



## PHENOMENOLOGICAL QUALITATIVE STUDY OF THE FIRST EXPERIENCE OF BRIMOB TROOPS THE FIRING SQUAD EXECUTORS

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### ABSTRACT

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*The aim of this study is to figure out on the first experience of Brimob troops as an executor of firing squad in Nusakambangan. The approach used in this study is qualitative with phenomenological method and the data analysis technique using Individual Phenomenology Description (DFI). The subjects involved in this study are three Brimob troops who had been selected as an executor of firing squad using a purposive method. The method of collecting data is semi-structured interviews. The result of this study is that two subjects experienced a conflict when they were ordered to become the executor. The subjects were ready to carry out that order, but they thought of the sin of killing a people who have no resistance. Therefore, there were doubts to carry out that order. A spiritual guidance from kyai who came from Brimob was able to overcome the doubts and become the reinforcement to be sure to carry out their duty that night. Three subjects experienced anxiety before firing on the form of worrying about making mistake, so the subjects regulated their emotions. Entering the firing range, the subjects focused on the implementation so that they dared to shoot the convicted person. The impact of the execution made two subjects experience flashbacks by carrying out the execution and then they overcome them by letting the memories flow. Therefore, they could forget themselves as time went on and the activities at Brimob.*

**Keywords:** *Brimob troops, death penalty, executor of firing squad, phenomenological qualitative study.*

### ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk memahami pengalaman pertama anggota Brimob menjadi regu eksekutor tembak mati di Nusakambangan. Pendekatan yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini yaitu kualitatif dengan metode fenomenologis dan teknik analisis yang digunakan adalah Deskripsi Fenomenologi Individual (DFI). Subjek yang dilibatkan dalam penelitian berjumlah tiga anggota Brimob yang pernah menjadi regu eksekutor satu kali yang dipilih menggunakan metode purposive. Metode pengumpulan data yang digunakan yaitu wawancara semi-terstruktur. Temuan dari penelitian ini adalah dua subjek mengalami pertentangan dalam dirinya ketika diperintah untuk menjadi regu eksekutor, yaitu subjek siap menjalankan perintah, namun memikirkan dosa/tidaknya membunuh manusia yang tidak memiliki perlawanan sehingga adanya keraguan untuk melaksanakan eksekusi mati. Bimbingan spiritual dari seorang kyai yang turut berasal dari Brimob mampu mengatasi keraguan yang dialami serta menjadi penguat supaya yakin untuk melaksanakan tugasnya pada malam itu. Ketiga subjek mengalami kecemasan sebelum menembak berupa khawatir akan melakukan kesalahan, oleh karena itu subjek meregulasi emosinya. Memasuki lapangan tembak, subjek berfokus pada pelaksanaan sehingga memunculkan rasa tega pada subjek untuk menembak terpidana. Dampak dari pelaksanaan eksekusi mati membuat kedua subjek mengalami flashback dan terbayang-bayang dengan pelaksanaan eksekusi mati kemudian mengatasinya dengan membiarkan ingatan tersebut mengalir sehingga mampu lupa dengan sendirinya seiring berjalannya waktu serta padatnya kegiatan di Brimob.

**Kata kunci:** Anggota Brimob, hukuman mati, regu eksekutor, studi kualitatif fenomenologis.

## INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is a state of law according to Article 1 paragraph 3 of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia (UUD NRI 1945). The purpose of a state of law is a state that upholds the rule of law to uphold truth, justice, and no power which is not accounted for. According to Aristotle (in Budiardjo, 2008), state of law is a state that stands above the law that guarantees justice to its citizens. Therefore, the actual law or regulation is a regulation that reflects justice for the association between its citizens. Based on this definition, because Indonesia is a state of law, all aspects or activities in this country are regulated by law so that the individuals living in Indonesia must comply with applicable laws without exception. Not a single room is impermeable to law in this country. When there are individuals or groups who violate the law, they will receive legal consequences according to the rules they violate.

The law governing criminal or criminal acts is regulated in the Criminal Code (KUHP). These crimes and violations are punishable by the punishment which constitutes suffering or torture for the person concerned. The punishments listed in Article 10 of the Criminal Code (in Sugandhi, 1981) are (1) capital punishment; (2) imprisonment: life imprisonment; imprisonment for a certain time (a maximum of 20 years and a minimum of one year); imprisonment (at least one day and a maximum of one year); fines; cover crime. Asmarawati (2013) revealed that the death penalty is the most severe basic crime in the composition of criminal sanctions in the criminal system in Indonesia.

Article 11 of the Criminal Code states that the death penalty carried out in Indonesia is by shooting and the implementing regulations are listed in the Regulation of the Head of the Indonesian National Police Number 12 of 2010 concerning Procedures for the Implementation of the Death Penalty which mentions that there are two teams for the implementation of the death penalty including the shooting squads and support teams from the members of the Police Mobile Brigade (Brimob). There were twelve people for the firing squad, and the twelve gunmen do not all get live bullets in the long-barreled firearms used for shooting, but there were only three live bullets and the rest with empty bullets. The weapons are distributed randomly so that the members of shooter do not know whether the M16 series rifles used for shooting have live or empty ammunition within them.

Based on the initial interview conducted with EH, a Brimob member who became the executor squad in 2015, it revealed that waiting for a pause from sunset until the time of execution was the hardest moment for him. EH said that, during the break, he felt nervous and worried if the task to be carried out that night would fail. What EH felt was a symptom of anxiety. Based on the research conducted by Rostiana and Kurniati (2009), symptoms of anxiety can be in the form of cognitive, motor, somatic, and affective symptoms. The study found that the subject's motor symptoms beat faster when the subject felt anxious, afraid and nervous, as experienced by EH.

In order to carry out his duties properly, EH tried to control his anxiety, so it was necessary to regulate emotions in order to be able to carry out his duties properly. This was corroborated by the research conducted by Hambour, Zimmer-Gembeck, Clear, Rowe, & Avdagic (2018) which found that the lack of strategies perceived by adolescents to regulate emotions is associated with increased anxiety symptoms. Yunis and Rahardjo (2011) revealed a very significant correlation between emotion regulation and attitudes towards work effectiveness; the higher the emotional regulation ability of a police officer, the higher the level of attitude towards the effectiveness of the police officer's work. Conversely, the research showed that the lower the regulatory ability of a police officer, the lower the attitude towards his work effectiveness. Therefore, one of the efforts to control anxiety experienced is to regulate their emotions.

The lack of the research that examined the phenomenon on the moments before carrying out the tense execution and how the efforts to control anxiety made the researchers interested in conducting this research in order to explore more about the first experience of Brimob members who had been the executioner team.

## RESEARCH METHODS

The aim of this study was to investigate the first experience of Brimob members who had their first experience of being a death squad executioner more deeply. The approach used was qualitative, which are the method to explore and understand the meaning obtained through a number of individuals derived from social or humanitarian problems (Cresswell, 2016). The method used in this research was phenomenology. Packer (in La Kahija, 2017) suggests that phenomenology is a reflective study of the essence (core) of consciousness experienced from a first-person perspective. The data collection method used was semi-structured interview. The analytical technique used was the Individual Phenomenological Description (DFI). The characteristics of the subjects in the study were the Brimob members and those who had been in an executor team. The researcher got three subjects, namely MF, HS, and FB.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the data analysis using the Individual Phenomenological Description (DFI), the researchers found three episodes that focused on the first experience of being a death squad executioner, namely the pre-execution episode which is an episode that tells before the execution. This episode contains eight general themes; the episode of on-scene execution which tells the story right when the execution is carried out and contains four general themes, and the post-execution that tells the events after the execution which contains seven general themes. Table 1 is a summary of the episodes and general themes of the three subjects.

**Table 1. Episodes and general themes**

<b>Episodes</b>	<b>General Themes</b>
Pre-execution	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reactions selected to be the execution team</li> <li>2. Openness to family</li> <li>3. Feelings when leaving</li> <li>4. Psychological conditions while in <i>Nusakambangan</i></li> <li>5. Spiritual guidance that strengthens</li> <li>6. Anxiety before execution</li> <li>7. Efforts to overcome anxiety</li> <li>8. Pity for the convict</li> </ol>
On-scene execution	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Attitude in shooting range</li> <li>2. Perceptions of the convict</li> <li>3. Body posture and situation after shooting</li> <li>4. Psychological effects on the presence or absence of live bullets</li> </ol>
Post-execution	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Occurred negative impacts</li> <li>2. Efforts to overcome the occurring effects</li> <li>3. NAC psychological services</li> <li>4. Differences in other duties with executions</li> <li>5. Positive and negative impressions of being the team of executioners</li> </ol>

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6. Attitudes towards death punishment
  7. Readiness to return to the execution squad
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The three subjects became the execution squad in 2015. MF was in the execution squad for the execution on January 18, 2015. Initially, MF was ordered to be a backup shooter. However, when he arrived in Nusakambangan, he replaced his partner to be a core shooter, which was the one who got live bullets. HS and FB became the execution squad for the execution on April 29, 2015. The three of them carried out their duties on Nusakambangan Island, and the case in the execution was a narcotics case.

MF and FB experienced conflict within themselves when they were chosen to be the executor team. Both of them felt doubts of carrying out the death penalty because it would kill people who had no resistance or personal guilt to the two subjects as well as the prohibition against killing living beings in their religion. Therefore, both subjects thought whether it would be a sin to kill the convict or not. Kohlberg (in Santrock, 2012) describes the sixth stage of moral development in which an individual is able to develop a moral standard based on universal human rights, for example, when faced with a conflict between law and conscience. The individual reason that conscience should be followed although the decision may have risks. Rahman (2017) concluded that the factors that influence moral behavior can be categorized into four; (1) Cognitive factor, in the forms of moral knowledge, understanding, reasoning, and judgment; (2) Emotional factor, in the forms of moral sensitivity, emotion, and intuition. (3) Personality factor, in the forms of moral identity, agency, integrity, motivation, and character. (4) Situational factor, in the forms of social groups, power, religious values, and social stratification. The feeling of inner contradiction was experienced by the two subjects when receiving orders that were not in accordance with moral behavior in the form of killing the convict of death punishment. It was the behavior that was not in accordance with the morals of MF and FB because both subjects had the moral behavior based on the religious teachings adhered by MF and FB which became a command for both subjects. Meanwhile, HS's reaction when he was elected to the execution team was that he was interested in gaining experience.

MF and FB told their family that they were the executor team. MF's wife was normal when she found out that MF would be on duty and went to Nusakambangan Island because it was normal for a Brimob member's wife when her husband went on duty. HS did not tell his family because he obeyed the given doctrine in order to maintain the confidentiality of the task. FB's parents supported FB that being an executor is the duty of the state and make it a duty to worship, not as an arena to kill.

The executor team's departure to Nusakambangan Island required the movement to be carried out in secret to avoid the spotlight of journalists so that the entire execution team hid their identity by covering their badges on uniforms with black duct tape. MF and HS felt normal like leaving to carry out their duties and thought of it as just traveling. However, the movement of the executor team which was full of secrets made MF nervous because he had to avoid reporters, while FB felt nervous because he would carry out a task that was in the world's spotlight.

Arriving at Nusakambangan, MF was ordered by his commander to replace MF's colleague who should have received live ammunition, MF acted like he was just doing his job and was ready because he had been practicing every day. HS greeted and said in his heart that he came to the island to work and carry out duties and then to go home, and there was no desire to disturb. FB was afraid for the first time in his duties because, during his time as a member of Brimob, he had never felt fear even though he had faced very anarchic mobs. The reason why FB was afraid was that they would shoot people who did not fight at all. Therefore, the feeling in FB's heart was different from a situation when the person uses weapons and performs resistance. FB felt that the weather on the island was very different. FB felt very heavy, and

hot and cold, and he became very quiet, rambling when talking, and daydreaming. FB had been in a trance when he was in high school, so it made him sensitive to astral beings. Then, at that time, FB felt that many astral beings were approaching FB. Feeling that many astral beings were approaching, FB thought that FB would be in a trance. Siswanto (2015) reveals that trance (possession) has various other terms which mean more or less the same, namely possessed or trance. According to the general understanding, it is the entry of spirits or ghosts so that the individuals who experience it do strange behaviors, different from his everyday personality, which he does not realize. Several situations or causes for the occurrence of trance are: (1) location or place; (2) suggestive feelings related to location; (3) stressful situations; (4) time; and (5) weak body. The causes that could make FB had the feeling like going into a trance were related to the matters as mentioned above. When He was first appointed to be the execution team, FB thought that the location of Nusakambangan Island seemed scary, especially at night. FB who had been in a trance in high school could feel that astral beings approached him.

Towards the time of the magrib prayer, the entire execution team was gathered and given guidance from a spiritual figure. The activity was in the form of receiving advice from a kyai (Islamic cleric) from Brimob. The cleric gave some advice for the entire execution team that the task of the team was to kill the enemy of the state. Then, the execution team whose wife was pregnant was strengthened so that her child would one day become a state official who was greater than his parents. The convict who would be killed that night was a convict who had been approved by the state. In addition to receiving advice, the executor team was asked to drink honey by the kyai. The influence of this spiritual guidance made MF's burden disappeared and made him confident to carry out his duties. HS became increasingly convinced to carry out the order after receiving advice from the kyai. When FB drank the honey, FB's body became relaxed, calm, and better than when he first arrived in Nusakambangan. FB's body no longer felt heavy. FB's heart became strong and calm and determined to carry out executions after receiving advice because after receiving this advice FB's fears and doubts had been refuted. The spiritual guidance in the form of advice given by the kyai can be regarded as a social support based on the explanation from Rismalinda (2017) who described social support as cognition or social fact. Social supports consist of verbal and/or non-verbal information or advice. They are also tangible assistance or actions given by social intimacy or obtained because of their presence and have emotional benefits or behavioral effects for the receiving party (Gottlieb, in Rismalinda, 2017).

Before the execution, the three subjects experienced anxiety. State anxiety is a temporary emotional reaction that arises in certain situations which are uncertain of their abilities and are felt as threats. This situation is determined by subjective feelings of tension and in the form of unpleasant emotions experienced by an individual and not as an inherent trait of his personality. The three subjects experienced state anxiety because they experienced tension, had unpleasant emotions, and were worried that they would make mistakes in their duties that night. There are three aspects of anxiety (Register, in Ghufroon & Suminta, 2010): (a) worry, which is negative thoughts within an individual; (b) emotionality, self-reaction from autonomic nerve stimulation such as heart palpitations, cold sweats, and tension, and (c) disturbances and obstacles in completing tasks (tasks generated interference), a tendency experienced by individuals who are always depressed because of rational thinking of a particular task. MF experienced anxiety when going to the shooting range, while HS and FB experienced anxiety while at the shooting range transit point. In the three aspects mentioned above, the three subjects were pounding because being the executor team was the first experience of MF and HS. As the shooters, the three subjects were worried if they made a mistake such as a missed shot or the sound of the explosion was different from the other teams, and they tried to be able to carry out their duties as expected and to run smoothly.

The anxiety experienced by the three subjects was overcome in various ways. Based on the research by Wismanandi (2017) regarding the Relationship of Anxiety Levels with the Performance of Athletes of the Men's Basketball Team of Surabaya City in Preparation for the IV Provincial Sports Week in Madiun City, when the athletes can control feelings of anxiety when competing, their performance is also optimal. Therefore, the execution team regulated their emotions in order to control their feelings of anxiety so that they could carry out their duties properly. Thompson (in Gross, 2014) suggests three aspects of emotion regulation: (1) monitoring emotions, the ability of individuals to realize and understand all the feelings that occur within the individuals; (2) evaluating emotions, an individual's ability to manage and balance the emotions experienced. Individuals who are able to evaluate their emotions can balance negative emotions so that they think rationally; (3) modifying emotions, the ability of individuals to change the emotions experienced and to make motivation so that it makes individuals survive when anxious and desperate. The three subjects were able to fulfill these aspects. When MF experienced anxiety, MF tried to calm himself down because as a shooter, if the heart is not calm and the mind is chaotic, it will affect the results of the shot. Then, he did the activities that could overcome his anxiety by inhaling - exhaling, praying, dhikr, and smoking. HS was able to monitor and evaluate his emotions when experiencing anxiety, and he tried to focus by remembering the technical implementation and what had been trained. When remembering made HS tense, finally HS tried to minimize the tension by inviting friends to talk or joke. When experiencing anxiety, FB tried to focus, so FB tried to strengthen himself that he carried out state duties that night, not just killing people arbitrarily. Next, he did dhikr and prayed and occasionally walked around even though it was just pacing then stunned. FB realized that he was anxious, so FB joined in smoking with his friends in order to reduce the anxiety he experienced and had activities so that he was not just dumbfounded.

Gross (2014) mentions five strategies for emotion regulation: (a) situation selection. It involves making a decision to be in the expected situation according to the desired emotion, and it can be pleasant or unpleasant emotion. The choice of situation requires a deep understanding of the situation to be chosen, and it is influenced by past emotional experiences. Individuals can approach or avoid people, places, or objects (Gross, in Strongman, 2003). In this strategy, FB went back and forth when experiencing anxiety; (b) situation modification. Situation modification is a direct attempt to modify the situation in order to change emotions. Situation modification is related to the process of modifying external and physical environment, while internal environment (cognition) is included in the cognitive change strategy. HS and FB invited their friends to talk or joke with them, so they could overcome their anxiety. FB participated in smoking so that he did not just stare and worry, and this was done by MF after shooting by playing pranks on his next-door friend to overcome his tension; (c) attentional deployment (direction of attention). Directing attention is the way how individuals direct their attention to certain situations to regulate their emotions. The most common form of directing attention is distraction. Distraction focuses attention on other aspects or diverts attention away from the situation at the same time. Distraction can also involve changing internal (cognitive) focus, for example, when an individual recalls thoughts or memories that can help bring him into a desired emotional state. HS tried to focus on not making mistakes by remembering the things that had been trained and the technical implementation of execution; (d) cognitive change. Cognitive change refers to modifying how individuals perceive situations and changing their emotional meaning, either by changing the way one thinks of the situation or the ability to manage future demands. Cognitive change can be applied in external and internal situations. Purmaningsih (2018) explains that one type of cognitive change is reappraisal in which an individual evaluates or re-evaluates the stimulus/situation that evokes emotion so as to change his emotional response to a more positive one. FB tried to change his mind that execution is the duty of the state, so as an

executor team it was not just about killing people indiscriminately. When the convict was targeted by MF who had to be shot in the head from close range, it made the atmosphere tenser. Therefore, MF tried to enjoy the atmosphere and made it as an experience; (e) response modulation (response regulation). Response regulation refers to the experience, behavior, or physiology of emotional responses. Purmaningsih (2018) suggests that the response regulation strategy is a strategy that focuses on the response as an effort to influence the ongoing tendency of emotional responses, which can be in the forms of physiological, behavioral, or responses that are felt or experienced. One specific type of response regulation is suppression, in which an individual regulates the response by inhibiting ongoing expressive behavior. MF and FB smoked to affect anxiety experienced. MF also took deep breaths and exhaled to calm himself when he was anxious before shooting and to overcome the tension when the convict's head had to be shot at close range and invited his friends to talk.

Each subject had a pity for the convict. MF and HS felt sorry when the convict arrived at the location, while FB felt sorry before the convict arrived. MF felt the peak of his pity when the convict first arrived at the shooting range. MF felt sorry because the convict came with a chain of handcuffs. One of the convicts looked different when photographed with what MF witnessed in person, and MF thought that the convict already had the thought that the convict knew he would die soon. The cause of MF's pity was because the convict had no faults with MF. MF's pity was overcome by remembering the advice given by the kyai. If the convict was not executed, he would commit another crime. Even though he could overcome this pity, MF still had compassion for the convicts because they were fellow human beings; it was just that the intensity was reduced. HS felt sorry for hearing the convicts praying while shouting, and the convicts were also humans who that night would be forcibly killed. HS overcame this pity by thinking that it was time and destiny for the convict to die because it was the convict himself who made his way of life to be executed, and indeed the sentence was sentenced to death. As a team of executioners, his doctrine was indeed to shoot. FB is pounding because he thought that soon the person who would be killed would come and wonder what the convict looked like. FB felt sorry because it was like slaughtering a cow and for seeing the slaughtered cow. In specific, at that night the person who would be killed was a human, whose legs and eyes were the same, and he did not know whether the person was destined to die that night or not and whether the execution team would be the one who killed the convict or not. FB felt like it was the first time to be the judge of someone's life. However, FB returned again that killing convicts is the duty of the state to prepare mentally as an executor team.

Entering the shooting range and approaching the time to execute, MF was professional and focused on execution. MF has left all thoughts that are outside the focus of carrying out executions, and he did not think whether it was the sin or not of killing people. He was no longer worried that his shots would miss and thought that the convict was the wrong person. MF avoided eye contact with the convict because MF's target convict did not want to be shot with his eyes closed, so MF focused on the scotlite attached to the convict's clothes in the convict's heart position so as not to miss it. Grossman (2009) revealed that not seeing the victim's face can form a psychological distance that allows the executor to rationalize and accept for killing a fellow human being. Eyes are windows to the soul, and if the executor does not see the victim's eyes, it will be easier to deny the victim's humanity. For example, when the Nazis carried out the execution, the victim's head was covered with a hood or covered the victim's eyes. The existence of blindfolds or hoods serves to protect the mental health of the executioners. As was the case with MF, MF had the experience that his convict's eyes were not closed at that time. Therefore, MF tried not to look in the eyes of the convict so that MF's mentality did not go down. When he was about to enter the shooting range, HS prepared himself by praying so that he would be given success to carry out his duties and strengthened his mentality by assuming that this execution was an official order and confident that there was no

burden of sin. After entering the shooting range and already in their respective positions, HS focused on the implementation, concentrating on what had been trained and how the technical implementation was. When the convict arrived at the shooting range, FB listened to the sound of chains attached to the convict's legs and watched the convict singing a spiritual song. Hearing this voice made FB curious about what the convict's face looked like. After the convict was examined and the entire squad of executioners prepared to enter the shooting range, FB had changed their mindset, so they would not shoot the wrong way. FB focused on carrying out his duties so that he no longer remembered whether the convict would be in pain, did not think about how the family left behind, and no longer cared about the convict singing. The center of FB's mind was not to shoot the wrong way because the situation at the shooting range was quite crowded and witnessed by many people, convicts' families, lawyers, prosecutors, and judges. Therefore, FB viewed the convict; if this person was not shot that night and got out of prison, he would have committed a more dangerous crime. FB was no longer afraid to shoot, and FB was sure and determined to shoot. FB focused on the scotlite attached to the convict's clothes because the convict's eyes were covered by a black cloth, so FB considered it a shooting target like an exercise and then carried out executions by shooting the convict.

After shooting, the entire execution team was required to immediately turn right, stood and waited until the convict who was examined by the Company Commander (Danki) and the health team was confirmed to be dead. MF felt pounding and tense because of the silence and only heard the other executioners praying. MF tried to overcome the tension by pranking his next door friend who was standing next to MF. In MF's experience, the convict who was shot by the MF team did not die, so the convict had to be shot again in the head by his Danki. The atmosphere that was unexpected by MF and the other execution team gave rise to fear and horror. Nevertheless, because there were many friends, the atmosphere was not too scary. MF tried to control himself by inhaling, exhaling with dhikr, enjoying the tension so as not to raise his blood pressure, and talking to the other side. HS was relieved and happy because the execution had been completed smoothly without any errors or warnings. HS was also satisfied because he had been able to apply the things that had been trained. HS heard the sound of the convict who was about to die snoring and then prayed for the convict. FB felt relieved after shooting because all the convicts died instantly, and no one had to be shot twice. When turning right, FB was curious about the convict who was about to die, so FB peeked behind to see the convict having a seizure along with the chain moving. FB listened to the convict's snoring and blood flowing and smelled the rancid smell of blood. Watching the convict meet his death made FB feel sorry, but the feeling did not last long.

Grossman (2009) states; when in combat and in the presence of firing squads, most of the factors that allow killing on the battlefield can be seen in the diffusion of responsibility involved in firing squad executions because, in battle, each firing squad is given an order by the leader. The firing squad provides a process of conformity and absolution, and the presence of blindfolds for the victim can provide psychological distance and information on the victim's mistakes that can provide relevance and rationalization for the executioner to kill the victim. In this execution situation, the powerful forces of moral distance, social distance, cultural distance, group absolution, immediacy, and authority demanding obedience require the soldier to execute, and overcome the pitiful compulsion of learned morals and his opposition to kill. In the case with executions in this study, out of the twelve executioners, there were only three bullets which were live bullets beyond the knowledge of the executors so that the executors would not feel guilty. HS felt that he did not get live bullets, but HS thought that getting it or not was the same because all the execution teams shot the same thing and all of them had been given a doctrine to kill the convict. For FB, he believed that he got empty bullets because the beat on his shoulder was different. However, if at that time FB did receive a live bullet, FB would still focus on the target and concentrate on the signal. In addition, perhaps the level of



guilt would be different if he got a live bullet. The spiritual guidance in the form of advice given also provided information that the convict was a person who had been legalized as an enemy of the state so as to convince the execution team to shoot the convict that night.

Grossman (2009) describes execution as a close-range killing of a person who was neither from the military nor had a personal threat to the executor. The thing that distinguishes between the executions described by Grossman and the executions in this study is the time of execution. The executions in this study were carried out to give punishment to enemies of the state, while the executions described in Grossman were the executions during wartime where soldiers killed innocent civilians. However, the similarities between the two things are that the victims of executions and those sentenced to death both do not have a personal threat/resistance to the executor. The effects of such killings can make the executor traumatic because the executor kills the victim based on external motivation. Along with the research that had been carried out by Putranti (2017) regarding the psychological impact of capital punishment executioners, it produces themes that appear on the negative psychological impacts; one of which is anxiety and fear which reminds of the execution process. The implementation of executions is a state order against members of Brimob who are appointed to be the execution team. After the execution had been carried out, HS and FB had experienced imaginary situations and flashbacks with the executions. HS imagined the sound of conversation, singing of the convict and the convict's prayer, experiencing hallucination which was a feeling of the sighting of the convict in front of him, seeing a flash of black shadow, and remembering the sound of chains attached to the convict. FB remembered the sound of chains when hearing the sound of a bracelet falling because the sound was similar to the sound of chains. He remembered the sound of the convict's blood flowing when he heard water flowing from the container for ablution in the mosque, remembered the sound of the convict snoring who was about to die, remembered the words of the convict which mentioned one convict who was not executed along with the convict's song that night, and remembered the convict's position accompanied by the seizure of the convict's body. HS and FB did not try to forget the shadow, so they just let the shadow pass. HS and FB experienced being in the shadows for one or two days and then could forget them because of their daily activities at Brimob.

Some time after the execution, the entire execution team and the three subjects received NAC psychological services. MF and the executor team were provided with psychological services in the forms of psychological tests, group counseling, and outbound. During group counseling, MF and his friends were asked if there were any problems after becoming the executor team. MF's friends answered that the problem was not shooting the convict, but it was the pay issue. MF did not get any effect when he received psychological services because MF had a long period of time between executions and psychological services and MF had forgotten and was used to many activities at Brimob. The implementation of the NAC, which was followed by HS and FB, was that the entire execution team participated in games such as playing trampling on fire. HS felt normal and just followed the activity because HS had forgotten himself and the time span between the execution and the psychological service was quite far. In September 2018, HS along with several Brimob members who had been the executor of all Brimob Central Java were regrouped and received psychological services at a hotel. HS found it funny because HS had forgotten about the executions that had passed in 2015. Following these activities did not only make FB instantly relieved, but FB was actually also in a flashback again with memories of the execution. However, FB just let it flow because when flashbacks, it did not affect FB's psyche so that after that FB could finally be relieved.

Getting orders to become the executor team was a different task from the tasks that had been done by the three subjects. MF, who had been several years ago before becoming the executor team, had made contact with weapons in the context of raiding terrorist villages and urban wars. MF revealed that this was different from carrying out executions even though both

tasks used firearms. The difference felt by MF, when the opposing party's gun contact, was wrong but still provided resistance. If MF did not shoot, MF would be shot. Unlike the case with executions, the person was indeed wrong but had given up without a fight and would then be shot by MF. Thus, it made it more difficult for MF to carry out executions. During his time as a member of Brimob, HS had carried out his duties when a disaster occurred and provided security in the event of a riot. HS had never made contact with weapons so that being the executor team was HS's first task using firearms that target humans. The difference with security is that if they really have to shoot, they do not shoot to death, while executions are clearly shooting to kill people. HS's impression was that the mindset from the start was indeed to shoot people and the use of weapons to paralyze people. The other impression that FB felt when they became the executor team was that being the executor team was the first time for FB to use firearms with real human targets because FB used firearms during training and the targets were ordinary shooting targets, not humans. The first time shooting a human target made FB flutter because he usually shot ordinary targets. After shooting, FB did not think about whether the bullet hit the target or not. In other hand, when executing the target of real human and when getting a live bullet, FB had to shoot it to the scotlite that was aimed at the heart because the scotlite would later be made for a report to the state that the three bullets had penetrated into the scotlite .

Being an executor team made the three subjects have their own impressions. MF's impression was that it was an experience of executing people, and the experience that made the most impression on his memory was when shooting the convict on his head at close range. MF's joys and sorrows were being able to travel with his friends and leaving his wife and children because it took three days during the execution. HS's impressions and ups and downs during his time as an executor team were included in the series that carried out the death penalty in which the media was excited about covering the implementation of the death penalty even though HS did it normally. What HS liked is that he had the experience of duties only in Central Java and executions are not necessarily held every year, not just hear the story. The grief that HS felt was when he saw the convicts being executed, but HS could not explain his feelings. FB had the impression and ups and downs when it became the executor team. The impression that FB had was when experiencing mystical events that are against the laws of nature because it was related to astral beings. When FB was in high school, FB was an anti-drug ambassador. Then, when he heard the news that a drug boss had been arrested, FB felt happy and thought that the drug boss would be executed later. From that experience, FB did not think that one day it turned out that FB was the executor. The personal impression felt by FB was that FB's question before becoming a police officer regarding how the execution of the death penalty was answered by FB himself because he had executed people. Therefore, it became FB's passion when he was the execution team. FB felt a sense of pride in having participated in executions, but the pride was not meant to be proud of killing, but proud to have been a historical actor and to tell stories to their juniors. When someone talked about executions, FB was proud because FB had done it himself. The grief that FB felt was that he was tired to exercise it every day, day and night, so it drained his energy and mind. Then, in Nusakambangan, they still had to wait again making FB tired of waiting, and they had to face a quite tense atmosphere, seeing the convict's family crying over the convict's death. According to FB, the strongest troops when seeing a family crying over the death of a family member will still melt and bring out their human side. Similarly, the grief was experienced by FB because FB previously experienced fear of feeling guilty and killing people after shooting. However, these fears and feelings had been refuted since receiving advice from the kyai. After becoming the executor team, FB underwent a change. At first, he was pity and did not have the heart to slaughter animals, but, after executions, FB often saw incidents such as shooting cases that he saw from videos. When he became a member of Brimob, FB became brave and determined to

slaughter animals. For FB, one of the things that could make FB dare to slaughter animals was after becoming an executor team, but not only because they had been an executor team.

The opinion of the three subjects regarding the death penalty is as follows: MF had the opinion that the death penalty is appropriate if the crime committed by the perpetrator is serious and meets the requirements to be sentenced to death so as not to have a negative effect on other communities. In addition, based on the experience of carrying out the death penalty in 2016, MF took a lesson that the fate of a person's life or death has already been regulated. If he is destined to die, he will die; and if it is not his time, he will not die. It was like 14 convicts who should have been executed in 2016 but in the end the 10 convicts were not executed. HS viewed the death penalty as a deterrent and fair effect if the verdict is correct. For HS, the death penalty is already stated in the law and criminals who have been sentenced to death also violate human rights because they have harmed many people. HS responded to the death penalty as a police officer, who is to help stop and eradicate crimes that have been committed by the perpetrators. FB responded to the death penalty as a reward for the perpetrators even though the humanitarian side of FB said that judges are like the Angel of Izrail because they can decide the time of someone's death. However, FB thought that judges carry out laws in accordance with their constitution, so FB as the apparatus responded that the convict is indeed deserves the death penalty.

Regarding the readiness to become the executor team again, the three subjects were given two questions by the researchers; if the subject are appointed and ordered, the three subjects are ready to become the executor team again or not; if the subjects are only offered to be the executor team again and may refuse, the three subjects have different answers and reasons. MF chose to refuse due to payment problem; however, MF revealed that the official work which was an order was the responsibility of the Brimob member who received the order, so MF was always ready to carry out the orders and responsibilities given. If HS were given the choice to accept or reject the offer to be the executor team, HS would still accept the offer in order to carry out two executions, to gain experience, and to find out if there are new techniques to be implemented. FB had mixed answers about his readiness and willingness to return to being the executioner team again. If offered, FB's answer depends on the type of crime the convict has committed. FB would want to execute convicts who are perpetrators of murder, robbery, robbery, or who are accompanied by rape and sadistic murder until they are mutilated. However, if the cases are theft or drugs, FB prefers to refuse because if it is drugs, it is a matter between the perpetrator and God.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the results obtained from the research on the first experience of being a death squad executioner, the researchers got a picture that the three subjects had different reactions when they were elected to the execution squad. The three subjects received spiritual guidance in the form of advice given by a kyai from Brimob upon arrival in Nusakambangan. Therefore, spiritual guidance can be reinforcement for the subjects so that they were sure to carry out their duties. Moments before carrying out the execution, the three subjects experienced state anxiety because of tension and had unpleasant emotions, which were caused by worrying if they would make a mistake in their duties that night. The three subjects tried to control the anxiety by regulating their emotions in different ways. When the subjects were able to overcome their anxiety and had entered the shooting range, the subjects were able to focus on the execution and could put aside individual feelings on the subjects. The impact of the executions experienced by HS and FB when they returned from Nusakambangan was the shadows and flashbacks with the executions and they could forget about this vision because over time it was accompanied by daily activities in Brimob.

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