

The Spiritual Aspect in Post-Amputation Clients

Arwyn Weynand Nusawakan, Yulius Y. Ranimpi, and Johanna R. Kawonal
Faculty of Health – Nursery Study Program
Satya Wacana Christian University

One of the conditions that cause various changes in individuals is amputation, which demands individuals to adapt to their new condition physically, psychologically, socially, and spiritually. The goal of this qualitative study was to reveal the spiritual aspects of post-amputation clients, using an in-depth interview and observation on three participants who were amputees. The data were analyzed using narrative analysis. Results showed that the participants considered their lives to be meaningful and be better in the future. They were self-confident and able to continue being productive even after the amputation. Their relationships with others were reflected in their daily lives, sharing their love with their closed ones. Their relationship with God was expressed through prayers and devotion in their daily lives. It can be concluded that the amputees showed the spiritual dimensions in themselves through their life meanings and their relationship between themselves, other people, God, and their hopes.

Keywords: spiritual aspect, amputee clients

Salah satu keadaan yang mengakibatkan terjadinya berbagai perubahan bagi individu adalah ketika anggota tubuhnya harus diamputasi sehingga individu harus mampu menyesuaikan diri dengan keadaannya barunya secara fisik, psikis, sosial, dan spiritual. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah menggambarkan aspek spiritual klien pascaamputasi. Penelitian kualitatif ini menggunakan teknik pengumpulan data wawancara mendalam dan observasi terhadap tiga partisipan yang telah diamputasi. Data dianalisis menggunakan analisis naratif. Hasil menunjukkan bahwa para partisipan memaknai hidup mereka dan memiliki harapan untuk menjadi lebih baik. Mereka memiliki sikap percaya pada diri sendiri dan merasa mampu berkarya meskipun telah diamputasi. Hubungan dengan orang lain tercermin dalam keseharian mereka membagi kasih dengan orang-orang terdekat. Hubungan dengan Tuhan diekspresikan melalui doa dan pengabdian dalam kehidupan sehari-hari. Dari penelitian ini disimpulkan bahwa para partisipan menunjukkan dimensi spiritualitas dalam diri mereka melalui makna hidup, hubungan antara diri sendiri, orang lain dan Tuhan serta berpengharapan.

Kata kunci: aspek spiritual, klien amputasi

Sickness is not just a condition when there is illness. More than that, sickness is a condition when the physical, emotional, intellectual, social, developmental, or spiritual function of an individual is decreased or problematic when compared to their former condition (Potter & Perry, 2005). Sickness cannot be alienated from life experiences that make clients and families face various changes that are caused by the conditions of being sick and the treatments that must be conducted.

One of the conditions and treatments that cause those changes is when one of the body extremities needs to be amputated. Amputation is the loss of an individual's body

part (Smith & Glennon, 1995), conducted to save the individual's life from life-threatening conditions, and also to reuse external failure conditions maximally, such as congenital condition or malignant conditions such as tumors or cancers (Reksoprodjo, 1995).

Post-amputation condition forces clients to be able to adapt to their new condition, not just on their physical side but also on their psychological, social, and spiritual side. The loss of one of their body parts makes clients feel helpless. Even in order to be able to adapt and accept themselves, clients often feel difficulties to be able to lift themselves up from their predicaments. Losing one of their extremities can cause shock on the clients, even though they are already prepared before the operation. The clients' behavior and their expression of sadness and depression show the clients' way of facing their loss and

Correspondence concerning this article should be addressed to Yulius Y. Ranimpi, Faculty of Health – Nursery Study Program Satya Wacana Christian University, Jl. Kartini 11A Salatiga 50711 Central Java-Indonesia. E-mail: yyranimpi@yahoo.com