

ABSTRAK

Rezky Pratiwi, *Communication Behavior of Street Children in Makassar City (Description Study of Street Children in Panakkukang District).*
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This research aims to describe the communication behavior of street children in Panakkukang sub-district, Makassar city. Street children are a vulnerable social group and often experience marginalization both economically, socially and in communication. This research uses a qualitative descriptive method, this research describes the verbal and nonverbal communication patterns used by street children in everyday life. Data was collected through direct observation in the field and in-depth interviews with several informants who were active street children in the area. The research results show that street children's communication behavior is influenced by family background factors, experience of living on the streets, and the need to survive.

It is hoped that this research can contribute to a deeper understanding of the communication dynamics of street children and become a reference for related parties in formulating policies or development programs that are more humane and communicative for this group.

Keywords: *Street children, verbal communication, nonverbal communication, Makassar City.*