

ABSTRACT

People with disabilities have the same rights in building social relationships with other people. The limitations they have, make many people find it difficult to develop social relationships with people with disabilities. Pusat Pelayanan Sosiasl Griya Harapan Difabel (PPSGHD), there are various types of disabilities who are separated from their families so they need to build social relationships with other people. By using the social penetration theory proposed by Altman & Taylor (1973), the purpose of this study is to find out how the stages of penetration that disability goes through to build close relationships between individuals during the rehablity program. The research method is qualitative with a phenomenological approach. The data collection technique is indepth interviews and observations to 10 informants. The results, that all disabilities have gone through the four stages in social penetration theory as evidenced in the orientation stage, discretion and openness are still very low as seen from the topic of discussion which is just an introduction. In the explorative affective exchange stage, the flexibility of the topic is already visible, but there are barriers to use of sign language that make it difficult to build relationships with deaf people. The affective exchange stage is shown by openness on topics about the deeper personal self. At the stable exchange stage, the level of trust between disabilities is very high, as evidenced by the variety of topics. This research can contribute to the development of interpersonal communication science and be used as a source of knowledge and understanding for the community regarding how the development of close relationships carried out by people with disabilities, so that it can be applied by the community to have closer relationships with people with four types of disabilities in this research.

Keywords: *Social Relationship, Disability, Pusat Pelayanan Sosial Griya Harapan Difabel, Social Penetration Theory.*