards other officers is commendable.

Moreover, the theme of communication effects in the thematic image and memos illustrates a green line that connects to the three attribution themes. The impact of communication in this context represents a type of tamping behavior and attitude, with outcomes that align with the themes of attribution. In the context of the communication effect theme, a tamping behavior indicates proximity to the coach, while the consensus attribution theme also describes a behavior where the tamping exhibits obedience to the coach. The theme of consistency and uniqueness attribution similarly exists, with its behavior linked to the communicative effects between assistants and officers. This description indicates that the interpersonal communication process between escorts and officers, or among prisoners, is interconnected. Effective interpersonal communication will favorable facilitate more behavioral attributions among the individuals involved.

4. CONCLUSION

The research findings indicate that interpersonal communication between lodgers and officers fosters effective dialogue in the context of personal discussions. However, in the context of discussions regarding the responsibilities and functions of the escort, the absence of messages communicated by officers on this subject results in semantic communication disorders. Meanwhile, communication among escorts and between escorts and prisoners is ineffective and often leads to conflictinducing friction.

The companion's attribution reveals that the internal attribution pertains primarily to the behavior exhibited in relation to officers or other companions on an individual basis. Exemplary and compliant conduct towards officers' stems from internal attribution, reflecting the inherent nature of tamping when interacting with individuals regarded as superiors or mentors. This conduct towards officers is consistently exhibited by tamping under all conditions and circumstances; as long as the individual engaging with him is an officer, commendable and compliant behavior will be displayed. Unlike attributions directed towards other companions or prisoners, there exists an internal attribution accompanied by disparate treatment. Internal behavioral attributions regarding companions or fellow prisoners tend to be predominantly negative, a pattern that persists during conflicts with other prisoners both prior to and following the establishment of companionship.

Recommendations for agency officers to assess the extent of communication with assistants. Officer communication should contexts pertinent to the prioritize responsibilities of the companion and restrict personal conversations outside of duty hours. Excessive intimacy in communication between officers and assistants may result in bias in their roles, potentially fostering negative motivations.

REFERENCES

- [1] BNN, "Narapidana Narkotika Membeludak. Dimana Letak Permasalahannya?," 2019, [Online]. Available: bnn.go.id
- [2] Z. Basan, I. Riyadi, M. T. Praharani, and K. Febrian, "Faktor penyebab narkoba dilingkungan lembaga pemasyarakatan," J. Huk. dan Sos. Polit., vol. 1, no. 3, pp. 1–9, 2023.
- [3] D. K. Ono, R. Jayawinangun, and P. Handayani, "Aktivitas Tamping Kebersihan Sebagai Bentuk Komunikasi Asertif Dalam Pembinaan Warga Di Rutan Depok Kelas I," J. Penelit. Sos. Ilmu Komun., vol. 6, no. 1, pp. 47–53, 2022.
- [4] A. M. Imaduddin Hamzah et al., Psikologi Penjara: Penerapan Psikologi dalam Proses Pemasyarakatan. Ainun media, 2020.
- [5] D. Arifani and M. Syafiq, "Menjadi Tahanan Pendamping Narapidana: Motivasi Dan Dampaknya Terhadap Perubahan Diri," Character J. Penelit. Psikol., vol. 6, no. 3, 2019.
- [6] U. T. Suntani, R. N. Sasongko, M. Kristiawan, A. Walid, and R. G. T. Kusumah, "The Role of Principal Interpersonal Communication on Teacher's Work Motivation.," *Educ. Q. Rev.*, vol. 4, no. 2, pp. 147–151, 2021.
- [7] D. A. Joseph, Komunikasi Antarmanusia. KARISMA Publishing Group, 2018.
- [8] J. Rakhmat, "Psikologi Komunikasi (Revisi ed.)," Bandung, Indones. PT. Remaja Rosdakarya, 2018.
- [9] S. Sarwono, *Teori-Teori Psikologi Sosial*. PT. RajaGrafindo Persada., 2019.
- [10] S. A. N. Hasanah, D. Agustina, O. Ningsih, and I. Nopriyanti, "Teori Tentang Persepsi dan Teori Atribusi Kelley," *CiDEA J.*, vol. 3, no. 1, pp. 44–54, 2024.
- [11] F. R. C. Usman, "Communication Attribution And Self-Disclosure In Family Communication".
- [12] K. Grasser, Sensemaking and crisis communication: How school leaders communicate in times of crisis. The George Washington University, 2022.
- [13] K. G. Nixon, Arizona Chief Fire Officers' Opinions Regarding Firefighter Behavioral Health Problems: Causes and Help Approaches. Northern Arizona University, 2021.
- [14] L. J. Moleong, Metodologi penelitian kualitatif, Edisi revi. Bandung: PT Remaja Rosdakarya, 2018.
- [15] L. A. Saksono, B. Bungin, and D. Bernardus, "The Exploration Study of Entrepreneurial Leadership as Strategic Asset in Ciputra Group," *Binus Bus. Rev.*, vol. 16, no. 1, pp. 1–11, 2025.
- [16] A. I. Pratiwi, A. Muhammad, and C. E. Tando, "Pola Komunikasi Antara Petugas Rutan Kelas IIb Pandeglang Dengan Warga Binaan Pemasyarakatan (WBP)," J. Pendidik. dan Konseling, vol. 4, no. 6, pp. 2788–2794, 2022.
- [17] S. G. Mahdiyah and V. P. Y. Semendawai, "Elokuensi Dalam Ekspresi: Menjelajahi Kekuatan Komunikasi Efektif Dalam Menumbuhkan Hubungan Yang Berarti Dalam Kehidupan Personal Dan Profesional," J. Transform. Mandalika, e-ISSN 2745-5882, p-ISSN 2962-2956, vol. 4, no. 5, pp. 217–229, 2023.
- [18] R. Rismayanti, "Hambatan Komunikasi Yang Sering Dihadapi Dalam Sebuah Organisasi," J. Ilm. Al-Hadi; Vol 4 No 1 Januari 2018DO - 10.54248/alhadi.v4i1.384 , Nov. 2018, [Online]. Available: https://jurnal.pancabudi.ac.id/index.php/alhadi/article/view/384
- [19] Phatriakalista Intan Apsari, I. S. Putri, J. Abdillah, A. M. Zain, and N. A. Firmansyah, "Analisis Budaya Dan Etika Bisnis Dalam Pembentukan Manajemen Kinerja Karyawan," J. Alwatzikhoebillah Kaji. Islam. Pendidikan, Ekon. Hum., vol. 8, no. 1, pp. 32–40, 2022, doi: 10.37567/alwatzikhoebillah.v8i1.969.
- [20] J. G. Oetzel, K. A. Foss, and S. W. Littlejohn, "Theories of human communication." USA: Waveland Press, 2017.