Resolution of Cases of Sexual Violence Against Children in Efforts for the Legal Protection of Children Reviewed from Law No 23 of 2002 (Study in Segaran Village, Batujaya Karawang District)

Tri Agus Haryono1*, Dion Untung Wijaya2, Mijan3, Yeti Kurniati4, Hernawati Ras5

Universitas Langlangbuana

Corresponding Author: Tri Agus Haryono th_opthal@yahoo.co.id

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According to the definition stated in Article 1 Number 1 of Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Child Protection, a child is someone who has not reached the age of 18 years, including children who are still in the womb. Children are considered a trust and gift from Almighty God, who require protection and supervision because they have value, dignity, and rights as human beings that must be respected. This research uses normative juridical methods, which means it only relies on research on library materials or secondary data related to law. Therefore, the data used results from research and analysis of relevant literature. This approach uses legal materials as a basis for the researcher's point of view in carrying out the analysis. The local government of Karawang Regency is required to provide care, treatment, and social rehabilitation for children who are victims of sexual violence, both inside and outside institutions. Actions taken by local governments include understanding children's problems in general or specifically related to victims of sexual violence, planning preventive measures through outreach to the community, and providing assistance in resolving the problems of children who are victims, including legal assistance, protection, and cooperation with other parties related to solving the problem, as well as monitoring the child's development after solving the problem.

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INTRODUCTION

According to Article 1 Number 1 of Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Child Protection, a child is someone who has not reached the age of 18 years, including children who are still in the womb. Children are considered a trust and gift from God that must be looked after because they have value, dignity, and rights as human beings that must be respected. Children's rights are included in the human rights regulated in the 1945 Constitution and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Children are considered the future of the nation and the next generation of national ideals, so they have the right to survival, growth, participation, and protection from acts of violence, and discrimination, as well as civil rights and freedoms. Protection of children is an indicator of a nation's civilization, therefore it must be pursued according to the country's capabilities. Child protection activities are legal actions whose legal certainty must be guaranteed to ensure continuity and prevent detrimental misuse in their implementation.

In Segaran Village, Batujaya District, Karawang, cases of sexual violence against children are a serious concern in efforts to protect children legally. As part of Karawang Regency, this village is also affected by similar problems that still frequently occur in the area. These cases often involve perpetrators who have a close relationship or are known to the victim, which adds complexity to the handling. Segaran Village, like other areas in Karawang Regency, has become a focus for various institutions and related agencies to resolve cases of sexual violence with legal protection efforts for children.

In the context of Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection, resolving cases of sexual violence against children in Segaran Village is important to ensure that children's rights are fulfilled. This law provides the legal basis for various efforts to protect children, including in cases of sexual violence. However, the implementation of this law in the field is often faced with various challenges, including limited resources and a lack of public awareness about children's rights. Therefore, through studies in Segaran Village, it is hoped that a deeper understanding can be found of the effectiveness of legal protection efforts for children in resolving cases of sexual violence as well as the identification of factors that influence the implementation of Law Number 23 of 2002 at the local level.
LITERATURE REVIEW

Domestic Violence

Domestic violence (KDRT) is a serious problem that affects many families in various areas, including Segaran Village, Batujaya District, Karawang. This form of violence can involve various physical, psychological, sexual, and economic acts carried out by one family member against another family member. In the context of Segaran Village, domestic violence often occurs in a closed environment and is difficult for outsiders to access, so victims often have difficulty reporting or seeking help. Resolving domestic violence cases requires a comprehensive approach, involving various parties such as the police, child protection agencies, and local communities to provide support and protection for victims and enforce the law against perpetrators.

Legal Protection Efforts for Children

Efforts to legally protect children in Segaran Village, Batujaya District, Karawang, are an important part of the child protection system regulated in Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection. Through child protection institutions and programs, such as the Women and Child Protection Unit (PPA) at Karawang Police, various steps are taken to prevent and deal with cases of violence against children, including sexual violence. Efforts to protect children legally include providing counseling services, legal aid, rehabilitation of victims, and law enforcement against perpetrators. However, despite these efforts, challenges continue to arise in providing optimal protection for children in Segaran Village, including in resolving cases of sexual violence.

METHODOLOGY

This research uses a normative juridical method which focuses on researching library materials or secondary data of a legal nature. The data used comes from research results and a review of relevant library materials. The approach used aims to use legal material as a basis for the researcher's perspective and frame of mind in analyzing legal protection for children as victims of sexual violence and efforts to overcome it. The analytical method applied is descriptive qualitative, where this research is based on a theoretical framework, expert ideas, and understanding gathered from data and linked to existing literature or theories related to the legal protection of children and overcoming sexual violence. The research also pays attention to the implementation of relevant laws and regulations regarding punishment for perpetrators of sexual violence against children.
RESULT AND DISCUSSION

A. Legal Protection for Children as Victims of Sexual Violence in Karawang Regency is Reviewed from Law No. 35 of 2014 Concerning Amendments to Law No. 23 of 2002 Concerning Child Protection

The meaning of victim in the Indonesian legal context has several definitions regulated in various laws. According to Article 1 point (2) of Law Number 13 of 2006 concerning the Protection of Witnesses and Victims, a victim is someone who experiences physical, or mental suffering or economic loss as a result of a criminal act. This definition emphasizes that victims are individuals who are directly affected by the negative impact of criminal acts, whether physically, mentally, or economically. However, crime victims often feel ignored by a legal system that tends to pay more attention to the rights of suspects.

In the context of domestic violence (KDRT), Law Number 23 of 2004 concerning the Elimination of Domestic Violence defines a victim as someone who experiences violence or the threat of violence in the family environment. This definition highlights that victims of domestic violence are individuals who experience forms of physical, mental, or emotional violence in the family environment, which should be a safe and comfortable place for them.

Furthermore, in Article 48, it is stated that if certain acts result in the victim experiencing very serious injuries, mental or mental disorders, death of the fetus in the womb, or permanent damage to the reproductive organs, the perpetrator can be subject to imprisonment ranging from 5 years to 20 years or substantial fines. This shows that significant losses for victims can result in harsh sentences for perpetrators of crimes, to provide justice for victims and prevent similar acts from occurring in the future.

Efforts to reduce sexual crimes against children are a serious concern for the government, which is manifested in the revision of Law Number 23 of 2002 to become Law Number 35 of 2014. This revision was carried out by imposing heavier sentences on perpetrators, as well as imposing chemical castration as a punishment. stricter preventive measures. However, despite significant changes in punishment, there is still a view that the law has not provided an adequate deterrent effect against perpetrators of sexual crimes. Therefore, several ministries, especially the Indonesian Ministry of Child Protection (KPAI), are proposing the creation of government regulations instead of Law (PERPPU) Number 1 of 2016. This PERPPU is intended to strengthen the sanctions given to perpetrators, with the hope of providing a deterrent effect. stronger and reduce the number of sexual crimes against children.

Before these changes, Law Number 35 of 2014, in Articles 81 and 82, imposed prison sentences for a certain period and fines for perpetrators of sexual crimes against children. However, by adopting the concept of restorative justice, this law emphasizes the importance of involving the perpetrator, victim, family of the perpetrator/victim, and other related parties in resolving the case. This principle places the focus on restoration of the original condition and rehabilitation, not just punishment or retribution.

Thus, changes in criminal law related to sexual crimes against children reflect the government's efforts to uphold justice and ensure better protection for victims. Despite this, challenges continue to exist in effective legal implementation
and consistent law enforcement to ensure that sexual crimes against children are truly prevented and eradicated.

Karawang Regency is expected to become the main example or pilot project for implementing Child-Friendly Cities (KLA) in West Java. As the only district in West Java that has been declared ready to become a KLA, Karawang Regency is expected to become an example for other districts and cities in the province. The Karawang government has taken proactive steps in creating a child-friendly environment, which is the government's responsibility to protect children's rights. Apart from that, coordination and synchronization between the central, provincial, and regional governments is very important to realize KLA and increase protection for child victims of sexual violence.

To reduce the incidence of children becoming victims of sexual violence, the Karawang Regency regional government has taken several concrete steps. One way is through area sterilization, especially in locations frequently visited by children, such as red lights, shopping centers, and other busy places. This step has been proven to reduce the number of street children in downtown Karawang. Apart from that, local governments are also active in monitoring children's suitability through the neighborhood, neighborhood, village/sub-district, sub-district, and district levels. This step includes the implementation of public services, including education through the Child-Friendly School concept, which involves local governments and educational institutions in providing protection and treatment for child victims of sexual violence.

Apart from these steps, the Karawang Regency regional government is also responsible for providing a Children's Safe House as an institution that protects children who are victims of sexual violence. Apart from that, local governments are also obliged to provide social care, treatment, and rehabilitation for children who are victims of sexual violence, both inside and outside institutions. This emphasizes the importance of cooperation between government institutions and the community in dealing with the problem of sexual violence against children. In all these steps, strict supervision from the ministry responsible for government affairs in the social sector is very important to ensure the effectiveness and success of efforts to protect child victims of sexual violence in Karawang Regency.

B. The Impact of Sexual Violence on Children and Efforts to Handle It in Karawang Regency

 Victims of sexual violence, especially children, often experience serious physical and psychological impacts. Physically, victims can experience decreased appetite, difficulty sleeping, headaches, discomfort around the vagina or genitals, risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases, injuries to the body due to violence, and unwanted pregnancies. In addition, sexual violence committed by family members, as in cases of incest, can cause more serious long-term psychological impacts and deep trauma, especially in cases of parental incest. This trauma is difficult to overcome if it is not treated immediately by an expert. Victims of sexual violence, especially children, are also vulnerable to experiencing short-term psychological impacts such as nightmares, excessive fear of other people, and decreased concentration which will ultimately impact their overall health. Therefore, adequate legal protection and comprehensive treatment are essential in
ensuring the recovery of victims and preventing further impacts on their well-being.

Efforts to deal with child victims of sexual violence in Karawang Regency require cooperation from various parties, including parents, teachers, the community, and the state. Parents have a very important role in protecting children from the threat of sexual violence. They need to be sensitive to unusual signals from children and provide a sense of security so that children feel comfortable telling stories. However, recognizing children's feelings and thoughts and recovering from them is often a challenge, especially because children find it difficult to verbally describe the events they experience. Therefore, parents must build a close relationship and provide the support and understanding their children need during the recovery process.

Apart from parents, the role of teachers and the community is also important in overcoming sexual violence against children. Teachers can provide education about sexual violence to children at school and provide support to children who are victims. Meanwhile, the community must also be actively involved in supporting response efforts, either through outreach, creating a safe environment for children, or providing support to victims' families. With the cooperation of all parties and adequate support, efforts to deal with child victims of sexual violence can be carried out more effectively and holistically.

The role of society is very important in efforts to overcome sexual violence against children. Children need to be taught to recognize, reject, and report potential threats of violence so that they can be a valuable source of information in detecting cases of violence they experience. Efforts to protect children also need to be carried out through the development of local mechanisms aimed at creating protective networks and environments for children. Communities are an important part of this effort because they are groups of people who care about various problems in their environment, including sexual violence against children. However, the local government's responsibilities towards children are still not optimal, especially in providing more appropriate and comprehensive social services. The lack of facilities and infrastructure, such as shelters for children, as well as the need for careful planning, are challenges that need to be overcome.

In the context of Karawang Regency, which is one of the targets for establishing a Child-Friendly City (KLA), community involvement is crucial. It is hoped that Karawang Regency can become a pilot project for other districts/cities in West Java. However, limited funds are an obstacle that needs to be overcome, so it is hoped that the West Java Provincial Government can provide a special allocation in its budget. Synergy and adoption of appropriate policies, as well as implementation of planned programs through the BPMS Strategic Plan, are important steps in handling child victims of sexual violence and street children in Karawang Regency.
CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Conclusion

From this presentation, it can be concluded that the protection of child victims of sexual violence in Karawang Regency is a complex issue and requires the involvement of all parties. Despite efforts by the government and society, there are still major challenges in providing adequate protection for children who are victims of sexual violence. Lack of facilities and infrastructure, as well as limited funds, are obstacles to implementing protection programs. However, the steps that have been taken, such as the formation of a Child-Friendly City (KLA) and the development of local mechanisms, show the seriousness of the response efforts. Stronger synergy is needed between local governments, communities, and other related parties to increase the effectiveness of protection for child victims of sexual violence.

Suggestions

To increase protection for child victims of sexual violence in Karawang Regency, several suggestions can be proposed:

1. Regional governments need to increase the allocation of funds and provide adequate facilities/infrastructure to support the implementation of child protection programs.
2. Communities need to be more active in detecting and reporting cases of sexual violence, as well as being involved in developing local mechanisms that are protective of children.
3. Synergy between regional governments, provincial governments, and various related institutions needs to be improved to support the implementation of child protection programs.
4. Education and outreach regarding sexual violence need to be improved both in families, schools, and society in general.
5. Regular evaluation of child protection programs needs to be carried out to evaluate their effectiveness and adopt more efficient and effective strategies.

FURTHER STUDY

Further research related to the protection of child victims of sexual violence in Karawang Regency can examine in more depth the effectiveness of the implementation of policies and programs that have been carried out. Such research may involve direct surveys of victims and their families to better understand their challenges and needs in the recovery process. Apart from that, further studies could also focus on evaluating mechanisms for handling cases of sexual violence at the community level and exploring the role and active contribution of the community in protecting child victims. Thus, it is hoped that this follow-up research can provide deeper insight and more effective solutions in efforts to increase the protection of child victims of sexual violence in Karawang Regency.
REFERENCES