

# Woman Offenders' Role as a Mother of School Age Children: A Phenomenological Study in the Woman Penitentiary Class II a Semarang

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## ABSTRACT

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<b>Introduction</b>	The increase of criminalities committed by women reflects their effort to survive. The phenomena that occur in the Woman Penitentiary Class II a Semarang show a number of woman offenders have roles as a mother of school age children. The aim of the present research was to explore the experiences of woman offenders in playing their roles as a mother of school age children in the Woman Penitentiary Class II A Semarang.
<b>Methods</b>	The researcher used a qualitative method with a phenomenological approach involving 3 participants by purposive sampling technique. The research technique used by the researcher in collecting the data was in-depth interview conducted on the participants using recorder from digital camera, notes and interview guidance as the research instruments.
<b>Results</b>	The research result showed that the role of woman offenders as a mother consisted of providing physical care, giving language education, helping children in socialization, giving moral education, becoming motivator, giving correction and guidance to the children. The strategies used by the woman offenders consisted of four aspects: direct and indirect media, procedures of the penitentiary and time. The obstacles encountered by the woman offenders covered four aspects namely; children factors, fees, distance and the rules of the penitentiary itself. The coping mechanism consisted of two main points, physical and mental aspects.
<b>Conclusions</b>	Considering the role shifting phenomena of woman offenders as a mother explained by the researcher, the establishment of FGD (focus group discussion) functioning as SHG (self help group) becomes important to minimize the stressors and problems which occur among the women offenders as a result of the role change of woman offenders as a mother of school age children.
<b>Keywords</b>	role of woman offenders - mothers - school age children